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**single threading** *n.* **1.** Within a program, the running of a single process at a time. **2.** A condition in which each leaf node of a tree data structure contains a pointer to its parent. *See also* node (definition 3), pointer (definition 1), threading.

**single-user computer** *n.* A computer designed for use by a single individual; a personal computer. *Compare* multiuser system.

**sink** *n.* A device or part of a device that receives something from another device. *See also* data sink, heat sink.

**SIP** \sip\ *n.* Acronym for **s**ingle **i**nline **p**ackage. A type of housing for an electronic component in which all leads (connections) protrude from one side of the package. *Also called* single inline pinned package. *Compare* DIP.

**SIPP** \sip\ *n.* Acronym for **s**ingle **i**nline **p**inned **p**ackage. *See* SIP.

**SIR** *n. See* Serial Infrared.

**SIRDS** *n.* Acronym for **S**ingle **I**mage **R**andom **D**ot **S**tereogram. *See* autostereogram.

**SIS** *n.* Acronym for **S**ingle **I**mage **S**tereogram. *See* autostereogram.

**.sit** *n.* The file extension for a Macintosh file compressed with StuffIt. *See also* StuffIt.

**site** *n. See* Web site.

**site license** *n.* A purchase agreement for using multiple copies of the same software at a business or institution, usually at a volume discount.

**size box** *n.* A control in the upper right corner of the frame of a window on the Macintosh screen. When the user clicks on the size box, the window toggles between the size the user has set for it by dragging and the maximum size. *Compare* Maximize button.

**skew** *n.* The difference between what is and what should be—for example, the misalignment of a page that prevents accurate reproduction, or the difference between input and output when circuits do not respond evenly to a propagated signal.

**Skutch box** *n.* A slang term for a device manufactured by Skutch Electronics, Inc., that simulates the functioning of a telephone line with a good connection. Telephone line simulators are used to test telecommunications systems and devices.

**slave** *n.* Any device, including a computer, that is controlled by another computer, referred to as the master. *See also* master/slave arrangement.

**sleep**[1] *n.* **1.** In a multiprocessing environment, a temporary state of suspension during which a process remains in memory so that some event, such as an interrupt or call from another process, can "awaken" it. **2.** In programming, a state of suspension caused by a loop statement that creates an intentional delay.

**sleep**[2] *vb.* To suspend operation without terminating.

**sleep mode** *n.* A power management mode that shuts down all unnecessary computer operations to save energy after it has received no input or other activity for a specified period of time. A computer in sleep mode usually awakens when it receives an input signal from a user or a network, such as a keyboard entry or an incoming call through a modem. Many battery-powered devices, including portable computers, support sleep mode. *See also* green PC, sleep[1] (definition 1), Suspend command, suspend mode.

**sleeve** *n. See* disk envelope.

**slice** *n. See* time slice.

**SLIP** \slip\ *n.* Acronym for **S**erial **L**ine **I**nternet **P**rotocol. A data link protocol that allows transmission of TCP/IP data packets over dial-up telephone connections, thus enabling a computer or a LAN (local area network) to be connected to the Internet or some other network. It is an older, less secure protocol than the PPP (Point-to-Point Protocol) and does not support dynamic allocation of IP addresses. A newer form of SLIP, known as CSLIP (Compressed SLIP), optimizes transmission of long documents by compressing header information. *See also* data link, IP. *Compare* PPP.

**SLIP emulator** \slip´ em`yə-la-tər\ *n.* Software that mimics a SLIP connection in UNIX shell accounts that do not offer a direct SLIP connection. Many Internet service providers (ISPs) are UNIX based and offer shell accounts to users for Internet access. Like a SLIP connection, the SLIP emulator allows the user to avoid dealing with the ISP's UNIX environment directly when accessing the Internet and to use Internet applications such as graphical Web browsers. *See also* ISP, shell account, SLIP.

**slot** *n.* **1.** *See* expansion slot. **2.** An integrated circuit mounting connector designed to connect a microprocessor with the PC's data bus. Currently, only newer models of Intel's Pentium family employ this. *See also* Pentium, slot 1, slot 2.

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