

absolute URL- A URL that gives the full path to a resource.

account lockout - A legitimate practice in which a user account is automatically disabled after a certain number of failed authentication attempts.

active partition - A logical partition that contains the files necessary to boot an operating system. This partition is read first at boot time. If no active partition exists, or if the operating system files are corrupted or missing, the computer will report error messages.

ActiveX - An open set of technologies for integrating components on the Internet and within Microsoft applications.

adapter - A device that provides connectivity between at least two systems.

Advanced Research Projects Agency(ARPA) - A U.S. Department of Defense agency that created the first global computer network.

Advanced Research Projects Agency Networks (ARPANET) A computer network, funded by ARPA, that served as the basis for early networking research and was the backbone during the development of the Internet.

antivirus software - Software that scans disks and programs for known viruses and eliminates them.

Applets - Small programs written in Java, which are downloaded as needed and executed within a Web page or browser.

application programming interface (API) - A set of universal commands, calls and functions that allows developers to communicate with an application or operating system.

Application Service Provider (ASP) - A company that provides applications and services (over the Internet) to individual or enterprise subscribers that would otherwise need to provide those applications and services on their own servers.

application-level gateway - A firewall component that inspects all packets addressed to a user-level application; uses proxies to control and meter traffic on a connection-by-connection basis. Also provides authentication.

Assignment - The appointment of a specific resource to a specific task.

assumption - A factor that is considered to be real or certain for planning purposes.

asymmetric-key encryption - An encryption method in which two keys (the private key and public key) are used to encrypt and decrypt a message.

attachment - A file that is sent with an e-mail message.

attenuation - The weakening of a transmission signal as it travels farther from its source.

AU - Audio file format used by UNIX servers, the majority of Web servers. Most Web browsers can read AU.

Audio Interchange File Format (AIFF) - Highquality audio format developed by Apple Computer.

Audio Video Interleave (AVI) - Standard Windows file format for video files.

Authentication - The process of verifying the identity of a user who logs on to a system, or the integrity of transmitted data.

back end - A series of systems that fulfill requests made by a client. Back-end systems can include mainframes and servers containing information databases.

backbone - The highest level in the computer network hierarchy, to which smaller networks typically connect.

bandwidth - The amount of information, sometimes called traffic, that can be carried on a network at one time. The total capacity of a line. Also, the rate of data transfer over a network connection; measured in bits per second.

baseline - A recording of network activity, obtained through documentation and monitoring, that serves as an example for comparing future network activity.

bastion host - A computer that houses various firewall components and services and is connected to a public network, such as the Internet.

binary file - A file containing data or instructions written in zeros and ones (computer language).

blackhole list - A published list of IP addresses known to be sources of spam.

block-level element - A markup element that affects at least an entire paragraph.

blot - A collection of personal thoughts posted on a public Web site. Blogging is the act of adding entries to a blog.

Boolean operator - A symbol or word used in Internet searches to narrow search results by including or excluding certain words or phrases from the search criteria.

bottleneck - A point in network communication at which information is processed more slowly. Also, any element (a hard drive, I/O card or network interface card) that slows network

connectivity rates.

browser email - E-mail programs such as Netscape Mail & Newsgroups or Outlook Express that come bundled with a Web browser and with which they may be integrated.

buffer - A cache of memory used by a computer to store frequently used data. Buffers allow faster access times.

bus - An electronic pathway that conducts signals to connect the functional components of a computer.

business logic - The coding (usually in SQL) necessary to create relationships in the data stored in a database.

business-to-business (B2B) - An e-commerce model in which a Web-based business sells products and/or services to other businesses.

business-to-consumer (B2C) - An e-commerce model in which a Web-based business sells products and/or services to consumers or end users.

byte - A measurement of memory needed to store one 8-bit character.

cable modem - A device that allows computers to communicate over a network by modulating and demodulating the cable signal into a stream of data.

callback - A process in which a remote access server returns a call to a remote client that has logged on in order to authenticate that client.

Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Avoidance (CSMA/CA) - The LAN access method used by the IEEE 802.11 wireless specification and Apple LocalTalk.

Carrier Sense Multiple Access/Collision Detection (CSMA/CD) - The LAN access method used by Ethernet. Checks for network access availability with a signal.

