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NINTH EDITION

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restricted function

A computer or operating system function that cannot be used by an application program.

retrieve

To call up data that has been stored in a computer system. When a user queries a database, the data is retrieved into the computer first and then transmitted to the screen.

reusability

The ability to use all or the greater part of the same programming code or system design in another application.

reverse DNS

(Reverse Domain Name System) Name resolution software that looks up an IP address to obtain a domain name. It performs the opposite function of the DNS server, which turns names into IP addresses.

reverse engineer

To isolate the components of a completed system. When a chip is reverse engineered, all the individual circuits that make up the chip are identified. Source code can be reverse engineered into design models or specifications. Machine language can be reversed into assembly language (see *disassembler*).

reverse polish notation

A mathematical expression in which the numbers precede the operation. For example, $2 + 2$ would be expressed as $2\ 2\ +$, and $10 - 3 * 4$ would be $10\ 3\ 4\ * \ -$. See *FORTH*.

reverse video

A display mode used to highlight characters on screen. For example, if the normal display mode is black on white, reverse video would be white on black.

revision level

See *version number*.

REXX

(REstructured EXtended eXecutor) An IBM mainframe structured programming language that runs under VM/CMS and MVS/TSO. It can be used as a general-purpose macro language that sends commands to application programs and to the operating systems. REXX is also included in OS/2 Version 2.0.

The following REXX example converts Fahrenheit to Celsius:

```
Say "Enter Fahrenheit "
Pull FAHR
Say "Celsius is " (FAHR - 32) * (5 / 9)
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RF

(Radio Frequency) The range of electromagnetic frequencies above the audio range and below visible light. All broadcast transmission, from AM radio to satellites, falls into this range, which is between 30KHz and 300GHz. See *RF modulation*.

RFI

(Radio Frequency Interference) High-frequency electromagnetic waves that emanate from electronic devices such as chips.

RFID

(Radio Frequency/IDentification) An identification system that uses tags that transmit a wireless message. The tag gets its power from a hand-held gun/reading unit.

RF modulation

The transmission of a signal through a carrier frequency. In order to connect to a TV's antenna input, some home computers and all VCRs provide RF modulation of a TV channel, usually Channel 3 or 4. See *FCC class*.