

#1 Best Seller
Over 350,000 Sold

NEWTON'S TELECOM DICTIONARY

**The Official Dictionary
of Telecommunications
Networking and
the Internet**

**16th
EXPANDED
& UPDATED
EDITION**

NEWTON'S TELECOM DICTIONARY

copyright © 2000 Harry Newton
Email: Harry Newton@TechnologyInvestor.com
Personal web site: www.HarryNewton.com

All rights reserved under International and Pan-American Copyright conventions,
including the right to reproduce this book or portions thereof in any form whatsoever.

Published by Telecom Books
An imprint of CMP Media Inc.
12 West 21 Street
New York, NY 10010

ISBN # 1-57820-053-9

Sixteenth Edition, Expanded and Updated, February 2000

For individual orders, and for information on special discounts for quantity orders,
please contact:

Telecom Books
6600 Silacci Way
Gilroy, CA 95020
Tel: 800-LIBRARY or 408-848-3854
FAX: 408-848-5784
Email: telecom@rushorder.com

Distributed to the book trade in the U.S. and Canada by
Publishers Group West
1700 Fourth St., Berkeley, CA 94710

Manufactured in the United States of America

NEWTON'S TELECOM DICTIONARY

The Official Dictionary of
Telecommunications & the Internet

**16th Updated, Expanded and Much
Improved Edition**

conventions,
whatsoever.

users,

instigating the marketing. Customers who have purchased outside the specified time period are considered inactive.

ActiveX In its simplest terms, said InfoWorld, May 19, 1997, ActiveX is an architecture that lets a program (the ActiveX control) interact with other programs over a network (such as the Internet). It's quite a different animal than Java, which is an entire new programming language plus a specification for a virtual machine. The ActiveX architecture, according to InfoWorld, uses Microsoft's Component Object Model (COM) and Distributed COM (DCOM) standards. COM allows different applications to talk to each other locally. DCOM allows them to talk over a network.

ActiveX, formerly known as Object Linking and Embedding, or OLE, is an umbrella of mechanisms designed to bring sound bytes, animation and interactivity to Web documents, similar to plug-in technology for Netscape Communications Corp.'s Navigator and Sun Microsystems Inc.'s Java applets. They all provide ways to send small programs to a browser, without the involvement of any other special software on the desktop. In short, ActiveX is software code from Microsoft which allows a developer to add move things to an otherwise static Web page. ActiveX is positioned by Microsoft as a competitive move against Java.

Microsoft's ActiveX enables software components to interact with one another in a networked environment, regardless of the language in which they were created. Kind of like the Olympics. ActiveX is built on the Component Object Model (COM). Elements of ActiveX are:

- **ActiveX Controls**—the interactive objects in a Web page that provide interactive and user-controllable functions.
- **ActiveX Documents**—enable users to view non-HTML documents, such as Microsoft Excel or Word files, through a Web browser.
- **Active Scripting**—controls the integrated behavior of several ActiveX controls and/or Java Applets from the browser or server.
- **Java Virtual Machine**—the code that enables any ActiveX-supported browser such as Internet Explorer 3.0 to run Java applets and to integrate Java applets with ActiveX controls.
- **ActiveX Server Framework**—provides a number of Web server-based functions such as security, database access, and others.

ActiveX Controls A component that can be inserted in a page to provide functionality not directly available in HTML, such as animation sequences, credit-card transactions, real-time video sequences or spreadsheet calculations. ActiveX controls can be implemented in a variety of programming languages using C++, Visual Basic or Java. Over 1,000 ActiveX controls are available today. These include the Macromedia Shockwave for Director control and the Adobe Acrobat control.

Activity Concentration Point ACP A location on a telecommunications network where there is high communications traffic, including voice, data, document distribution and teleconferencing. Generally, there will be some switching equipment present at the ACP.

Activity Costing A call center term. The costing methodology used to determine the specific cost of a given activity. (See Cost Per Phone Hour.)

Activity Factor A decimal fraction which represents the percentage of speech on a voice channel versus those periods of (non-talking) silence on that channel. Most voice channels carry actual speech 30% to 40% of the total available time. This represents an activity factor of 0.3 to 0.4.

Activity Report A report printed by a facsimile machine

which lists all transmissions and receptions — their time, date, and number of documents; the remote unit type, dialing codes; and machine identification.

ACTL Access Customer Terminal Location. The CLI code that identifies the location of the access customer's switch.