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) - A technology that allows greater style definition and formatting control of HTML elements. Formatting can be placed within the HTML or called remotely from an external style sheet.

channel - The cable or signal between two network nodes that enables data transmission.

character set - The group of symbols used to render text on a page.

circuit-level gateway - A firewall component that monitors and transmits information at the transport layer of the OSI model. It hides information about the network; a packet passing through this type of gateway appears to have originated from the firewall.

client - An individual computer connected to a network. Also, a system or application that requests a service from another computer (the server), and is used to access files or documents (such as a Web browser or user agent).

client-aided script - Code embedded into an HTML page and downloaded by a user; resides on the client and helps process Web form input. Common clientside scripting languages include JavaScript and VBScript.

cluster - A group of sectors used as the basic unit of data storage.

clustering - The ability for multiple systems to act as a single host. Allows organizations to ensure high availability of data and to balance loads in busy networks.

coax - High-capacity two-wire (signal and ground) cable; inner wire is the primary conductor, and the metal sheath serves as the ground.

codec - A compression/decompression algorithm used by modem video and audio player plug-ins.

common field - A field contained in two or more database tables that forms a connection between the tables.

Common Gateway Interface (CGI) - A program that processes data submitted by the user. Allows a Web server to pass control to a software application, based on user request. The application receives and organizes data, then returns it in a consistent format.

Completely Automated Public Turing Test to Tell Computers and Humans Apart (CAPTCHA) - A test that uses a word-verification graphic designed to differentiate humans from automated senders during online transactions.

Concurrent Versions System (CVS) - A tool that allows programmers to control different versions of the pieces of a program as those pieces are developed.

constraint - A factor, such as budget or time, that limits a project manager's options.

cookie - A text file that contains information sent between a server and a client to help maintain state and track user activities. Cookies can reside in memory or on a hard drive.

customs - National departments responsible for controlling items entering and leaving the country.

daemon - A UNIX program that is usually initiated at startup and runs in the background until required.

data - Information being stored, usually in a database.

data source name (DSN) - A text string that is used to reference the data source by application programs.

database - A collection of data that can be sorted and searched using search algorithms.

database administrator - An individual responsible for the maintenance and security of an organization's database resources and data.

database management system (DBMS) - A program used to store, access and manipulate database information.

dead link - A hyperlink that, when clicked, sends a Web site visitor to a page or resource that does not exist on the server.

decryption - The process of converting encrypted data back to its original form.

deep URL - A URL that includes a path past the domain into the folder structure of a Web site.

demand priority - The LAN access method used by IOOVG-AnyLAN networks. By prioritizing transmissions, hubs specify how and when nodes can access the network.

dictionary program - A program specifically written to break into a password-protected system. It has a relatively large list of common password names it repeatedly uses to gain access.

digital certificate - A password-protected, encrypted data file containing message encryption, user identification and message text. Used to authenticate a program or a sender's public key, or to initiate SSL sessions. Must be signed by a certificate authority (CA) to be valid.

digital signature - An electronic stamp added to a message that uniquely identifies its source and verifies its contents at the time of the signature.

Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) - A high-speed direct Internet connection that uses all-digital networks.

direct memory access (DMA) - A process that allows devices to bypass controllers and directly access memory.

disk cache - Storage space on a computer hard disk used to temporarily store downloaded data.

dithering - The ability for a computer to approximate a color by combining the RGB values.

document type declaration(<!DOCTYPE>) - A declaration of document or code type embedded within an HTML, XHTML, XML or SGML document; identifies the version and nature of code used. Denoted by the <!DOCTYPE> tag at the beginning of the document.

Document Type Definition (DTD) - A set of rules contained in a simple text file that defines the structure, syntax and vocabulary as it relates to tags and attributes for a corresponding document.

Domain Name - An IP address represented in words.

domain name server - A server that resolves domain names into IP addresses.

domain name space - The three-level domain name hierarchy (root-level, top-level and second-level domains) that forms the DNS.

Domain Name System (DNS) - A system that maps uniquely hierarchical names to specific Internet addresses.

dynamic - Always changing.

Dynamic HTML (DHTML) - A combination of HTML, script, styles and the Document Object Model (DaM) that provides Web page interactivity.

electronic commerce (e-commerce) - The integration of communications, data management and security capabilities to allow organizations and consumers to exchange information related to the sale of good and services.

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) - The interorganization exchange of documents in a standardized electronic form directly between participating computers.

