

NEWTON'S TELECOM DICTIONARY

11th Edition

The Official Dictionary of Telecommunications
Computer Telephony, Data Communications
Internet Telephony, Voice Processing
Windows 95 & NT Communications
LAN, WAN and Wireless Networking

by Harry Newton



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ISBN # 0-936648-87-2

July, 1996

Manufactured in the United States of America

Eleventh Edition
Cover design by Mara Seinfeld
Printed at Command Web, New Jersey

WDM Wavelength Division Multiplexing. A technique in fiber-optic transmission for using different light wavelengths to send data parallel-by-bit (one discrete wavelength per bit), serial-by-character. One multimode fiber can act as an 8-bit parallel bus.

WDMA Wavelength-Division Multiple Access: a technique which is used to provide multiple channels on different wavelengths on the same fiber-optic cable.

Weather Trunk Group A trunk group used to provide customers with weather information.

Weathermaster Method A distribution method where the unused wall space inside heating and cooling units beneath windows is used for satellite location. Cables are fed from a riser or other serving closet to the location through baseboards, conduit, or underfloor system.

Web An abbreviation for the Internet's World Wide Web. See WORLD WIDE WEB and INTERNET.

Web Art A definition for the artwork that you are beginning to see proliferating the Internet, especially on home pages.

Web Browser Clients software which navigates a web of interconnected documents on the World Wide Web. A Web Browser is software which allows a computer user (like you and me) to "surf" the Internet. It lets us move easily from one World Wide Web site to another. Every time we alight on a Web Page, our Web Browser moves a copy of documents on the Web to your computer. A Web Browser uses HTTP — the HyperText Transfer Protocol. Invisible to the user of a Web Browser, HTTP is the actual protocol used by the Web Server and the Client Browser to communicate over the Internet. The most famous Web Browser is currently Netscape. Many online commercial services such as AOL, CompuServe, Microsoft, Prodigy, etc. distribute Web Browsers to surf their "intranet" as well as the "internet." See INTERNET, MOSAIC, NETSCAPE and SURF.

Web Master See WEBMASTER.

Web Mistress See WEBMISTRESS.

WEB Search Engines An Internet World Wide Web term. A search engine is a program that returns a list of Web Sites (URLs) that match some user-selected criteria such as "contains the words cotton and blouse." Basically, the procedure is simple. You surf to the search engine's site. You click a couple of times and type in what you're looking for. A few seconds later you get choices. You finally make your selection and you get instantly hotlinked over to that site. Here are the main Internet search engines and their addresses.

ALTA VISTA <http://altavista.digital.com> EXCITE <http://www.excite.com> LYCOS <http://www.lycos.com> INFOSEEK <http://guide.infoseek.com> OPENTEXT <http://www.opentext.com:8080> INKTOMI <http://www.inktomi.berkeley.edu/query.html> WWW.WORM <http://www.cs.colorado.edu/www/> WEBCRAWLER <http://www.webcrawler.com> YAHOO <http://akebono.stanford.edu/yahoo/>

Web Server A Web Server is a powerful computer which is connected to the Internet or an Intranet. It stores documents and files — audio, video, graphics or text — and can display them to people accessing the server via hypertext transfer protocol (http). A Web server derives its name because it is part of the World Wide Web. See WORLD WIDE WEB.

Web Service Provider A vendor who provides customers with Web Pages on the vendor's computer/s. Frequently, a Web Service Provider will provide additional services such as design help and usage statistics. Often they will just provide the computer space and leave the rest to you. A Web Service Provider may or may not also be an Internet Service Provider.

Web Site Any machine on the Internet that is running a Web Server to respond to requests from remote Web Browsers is a Web Site. In more common usage it refers to individual sets of Web Pages that can be visited with Web Browsers. It is also spelled as one word, namely WEBSITE. See also INTERNET.

Weblock The Internet data traffic version of gridlock.

Webmaster An Internet term. The Webmaster is the administrator responsible for the management and often design of a company's World Wide Web site. See also WEBMISTRESS.

Webmistress An Internet term. The Webmistress is the female administrator responsible for the management and often design of a company's World Wide Web site. See also WEBMASTER.

Website See WEB SITE.

Webzine Magazines that are published (i.e. made public) on the World Wide Web. Typically a Webzine is available for anyone to read who wants to visit the site the electronic magazine is located at. A Webzine is also called an e-zine.

WECO Western Electric Company. The company is now called Lucent Technologies. It used to be the equipment manufacturing arm of AT&T, but in early 1996, AT&T spun it off to the public as a separate, publicly-traded company, called Lucent Technologies. Many oldtimers are sad that about the name change and new ownership. Western Electric had a wonderful reputation and is remembered with great fondness. It has an excellent reputation for high quality products and is still used as a brand name on some products.

Weighted Average A call center term. A method of averaging several numbers in which some numbers are increased before averaging because they have more significance relative to the other numbers.

Weighted Call Value WCV. The average handling time of a call transaction. ACD vendors count this differently. Typically, a combination of the talk time and the after-call work or wrap-up time.

WESTAR Family of communications satellites owned and operated by Western Union.

Western Union International WUI. Acquired by MCI in 1982 to establish MCI in the International Telex and communications market. WUI is now part of MCI International.

WestNet One of the National Science Foundation funded regional TCP/IP networks that covers the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming.

Wet Circuit A circuit carrying direct current.

Wet Loop Powering Defined as local power (non-Span provided) with use of copper pairs (power is looped at the last repeater).

Wet T-1 A T-1 line with a telephony company powered interface.

Wetting Agent A chemical which reduces surface tension in a liquid, motivating the liquid to spread more evenly on a surface.

WFWG Windows For Workgroups. See WINDOWS.

WG An abbreviation for workstation, i.e. a computer on a desktop that isn't a server.