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emulation

printers are able to emulate the more popular office printers. (NOTE: emulates – emulating – emulated)

'...some application programs do not have the right drivers for a laser printer, so look out for laser printers which are able to emulate the more popular office printers' [*Publish*]

emulation /,emjuˈleɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* behaviour by one computer or printer which is exactly the same as another and which allows the same programs to be run and the same data to be processed

emulation facility /,emjuˈleɪʃ(ə)n fəˌsɪlɪti/ *noun* a feature of hardware or software which emulates another system

'...full communications error checking built into the software ensures reliable file transfers and a terminal emulation facility enables a user's terminal to be used as if it were a terminal to the remote computer' [*Byte*]

emulator /'emjuleɪtə/ *noun* a piece of software or hardware that allows a machine to behave like another

'...for an authentic retro coding experience, download an emulator and turn your computer into a virtual BBC Micro.' [*The Guardian*]

emulsion laser storage /ɪ,mʌlʃ(ə)n 'leɪzə ,stɔːrɪdʒ/ *noun* a digital storage technique using a laser to expose light-sensitive material

en /en/ *noun* a unit of measure equal to half the width of an em

enable /ɪn'eɪb(ə)l/ *verb* to use an electronic signal to start a process or access a function on a chip or circuit (NOTE: enables – enabling – enabled)

enabled /ɪn'eɪb(ə)ld/ *adjective* referring to a function or menu item that is available to the user ○ *If an option on a menu appears in grey text rather than black, this indicates that these are not enabled and that you cannot use the option.*

enabling signal /ɪn'eɪblɪŋ ,sɪgn(ə)l/ *noun* a signal that starts a process or allows one to take place

encapsulated /ɪn'kæpsjuleɪtɪd/ *adjective* referring to something contained within another thing

encapsulated PostScript /ɪn ,kæpsjuleɪtɪd 'pəʊstskript/ *noun* a PostScript facility providing commands that describe an image or page contained within a file that can be placed within a graphics or DTP program. Abbr **EPS**

encapsulated PostScript file /ɪn ,kæpsjuleɪtɪd 'pəʊstskript ,faɪl/ *noun* a file that contains encapsulated PostScript instructions. Abbr **EPSF**

encapsulation /ɪn'kæpsjuleɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* (in a network) a system of sending a frame of data in one format within a frame of another format

encipher /ɪn'saɪfə/ *verb* to convert plaintext into a secure coded form by means of a cipher system ○ *Our competitors cannot understand our files – they have all been enciphered.* Opposite **decipher**

enclosed object /ɪn,kləʊzd əb'dʒekt/ *noun* a graphic object that is closed on all sides and so can be filled with a colour or pattern

encode /ɪn'kəʊd/ *verb* to apply the rules of a code to a program or data (NOTE: encodes – encoding – encoded)

encoder /ɪn'kəʊdə/ *noun* a device that can translate data from one format to another

encoding /ɪn'kəʊdɪŋ/ *noun* the translation of a message or text according to a coding system

encoding format /ɪn'kəʊdɪŋ ,fɔːmæt/ *noun* a method of coding data stored on a magnetic disk to avoid a series of similar bits

encrypt /ɪn'kript/ *verb* to convert plaintext to a secure coded form, using a cipher system ○ *The encrypted text can be sent along ordinary telephone lines, and no one will be able to understand it.*

encryption /ɪn'kriptʃən/ *noun* the conversion of plaintext to a secure coded form by means of a cipher system

end /end/ *noun* a statement or character to indicate the last word of a source file

end about carry /,end ə'baut ,kæri/ *noun* (in BCD arithmetic) the most significant digit added into the least significant place. Also called **end around carry**

end about shift /,end ə'baut ,ʃɪft/ *noun* data movement to the left or right in a word, in which the bits falling outside the word boundary are discarded and replaced with zeros

end around carry /,end ə'raʊnd ,kæri/ *noun* same as **end about carry**

end key /'end kiː/ *noun* (a key on an IBM PC keyboard that moves the cursor to the end of the current line