ACTS 1. Association of Competitive Telecommunications Suppliers. Trade association of telephone equipment dealers in Canada.

2. Automatic Coin Telephone Service includes a telephone company central office that can complete all types of payphone calls automatically without an operator. Recorded announcements are used to convey instructions to the customer.

ACU Automatic Calling Unit. Also an 801 ACU. A telephone company-provided device instructed by a computer to place call on behalf of the computer. The call is then connected to the telephone company-provided Data Set. Anyone other than an IBM shop would simply buy a Hayes or Hayes-compatible modem, and not bother with the trouble and expense of an ACU.

ACUTA The Association for Telecommunications Professionals in Higher Education. Prior to 1998, it was the Association of College & University Telecommunications Administrators. The new name is more meaningful, but the acronym stuck. ACUTA is an international, not-for-profit educational association serving approximately 800 institutions of higher learning. All members are director level or higher, and are responsible for data, video, communications, and all varieties of networks, in addition to traditional telephony. Corporate affiliate members are welcome, as well. www.acuta.org

ADA 1. Average Delay to Abandon. Average time caller spends held in queue before they get frustrated and decide to hang up.

2. A high level computer language which the Department of Defense has been trying to foist on its suppliers and has made a standard. Ada is named for British mathematician Ada Lovelace, known at the time as Lady Lovelace. She was the girlfriend of Charles Babbage, the inventor of the computer.

ADACC Automatic Directory Assistance Call Completion.

ADAD Automatic Dialing and Announcing Device. Device which automatically places calls and connects them to recording or agent. A Canadian term for an automatic dialing pair telephone lines so they carry data more efficiently up to 12,000 feet before the need to regenerate the signal. The line can be customized to meet the needs of a twisted pair.

Adapter 1 A device used to connect a terminal to some circuit or channel so it will compatible with the system to which it is attached. An adapter converts one type of jack or plug to another, for example, from old 4-prong telephone jacks to new modular. An adapter may also combine various items such as putting three plugs in one jack.

2. Another name for a NIC — Network Interface Card — a card which fits into a computer and joins the computer to a local area network.

Adapter Card A printed circuit card installed inside of a computer. It takes data from memory and transmits it over cable to connected devices such as a modem, or printer.

Adapter Segment A name sometimes used for the upper memory area of a PC, at hexadecimal addresses A0000 through EFFF (640K to 1024K).

Adaptive Antenna Array An antenna array in which the received signal is continually monitored in respect of interference (usually adjacent or co-channel). Its directional characteristics are then automatically adjusted to null out its interference. Such a concept often employs computer control of a planar type antenna.

NEWTON'S TELECOM DICTIONARY

**The Official Dictionary
of Telecommunications
Networking & the Internet**

by **Harry Newton**
with **Ray Horak**
contributing editor

16th Updated & Expanded Edition

I wrote this book for those of us new and old to the world's most exciting industries - telecommunications, networking and the Internet. I deliberately didn't write a technical book. I wrote a business book. I explain technical concepts in non-technical, business language that anyone in business can understand. Some of my definitions are short. Some are encyclopedic. My focus is totally practical. What the term means. How it fits into the framework of the greater industry. How you can benefit. Which pitfalls to watch for. Use this book in your day-to-day business life. Dip into it before a meeting with a vendor, a customer or a boss. Dip into it as you write or read a sales proposal. I've got 19 years in this book. By now, it's getting pretty darn good.

Harry Newton



Harry Newton has 30 years in telecommunications. He founded LAN (now Network) Magazine, the first networking magazine. He founded the three leading monthly telecom magazines - Call Center, Computer Telephony, and Teleconnect. He also founded the enormously successful trade show, Computer Telephony Conference and Exposition (CT Expo). He is (of late) a successful angel investor (early venture capitalist) in telecom. Recently he started a new monthly magazine, Technology Investor Magazine. For a subscription go to www.TechnologyInvestor.com. Newton holds an MBA from the Harvard Business School and an Economics undergraduate degree from the University of Sydney, Australia. He is not an engineer. But he knows enough to be dangerous in front of them. And that, he says, is the skill.

Telecom Books An imprint of CMP Media Inc.
6600 Silacci Way, Gilroy, CA 95020 ■ 408-848-3854
FAX 408-848-5784 ■ www.telecombooks.com

\$32.95 • ISBN 1-57820-053-9



EAN