Email client - An e-mail program that is independent of any specific Web browser, and that you can use to send e-mail messages.

emoticon - A combination of characters that you read sideways that helps convey emotion in an e-mail message.

emulator - A type of software that imitates a computer then allows non-native software to run in a foreign environment. Sometimes also a hardware device.

Encapsulated PostScript (EPS) - File format used for importing and exporting graphics

encryption - A security technique to prevent access to information by converting it to a scrambled (unreadable) form of text.

event handler - A line of code that allows a language to respond to a specific event or user input.

event-driven - Reacting to particular user actions or the browser's completion of a specific task.

Extensible Hypertext Markup Language (XHTML) The current standard authoring language used to develop Web pages and other electronically displayed documents. XHTML requires stricter code syntax than HTML.

Extensible Markup Language (XML) - A markup language that describes document content, instead of adding structure or formatting to document content. A simplified version of SGML.

Extensible Stylesheet Language (XSL) - A style language that provides formatting instructions for XML documents.

extranet - A network that connects enterprise intranets to the global Internet. Designed to provide access to selected external users.

field - A category of information in a database table.

File Transfer Protocol (FTP) - An Internet protocol used to transfer files between computers.

firewall - A security barrier that controls the flow of information between the Internet and private networks. A firewall prevents outsiders from accessing an enterprise's internal network, which accesses the Internet indirectly through a proxy server.

fixed-width font - A font in which every character, including the space character, has equal width. In proportional-width fonts, letters such as I and J have less width than M or B.

foreign key - A field in a related database table that refers to the primary key in the primary table.

frame - 1: A scrollable region of a Web page in which other pages can be displayed; a single element of a frameset. Each frame has its own URL.

2: Data passed between a system that contains addressing and link control information. Like all network protocols, IPX/SPX encapsulates its communications into frames.

frameset document - A Web page that defines a set of adjacent frames in which other Web pages are displayed.

Front end - A client that acts as an interface to a collection of servers (for example, mainframes or PCbased servers). A Web browser is a typical front-end client.

fully qualified domain name (FQDN) - The complete domain name of an Internet computer, such as *www.CIWcertified.com*.

Gantt chart - A horizontal bar chart that graphically displays project tasks and durations.

gateway - A node on a network that serves as a portal to other networks.

Gnu Privacy Guard (GPG) - An open-source version of PGP, used for encrypting and decrypting e-mail messages, that does not use patented algorithms.

graphical user interface (GUI) - A program that provides visual navigation with menus and screen icons, and performs automated functions when users click command buttons.

hacker - An unauthorized user who penetrates a host or network to access and manipulate data.

hash - A number generated by an algorithm from a text string.

hash encryption - An encryption method in which hashes are used to verify the integrity of transmitted messages.

header - A block of information attached to a piece of data. The first part of a network packet. Can contain network addressing information or additional information that helps computers and applications process data.

help desk technician - An individual responsible for diagnosing and resolving users' technical hardware and software problems.

hexadecimal- A base-16 number system that allows large numbers to be displayed by fewer characters than if the number were displayed in the regular base10 system. In hexadecimal, the number 10 is represented as the letter A, 15 is represented as F, and 16 is represented as 10.

home page - The first Web page that displays when you access a domain.

hop - One link between two network devices; the number of hops between two devices is considered a hop count.

host - A computer that other computers can use to gain information; in network architecture, a host is a client or workstation.

hosts file - A file that contains mappings of IP addresses to host names.

hub - A device used to connect systems so that they can communicate with one another; a repeater or a bridge.

hyperlink - Embedded instructions within a text file that link it to another point in the file or to a separate file.

hypertext link - Highlighted or underlined text in a Web page that, when clicked, links the user to another location or Web page.

Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) - The traditional authoring language used to develop Web pages for many applications.

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) - The protocol for transporting HTML documents across the Internet.

I/O address - A memory location that allows resources to be allocated to a system device.

Illicit server - An application that installs hidden services on systems. Illicit servers consist of "client" code and "server" code that enable the attacker to monitor and control the operation of the computer infected with the server code.

image map - A set of coordinates on an image that creates a "hot spot," which acts as a hyperlink when clicked.

index - A catalog of the contents of a database. Each entry identifies a unique database record.

Information Technology (IT) - The management and processing of information using computers and computer networks.

infrared - A spectrum of light used for communication between various network-enabled devices.

inline images - Images rendered in a Web page.

instant messaging (IM) - A computer-based method of communication in which users can type and view messages sent to one or more recipients, and view the responses immediately.

Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) - A communication standard for sending voice, video or data over digital telephone lines.

interactive - The characteristic of some hardware and software, such as computers, games and multimedia systems, that allows them to respond differently based on a user's actions.

interface - A communication channel between two components.

Internet - A worldwide network of interconnected networks.

Internet Control Meessaging Protocol (ICMP) - A subset of Internet Protocol that is most often used to determine whether a computer can communicate with the rest of the network.

Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP) - A protocol that resides on an incoming mail server. Similar to POP, but is more powerful. Allows sharing of mailboxes and multiple mail server access. The current version is IMAP4.

Internet Protocol (IP) - The data transmission standard for the Internet. Every computer connected to the Internet has its own IP address, which enables a packet of data to be delivered to a specific computer.

Internet Service Provider (ISP) - An organization that maintains a gateway to the Internet and rents access to customers on a per-use or subscription basis.

interoperability - The ability of one computer system to communicate with another; often refers to different operating systems working together.

intranet - An internal network based on TCP liP protocols, accessible only to users within a company.

interrupt request (IRQ) - A hardware line over which devices can send interrupt signals to the processor.

IP address - A unique numerical address assigned to a computer or device on a network.

IP Security (IPsec) - An authentication and encryption standard that provides security over the Internet. It functions at Layer 3 of the OSI/RM and can secure all packets transmitted over the network.

Java - An object-oriented programming language developed by Sun Microsystems that is fully crossplatform functional.

Java Virtual Machine (JVM) - The artificial computer that runs Java programs and allows the same code to run on different platforms.

JavaScript - An interpreted, object-based scripting language developed by Netscape Communications that adds interactivity to Web pages.

junction table - A database table containing foreign key fields that refer to the primary-key fields from the primary tables in a many-to-many relationship.

Kerberos - A proprietary key management scheme between unknown principals who want to communicate securely. Uses symmetric algorithms and acts as a trusted third party that knows the identities of the organizations asking to communicate, but does not reveal them.

kernel - The essential part of an operating system; provides basic services; always resides in memory.

key - A variable value, such as a numeric code, that uses an algorithm to encrypt and decrypt data. Some applications encrypt and decrypt with the same key, whereas other applications use a pair of keys.

keyword - A word that appears on a Web page and is used by search engines to identify relevant URLs. Some words, such as "the" or "and," are too common to be used as keywords.

Layer 1 switch - A device that connects individual systems; a Layer 3 switch connects networks.

legacy model - A model that, because of its age, may not support modern technologies without manipulation or upgrades.

Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) - A protocol that allows a network entity to access a directory service listing.

List server - A server that collects and distributes information from an authorized group of participants, called a listserv group.

Listserve group - Users who subscribe to an emailing list through a list server.

LiveScript - The Netscape-developed scripting language that was the predecessor to JavaScript.

local area Network (LAN) - A group of computers connected within a confined geographic area.

lossless compression - A type of data file compression in which all original data can be recovered when the file is decompressed.

lossy compression - A type of data file compression in which some file information is permanently eliminated.

Mail Delivery Agent (MDA) - An e-mail server program that receives sent messages and delivers them to their proper destination mailbox.

Mail User Agent (MUA) - A messaging component used as a stand-alone application by the user.

mailinglist server - An e-mail server that regularly sends e-mail messages to a specified list of users.

malware - Abbreviation for malicious software. Malware is software designed to harm computer systems.

many-to-many relationship - In databases, a relationship in which one record in Table A can relate to many matching records in Table B, and vice versa.

markup language - A series of commands used to format, organize and describe information on a Web page.

media - Any material that allows data to flow through it or be stored on it; includes hard and floppy disks, wire, cable, and fiber optics.

Media Access Control (MAC) address - The hardware address of a device connected to a network.

Message Transfer Agent (MTA) - A messaging component that routes, delivers and receives e-mail.

meta search engine - A search engine that scans Web pages for <meta> tag information.

metalanguage - A language used for defining other languages.

MIME type - Identifies the contents of a file in the MIME encoding system using a type/subtype format; examples are image/jpg and text/plain.

modem - Abbreviation for modulator/demodulator. An analog device that enables computers to

communicate over telephone lines by translating digital data into audio/analog signals (on the sending computer) and then back into digital form (on the receiving computer).

motherboard - The main circuit board in a computer, on which the microprocessor, physical memory and support circuitry are located.

