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tive owners.

and higher microprocessors to control access to privileged functions, to change data segments, or to switch tasks.

gate array \gāt´ ər-ā`\ *n.* A special type of chip that starts out as a nonspecific collection of logic gates. Late in the manufacturing process, a layer is added to connect the gates for a specific function. By changing the pattern of connections, the manufacturer can make the chip suitable for many needs. This process is very popular because it saves both design and manufacturing time. The drawback is that much of the chip goes unused. *Also called* application-specific integrated circuit, logic array.

gated \gā´təd\ *adj.* **1.** Transmitted through a gate to a subsequent electronic logic element. **2.** Transmitted through a gateway to a subsequent network or service. For example, a mailing list on BITNET may be gated to a newsgroup on the Internet.

gate electrode \gāt´ ə-lek`trōd\ *n. See* gate (definition 2).

gateway \gāt´wā\ *n.* A device that connects networks using different communications protocols so that information can be passed from one to the other. A gateway both transfers information and converts it to a form compatible with the protocols used by the receiving network. *Compare* bridge.

gating circuit \gā´tēng sər`kət\ *n.* An electronic switch whose output is either on or off, depending on the state of two or more inputs. For example, a gating circuit may be used to pass or not pass an input signal, depending on the states of one or more control signals. A gating circuit can be constructed from one or more logic gates. *See also* gate (definition 1).

.ga.us \dot-G-A`dot-U-S´\ *n.* On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in Georgia, United States.

.gb \dot`G-B´\ *n.* On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in Great Britain.

GB \gig´ə-bīt`, jig´ə-bīt`, G-B´\ *n. See* gigabyte.

Gbps \G`B-P-S´\ *n. See* gigabits per second.

.gd \dot`G-D´\ *n.* On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in Grenada.

GDI \G`D-I´\ *n.* Acronym for **G**raphical **D**evice **I**nterface. In Microsoft Windows, a graphics display system used by applications to display or print bitmapped text (TrueType fonts), images, and other graphical elements. The GDI is responsible for drawing dialog boxes, buttons, and other elements in a consistent style on screen by calling the appropriate screen drivers and passing them the information on the item to be drawn. The GDI also works with GDI printers, which have limited ability to prepare a page for printing. Instead, the GDI handles that task by calling the appropriate printer drivers and moving the image or document directly to the printer, rather than reformatting the image or document in PostScript or another printer language. *See also* bitmapped font, dialog box, driver, PostScript.

.ge \dot`G-E´\ *n.* On the Internet, the major geographic domain specifying that an address is located in the republic of Georgia.

geek \gēk\ *n.* **1.** Generally, a person who enjoys cerebral activities (such as wordplay, computer programming, and use of the Internet) more than the mainstream population does. Geeks in this sense increasingly claim the word with pride, but it may give offense when used by others, suggesting inadequacy in normal social relationships. **2.** A computer expert or specialist. For issues of etiquette, see definition 1. *Compare* guru, techie.

gender bender \jen´dər ben`dər\ *n. See* gender changer.

gender changer \jen´dər chān`jər\ *n.* A device for joining two connectors that are either both male (having pins) or both female (having sockets). See the illustration. *Also called* gender bender.

Gender changer.

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