endless loop /'endləs luːp/ *noun* a continuous piece of recording tape or number of computer instructions that are continuously repeated

private key cryptography /ˌpraɪvət kiː kɹɪp'tɒɡrəʒi/ *noun* a method of encrypting Internet messages that uses a single key both to encode and decode them

privilege /ˈprɪvɪlɪdʒ/ *noun* the status of a user as regards to the type of program he or she can run and the resources he or she can use

privileged account /ˌprɪvəlɪdʒd ə 'kaʊnt/ *noun* a computer account that allows special programs or access to sensitive system data

privileged instructions /ˌprɪvəlɪdʒd ɪn'strʌkʃənz/ *plural noun* computer commands that can only be executed via a privileged account

privileged mode /ˌprɪvəlɪdʒd məʊd/ *noun* a mode of an Intel 80286 processor that is in protected mode and allows a program to modify vital parts of the operating environment

PRN /piː ɑː 'en/ *noun* an acronym used in MS-DOS to represent the standard printer port. Full form **printer**

problem /ˈprɒbləm/ *noun* a malfunction or fault with hardware or software

problem definition /ˈprɒbləm ,defənɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* the clear explanation, in logical steps, of a problem that is to be solved

problem diagnosis /ˈprɒbləm ,daɪəgnəʊsɪs/ *noun* the process of finding the cause of a fault or error and finding the method of repairing it

problem-orientated language /ˌprɒbləm ˌɔːriəntetɪd 'læŋɡwɪdʒ/ *noun* a high-level programming language that allows certain problems to be expressed easily. Abbr **POL**

procedural /prə'siːdʒərəl/ *adjective* using a procedure to solve a problem

procedural language /prə ,siːdʒ(ə)rəl 'læŋɡwɪdʒ/ *noun* a high-level programming language in which the programmer enters the actions required to achieve the result wanted

procedure /prə'siːdʒə/ *noun* 1. a small section of computer instruction code that provides a frequently used function and can be called upon from a main program ○ *This procedure sorts all the files into alphabetical order.* † **subroutine** 2. a method or route used when solving a problem ○ *You should use this procedure to retrieve lost files.*

procedure declaration /prə'siːdʒə ,dekləreɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* the process of writ-

ing and declaring the variable types of procedure used and the routine name and location

procedure-orientated language /prə'siːdʒə ˌɔːriəntetɪd 'læŋɡwɪdʒ/ *noun* a high-level programming language that allows procedures to be programmed easily

process /prəʊ'ses/ *noun* a number of tasks that must be carried out to achieve a goal ○ *The process of setting up the computer takes a long time.* ■ *verb* to carry out a number of tasks to produce a result ○ *We processed the new data.*

process bound /'prəʊses baʊnd/ *noun* a program that spends more time executing instructions and using the CPU than in I/O operations

process chart /'prəʊses tʃɑːt/ *noun* a diagram that shows each step of the computer procedures needed in a system

process control /'prəʊses kən'trəʊl/ *noun* the automatic control of a process by a computer

process control computer /ˌprəʊses kən'trəʊl kəm'pjʊtə/ *noun* a dedicated computer that controls and manages a process

process control system /ˌprəʊses kən'trəʊl ,sɪstəm/ *noun* a system that completely monitors, manages and regulates a process, comprising input and output modules, a CPU with memory, a program and control and feedback devices such as A/D and D/A converters

processing /'prəʊsesɪŋ/ *noun* the use of a computer to solve a problem or organise data ○ *Page processing time depends on the complexity of a given page.* † **CPU**

processor /'prəʊsesə/ *noun* a hardware or software device that is able to manipulate or modify data according to instructions

processor controlled keying /ˌprəʊsesə kən'trəʊld 'kiːɪŋ/ *noun* data entry by an operator which is prompted and controlled by a computer

processor interrupt /ˌprəʊsesə 'ɪntərəpt/ *noun* the process of sending an interrupt signal to a processor requesting attention, usually causing it to stop what it is doing and attend to the calling device

processor-limited /ˌprəʊsesə 'lɪmɪtɪd/ *adjective* referring to operation or execution time that is set by the speed of the processor rather than a peripheral

project *noun* /'prɒdʒekt/ a planned task
 ○ *His latest project is computerising the sales team.* ■ **verb** /prə'dʒekt/ to forecast future figures from a set of data ○ *The projected sales of the new PC.*

projection /prə'dʒekʃən/ *noun* the forecasting of a situation from a set of data
 ○ *The projection indicates that sales will increase.*