Moving Picture Experts Group (MPEG) - High_ quality video file compression format.

MPEG-1 Audio Layer-3 (MP3) - Popular compression standard for audio files; retains most of the sound quality of the source.

MPEG-2 - Current video compression standard.

Multipurpose Internet Man Extensions (MIME) - A protocol that enables operating systems to map file name extensions to corresponding applications. Also used by applications to automatically process files downloaded from the Internet.

Multistation Access Unit (MAU) - The network device that is the central connection point for tokenring networks.

municipal area Network (MAN) - A network used to communicate over a city or geographic area.

Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) - A standard computer interface for creating and playing electronic music. It allows computers to re-create music in digital format for playback.

Narrowband - A specific set of frequencies established for wireless communication (usually for voice). Communicates at lower rates than broadband.

National Science Foundation (NSF) - An independent agency of the U.S. government that promotes the advancement of science and engineering.

Needs analysis - Determining a customer's needs by acquiring information, processing and evaluating the information, then creating a plan of action to address the needs.

Network - A group of two or more computers connected so they can communicate with one another.

Network Address Translation (NAT) - The practice of hiding internal IP addresses from the external network.

Network engineer - An individual responsible for managing and maintaining a network infrastructure.

Network interface card (NIC) - A circuit board within a computer's central processing unit that serves as the interface enabling the computer to connect to a network.

Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) - The Internet protocol used by news servers that enables the exchange of Usenet articles.

Network operating system (NOS) - An operating system that manages network resources.

newsgroup - On Usenet, a subject or other topical interest group whose members exchange ideas and opinions. Participants post and receive messages via a news server.

node - Any entity on a network that can be managed, such as a system, repeater, router, gateway or firewall. A computer or other addressable device attached to a network; a host.

non-repudiation - The security principle of providing proof that a transaction occurred between identified parties. Repudiation occurs when one party in a transaction denies that the transaction took place.

object - An element on a Web page that contains data and procedures for how that item will react when activated. On a Web page, an object is typically a multimedia presentation.

object-based - Similar to object-oriented programming languages, but does not allow for inheritance from one class to another.

object-oriented - A style of programming that links data to the processes that manipulate it.

object-oriented programming (oop) - Programming concept based on objects and data and how they relate to one another, instead of logic and actions; C++ and Java are OOP languages.

OCx - Optical carrier levels; defines the transmission speeds used in SONET /SDH.

One to many relationship - In databases, a relationship in which a record in Table A can have multiple matching records in Table B, but a record in Table B has only one matching record in Table A.

One to one relationship - In databases, a relationship in which each record in Table A can have only one matching record in Table B, and vice versa.

online service e-mail - An e-mail program that is part of an online service's software.

Open Buying on the Internet (OBI) - An open technology standard used by organizations to exchange data in a common format; an alternative to EDI.

Open source - Characterized by providing free source code to the development community at large to develop a better product; includes Apache Web server, Netscape Communicator and Linux.

Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) reference model - A layered network architecture model of communication developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Defines

seven layers of network functions

order tracking - The ability to determine progress on delivery of a product. Businesses often provide ordertracking support to end users via Web browsers and email clients.

P2P - A peer-to-peer network on the Internet.

packet - Data processed by protocols so it can be sent across a network.

packet sniffing - The use of protocol analyzer software to obtain sensitive information, such as user names and passwords.

password sniffing - A method of intercepting the transmission of a password during the authentication process. A sniffer is a program used to intercept passwords.

patch - Programming code that provides a temporary solution to a known problem, or bug.

patch panel - A group of sockets that manually switches data between inbound and outbound transmissions.

PC repair technician - An individual responsible for installing, modifying and repairing personal computer (PC) hardware components.

peer-to-peer network - A network in which each computer has both server and client capabilities.

peripheral port - A socket on a computer in which a peripheral device is connected.

permission bit - A file or directory attribute that determines access. Permission bits include read, write and execute permissions.

permissions - Instructions given by an operating system or server (or a combination thereof) that restrict or allow access to system resources, such as files, user databases and system processes.

Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) - A small, handheld computer used for personal information management.

personal information management (PIM) program A tool used to schedule appointments and meetings, store contact information, and manage tasks.

planned maintenance - Any scheduled maintenance procedures, including preventive maintenance.

plenum - Space between building floors; usually contains air and heating ducts, as well as communication and electrical wires.

plug-in - A program installed in the browser to extend its basic functionality. Allows different file

formats to be viewed as part of a standard HTML document.

