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North American Cellular Network. Slang for computer shareware that, on starting or closing, displays a prominent reminder to the user to purchase the program. *See also* shareware.

NAK *n.* Acronym for negative acknowledgement. A control character 21 (hexadecimal 15), transmitted by the receiving unit to indicate that transmitted information has arrived incorrectly. *See also* ACK.

NAK attack *n.* An attack that uses the negative acknowledgement code character to enter a seemingly legitimate transaction. A NAK attack uses weaknesses in the system to cause the system to reply that it may leave it temporarily unavailable. *See also* NAK.

naked PC *n.* A personal computer sold without an operating system installed. The purchaser of a naked PC must purchase and install an OS before the computer can be used. PCs are chiefly purchased by users who lack expertise with computer equipment. Some manufacturers install a version of Linux or an offshoot of Windows. Software manufacturers have expressed concern about the possibility of software piracy with the sale of naked PCs.

new top-level domain names *n.* The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), .name is meant for registration of personal Web sites. The seven new top-level domain names became available for use in the spring of 2000.

col *n.* *See* NBP.

HTML, a tag within a document that is used to create a hyperlink. Named anchors allow a link to a specific location within a document. *See also* HTML, hyperlink.

character entity *n.*

set aside for temporary data storage. They are created by server processes and can be used simultaneously by more than one client process, each accessing a separate instance with its own buffers and handles. Named pipes can be used to transfer data either locally or on a network.

named target *n.* *See* named anchor.

name server *n.* *See* CSO name server, DNS server.

namespace *n.* 1. A grouping of one or more names that represent individual objects within the group in a shared computing environment, such as a network. The names within a namespace are unique, are created according to the same rules, and can be resolved into a particular identifying item of information, such as an IP address or a network device. A namespace can be either flat—a single collection of unique names—or hierarchical, as is the Internet's DNS (Domain Name System), which is based on a treelike structure that is refined through successive levels beginning with the root server and the Internet's top-level domains (.com, .net, .org, and so on). In everyday terms, a namespace is comparable to a telephone book, in which each name is unique and resolves to the phone number and address of a particular individual, business, or other entity. 2. A means of identifying elements and attributes in an XML document by assigning them a two-part name with the first part being the namespace and the second part being the functional name. A namespace identifies a set of names to prevent confusion when multiple objects with identical functional names are taken from different sources and brought together in the same XML document. Namespaces typically reference a Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) because each URI will be unique.

name-value pair *n.* 1. In the Perl programming language, a data set in which the data is associated with a name. *See also* Perl. 2. In CGI programming, one of the data items collected from an HTML form by the browser and passed