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IBM DICTIONARY OF COMPUTING

Compiled and edited by
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This book is printed on acid-free paper.

finance image processor (FIP) A function-level routine of Subsystem Support Services that creates the configuration image for a finance industry system.

finance I/O manager (FIOM) In the AS/400 AFP program, a set of routines that can be used by an application program to do I/O operations on a finance device that is configured as a non-intersystem communications function (non-ICF) device.

Finance subsystem The SSP-ICF subsystem that allows System/36 to communicate with the 3601 and 4701 Finance Controllers and the 3694 Document Processor.

finance support In the AS/400 system, a part of the system support that uses an AS/400 system as a host system to which finance devices can be attached.

find Synonym for search. (T)

find and replace Synonym for search and replace. (T)

Find button In the IBM LinkWay product, a type of button object that searches for a text string in the folder and the field the user specifies.

findnext In the IBM LinkWay product, to find the next occurrence of a text string defined by the Find operation.

find text string In word processing, a function that enables a point to be found within the text by entering a set of unique characters identifying the desired point. (T)

fine clipping In the AIX Graphics Library (GL), masking all drawing commands to a rectangular region of the screen. Contrast with gross clipping.

fine-grain parallel processing Parallel processing in which parts of an operation are performed concurrently. Contrast with coarse-grain parallel processing.

finite element analysis (FEA) In computer-aided design, the determination of the structural integrity of a mechanical part or physical construction under design by mathematical simulation of the part and its loading conditions. (T)

finite state machine A computer in which a set of inputs determine not only the set of outputs but also the internal state of the computer, such as the locations of data and instructions in main storage, in order to optimize processing. See also Turing machine, universal Turing machine.

FIOM Finance I/O manager.

FIP Finance image processor.

fire To initiate the action specified by a rule when the condition stated by the rule is satisfied. (T)

firmware (1) An ordered set of instructions and data stored in a way that is functionally independent of main storage; for example, microprograms stored in a ROM. (T) (2) Deprecated term for microcode.

Note: The term "firmware" describes microcode in read-only memory (ROM). At the time they are coded, microinstructions are software. When they are put into ROM they become part of the hardware (microcode), or a combination of hardware and software (microprograms). Usually, microcode is permanent and cannot be modified by the user but there are exceptions: See EPROM, PROM.

first-character forms control (FCFC) A method for controlling the format of printed output. The first character of each record determines the format.

first-come-first-served (FCFS) A queuing technique in which the next item to be retrieved is the item that has been in the queue for the longest time. Contrast with shortest-job-next.

first copy-out time In a document copying machine, the time required between starting the copying process and completely receiving the first copy in the delivery tray. (T)

first draft In multimedia applications, a rough draft of a complete script.

first element of chain Deprecated term for first RU of chain.

first ended, first out (FEFO) A queuing scheme whereby messages in a destination queue are sent to the destination on a first ended, first out basis within priority groups. That is, higher-priority messages are sent before lower-priority messages; when two messages in a queue have equal priority, the one whose final segment arrives at the queue earliest is sent first. See Figure 63.

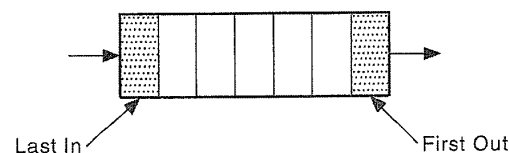


Figure 63. First Ended, First Out

first failure data capture A VTAM problem diagnosis aid that enables VTAM to identify certain