Point-to-Point Protocol (PPP) - A protocol that allows a computer to connect to the Internet over a phone line.

Point-to-Point Protocol over Ethernet (PPPoE) - A protocol that implements PPP over Ethernet to connect an entire network to the Internet.

Point-to-Point Tunneling Protocol (PPTP) - A protocol that allows users and corporations to securely extend their networks over the Internet using remote access servers. Used to create VPNs.

pop-under window - A small browser window that appears behind the browser window you are viewing.

pop-up window - A small browser window that appears in front of the browser window you are viewing.

port - A logical opening in an operating system or protocol stack that allows the transfer of information. Not the same as a TCP or UDP port.

Portable Document Format (PDF) - A file format that can be transferred across platforms and retain its formatting; designated by the file name extension .pdf.

Post Office Protocol (POP) - A protocol that resides on an incoming mail server. The current version is POP3.

power spike - A short-duration high-voltage condition.

presentation responsibilities - The forms in which the data and business logic are presented on *your* screen. Presentation responsibilities include XHTML and HTML forms, and application-specific interfaces such as Web browsers.

Pretty Good Privacy (PGP) - A method of encrypting and decrypting e-mail messages. It can also be used to encrypt a digital signature.

primary key - A field containing a value that uniquely identifies each record in a database table.

print queue - A mechanism that stores print requests until they are passed to a printing device.

project - A sequence of tasks that must be accomplished within a certain time frame to achieve a desired result.

project management - The practice of applying skills and processes to activities in order to meet deadlines and achieve desired results.

project schedule - A document that lists the planned dates for performing tasks and meeting goals

defined in a project plan.

proxy server - A server that mediates traffic between a protected network and the Internet. Translates IP addresses and meters traffic.

PS/2-style connector - The six-pin mini-DIN connectors introduced with the IBM PS/2.

query - A question posed by a user to a database to request database information. The database returns the query results based on the criteria supplied by the user in the query.

QuickTime Movie (MOV) - Standard file format for Apple QuickTime; uses the .mov, .moov or .qt file name extension.

QuickTime - A plug-in developed by Apple Computer for storing movie and audio files in digital format.

record - A collection of information in a database table consisting of one or more related fields about a specific entity, such as a person, product or event.

relational database - A database that contains multiple tables related through common fields.

relationship - A connection between two or more database tables that is based on a field that the tables have in common.

relative URL - A URL that gives an abbreviated path to a resource using the current page as a starting position.

replay attack - An attack in which packets are obtained from the network or a network host, then reused.

Request for Comments (DC) - A published document that details information about standardized Internet protocols and those in various development stages.

reseller - A company that adds some value to an existing, then sells it to the public or to another company.

resource - A person, department or device needed to accomplish a task.

resource conflict - A situation in which two or more devices share a configuration setting.

restore point - A snapshot of a computer's settings at a particular point in time. Also known as a system checkpoint.

Return On Investment (ROI) - Profit earned as a result of a project relative to the value of resources required to complete it.

Rich Text Format (RTF) - Portable text file format created by Microsoft that allows image insertion and text formatting; an almost universal format.

root Directory - Topmost hard disk directory (folder).

root-level server - A server at the highest level of the Domain Name System.

router - A device that routes packets between networks based on network-layer address; determines the best path across a network. Also used to connect separate LANs to form a WAN.

RSA - A popular, proprietary public key encryption algorithm.

rule - 1: In page design, a graphical line or lines; the word is related to "ruler," a tool of measurement that can be used to draw straight lines.
2: In a style sheet, a format instruction that consists of a specified selector and the properties and values applied to it.

sans-serif - A font style that does not use decorative strokes at the tips of characters. Includes the Arial font family.

scope - The goals and tasks of a project, and the work required to complete them.

scope creep - Gradual increases in project scope that can undermine the success of a project.

screen saver - A graphic or moving image that appears on your screen when your computer is idle.

search engine - A powerful software program that searches Internet databases for user-specified information.

Secure Copy (SCP) - A program used with Secure Shell (SSH) to transfer files between systems.

Secure Electronic Transactions (SET) - An Internet protocol that uses digital certificates to secure financial transactions.