PROLOG /'prəʊlɒg/ *noun* a high-level programming language using logical operations for artificial intelligence and data retrieval applications. Full form **programming in logic**

PROM /prɒm/ *noun* 1. read-only memory that can be programmed by the user, as distinct from ROM, which is programmed by the manufacturer. Full form **programmable read-only memory** 2. an electronic device in which data can be stored. Full form **programmable memory**

PROM blaster /'bɜːnə/, **PROM burner**, **PROM programmer** /'prəʊ,græmə/ *noun* an electronic device used to program a PROM

prompt /prɒmpt/ *noun* a message or character displayed to remind the user that an input is expected ○ *The prompt READY indicates that the system is available to receive instructions.*

propagate /'prɒpə,geɪt/ *verb* to travel or spread

propagated error /,prɒpəgeɪtɪd 'erə/ *noun* one error in a process that has affected later operations

propagating error /'prɒpəgeɪtɪŋ ,erə/ *noun* an error that occurs in one place or operation and affects another operation or process

propagation delay /,prɒpə'geɪf(ə)n dɪ,leɪ/ *noun* 1. the time taken for an output to appear in a logic gate after the input is applied 2. the time taken for a data bit to travel over a network from the source to the destination

propagation time /,prɒpə'geɪf(ə)n ,taɪm/ *noun* same as **gate delay**

properties /'prɒpətɪz/ *noun* (in Windows) the attributes of a file or object

proportionally spaced /prə ,pɔːʃ(ə)nəli 'speɪst/ *adjective* referring to a font in which each letter takes a space proportional to the character width. Compare **monospaced**

proprietary file format /prə ,praɪət(ə)rɪ 'faɪl ,fɔːmət/ *noun* a method of storing data devised by a company for

its products and incompatible with other products ○ *You cannot read this spreadsheet file because my software saves it in a proprietary file format.*

protected field /prə'tektɪd fi:ld/ *noun* a storage or display area that cannot be altered by the user

protected location /prə'tektɪd ləu 'keɪʃ(ə)n/ *noun* a memory location that cannot be altered or cannot be accessed without authorisation

protected mode /prə'tektɪd məʊd/ *noun* the operating mode of an 80286 Intel processor or higher that supports multitasking, virtual memory and data security

protected storage /prə'tektɪd 'stɔːrɪdʒ/ *noun* a section of memory that cannot be altered

protection key /prə'tekʃən kiː/ *noun* a signal checked to see if a program can access a section of memory

protection master /prə'tekʃən ,mɑːstə/ *noun* a spare copy of a master film or tape

protocol /'prəʊtəkɒl/ *noun* the pre-agreed signals, codes and rules to be used for data exchange between systems

protocol stack /'prəʊtəkɒl stæk/ *noun* the separate parts of a protocol, each with a different function, that work together to provide a complete set of network functions

protocol standards /'prəʊtəkɒl ,stændədʒ/ *plural noun* standards laid down to allow data exchange between any computer system conforming to the standard

prototype /'prəʊtə,taɪp/ *noun* the first working model of a device or program, which is then tested and adapted to improve it

prototyping /'prəʊtətaɪpɪŋ/ *noun* the process of making a prototype

proximity operator /prɒk'sɪmɪtɪ ,ɒpəreɪtə/ *noun* a Boolean operator that directs a search engine making a text search to locate pages in which the words it is looking for are near one another in any direction

proxy agent /'prɒksi ,eɪdʒənt/ *noun* a piece of software that can translate network management commands to allow management software to control a device that uses a different protocol

proxy server /,prɒksi 'sɜːvə/ *noun* a computer that stores copies of files and data normally held on a slow server and so