Secure MIME (S/MIME) - Secure version of MIME that adds encryption to MIME data.

Secure Shell (SSH) - A protocol and command interface that provides secure access to a remote computer.

Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) - A protocol that provides authentication and encryption, used by most servers for secure exchanges over the Internet. Superseded by Transport Layer Security (TLS).

security analyst/counselant - An individual responsible for examining an organization's security requirements and determining the necessary infrastructure.

security manager - An individual responsible for managing the security measures used to protect electronic data.

segment - Part of a larger structure; common term used in networking.

selector - In a style sheet, any element to which designated styles are applied.

serif - A font style that uses characters with small decorative additions at the outermost points of the characters, called strokes. Includes the Times and Times New Roman fonts.

server - A computer in a network that manages the network resources and provides, or serves, information to clients.

server administrator - An individual responsible for managing and maintaining network servers.

server-aided script - Code that resides on a server to help process Web form input. Server-side CGI scripts are commonly written in Perl.

Service Advertising Protocol (SAP) - A protocol designed to provide file and print services for Novell NetWare networks.

servlet - A small Java application that runs on a server .

shared domain - A hosting service that allows multiple entities to share portions of the same domain name.

shell - A command-based interface that allows a user to issue commands.

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) - The Internet standard protocol for transferring e-mail messages from one computer to another.

site map - A brief, hierarchical representation of a Web site that enables visitors to quickly identify areas of the site and navigate to them.

Small-Screen Rendering (SSR) - A browser technology developed for wireless devices that reformats Web pages to display on 176-pixel-wide cellular phone display screens.

smart card - A credit card that replaces the magnetic strip with an embedded chip for storing or processing data.

Snail mail - Slang term for the standard postal service.

socket - The end point of a connection (either side), which usually includes the TCP or UDP port used and the IP address. Used for communication between a client and a server.

spam - Unsolicited and unwanted e-mail messages; the online equivalent of junk mail.

spam filter - An e-mail client program that identifies and filters out spam messages before they reach the email Inbox.

spim - Spam that is delivered through instant messaging.

spread spectrum - Technologies that consist of various methods for radio transmission in which frequencies or signal patterns are continuously changed.

spyware - A software application secretly placed on a user's system to gather information and relay it to outside parties, usually for advertising purposes.

SSH File Transfer Protocol (S/FTP) - A file transfer protocol that allows the encryption of transmissions using the Secure Shell (SSH) protocol.

SSL/TLS-enabled FTP (FTPB) - FTP that runs on an SSL /TLS-secured connection.

stakeholder - A person or group with an interest in a project and the power to exert influence (either positive or negative) over the project and affect results.

standard - A definition or format that has been approved by a recognized standards organization.

Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) A metalanguage used to create other languages, including HTML and XHTML.

Statement Of Work (SOW) - A contract to initiate a project; the contract contains project goals and specifies how those goals will be met.

streaming audio and video - Audio and video files that travel over a network in real time.

streaming media - A continuous flow of data, usually audio or video files, that assists with the uninterrupted delivery of those files into a browser.

Structured Query Language (SQL) - A language used to create and maintain professional, high-performance corporate databases.

switch - A device used to connect either individual systems or multiple networks.

symmetric-key encryption - An encryption method in which the same key is used to encrypt and decrypt a message.

Synchronous Optical Network (SONET) - High speed fiber-optic system used as a network and Internet backbone. The European counterpart is the Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH).

T1 - A digital carrier that transmits data at a speed of 1.544 Mbps.

table - A collection of data about a limited topic, organized into rows and columns in a database.

Tagged Image File Format (TIFF) - Commonly used graphic file format, developed by Aldus Corporation; uses the .tif or .tiff file name extension.

tap - Pieces of code, enclosed in angle brackets, that tell the HTML interpreter how to process or display text.

task - A unit of work that must be accomplished during the course of a project.

Telnet - The Internet standard protocol for remote terminal connection service.

text-level element - A markup element that affects single characters or words.

token passing - The LAN access method used by token ring networks. A data frame, or token, is passed from one node to the next around the network ring.

top-level domain - The group into which a domain is categorized, by common topic (company, educational institution) and/or geography (country, state).

trace - Thin conductive path on a circuit board, usually made of copper.

transceiver - A device that transmits and receives digital or analog signals.

Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP /IP) - A suite of protocols that turns data into blocks of information called packets, which are then sent across the Internet. The standard protocol used by the Internet.

Transport Layer Security (TLS) - A secure protocol based on SSL 3.0 that provides encryption and authentication.

Trojan horse - A program disguised as a harmless application that actually produces harmful results.

troll - A Web user who publishes comments or submits feedback simply to annoy or anger.

trouble ticket - A record of a problem related to a service provided by an ISP or ASP. Used to record receipt of a complaint and track resolution of the problem.

tunneling protocol - A protocol that encapsulates data packets into another packet.

Unicode - A universal character set designed to support all written languages, as well as scholarly disciplines (e.g., mathematics).

Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) - A standardized method of referring to a resource.

Uniform Resource Locator (URL) - A text string that specifies an Internet address and the method by which the address can be accessed.

Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) - A power supply that uses a battery to maintain power during a power outage.

update - A file or collection of tools that resolves system liabilities and improves software performance.

Usenet (User Network) - A collection of thousands of Internet computers, newsgroups and newsgroup members using Network News Transfer Protocol (NNTP) to exchange information.

user agent - Any application, such as a Web browser, cell phone, PDA or help engine, that renders HTML for display to users.

user name - A unique name or number that identifies you when logging on to a computer system or online service. In an e-mail address, the part before the @ symbol.

vector graphics - Resizable images that are saved as a sequence of vector statements, which describes a series of points to be connected.

viewer - A scaled-down version of an application; designed to view and print files.

virtual domain - A hosting service that allows a company to host its domain name on a third-party ISP server.

virtual local area network (VLAN) - Logical subgroup within a LAN created with software instead of hardware.

Virtual Network Computing (WC) - A program that allows you to control a computer at a remote location.

Virtual Private Network (VPN) - A secure network between two sites using Internet technology as the transport; an extended LAN that enables a company to conduct secure, real-time communication.

Virtual Reality Modeling Language (VRML) - A three-dimensional graphic authoring language.

virus - A malicious program that replicates itself on computer systems, usually through executable software, and causes irreparable system damage.

Visual Basic - The Microsoft graphical user interface (GUI) programming language used for developing Windows applications. A modified version of the BASIC programming language.

Visual Basic Script (VBScript) - Scripting language from Microsoft, derived from Visual Basic; used to manipulate ActiveX scripts.

Voice over IP (VoIP) - A technology that transmits voice in digital form as packets of data using Internet Protocol.

Waveform (WAV) - Windows standard format for audio files

Web application developer - An individual who develops primarily server-side Web applications.

Web architect - An individual who is responsible for creating the overview plan of a Web site's development.

Web-based e-mail - Free e-mail service from a provider such as Hotmail or Yahoo! in which you request a user name. You can access your e-mail from any computer that has access to the Internet.

Web browser - A software application that enables users to access and view Web pages on the Internet.

Web page - An HTML document containing one or more elements (text, images, hyperlinks) that can be linked to or from other HTML pages.

Web site - A World Wide Web server and its content; includes multiple Web pages.

Web site analyst - An individual who analyzes Web site statistics to determine the site's effectiveness.

Web site designer - An individual responsible for the organization and appearance of a Web site.

Web site manager - An individual who manages a Web development team.

Webinar - An interactive Web-based seminar or training session.

What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) (pronounced whiz-ee-wig) A user-friendly editing format in which the file being edited is displayed as it will appear in the browser.

wide area network (WAN) - A group of computers connected over an expansive geographic area so their users can share files and services.

wideband - A large set of frequencies capable of carrying data at higher rates (for example, 1.544 Mbps). Usually carries digital signals. Includes DSL and cable Internet access.

wireless access point (WAP) - A device that enables wireless systems to communicate with each other, provided that they are on the same network.

Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) - A standard protocol that wireless devices use to access the Internet.

Wireless Markup Language (WML) - A markup language that presents the text portions of Web pages to wireless devices.

wizard - A tool that assists users of an application in creating documents and/ or databases based on styles and templates.

World Wide Web (WWW) - A set of software programs that enables users to access resources on the Internet via hypertext documents.

worm - A self-replicating program or algorithm that consumes system resources.

X Window - A windowing system used with UNIX and all popular operating systems.

X.509 - The standard used by certificate authorities (CAs) for creating digital certificates.

xDSL - Collectively, the variations of Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), which include ADSL, RADSL and HDSL.

zone file - A file containing a set of instructions for resolving a specific domain name into its numerical IP address.