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Micros Computer Dictionary

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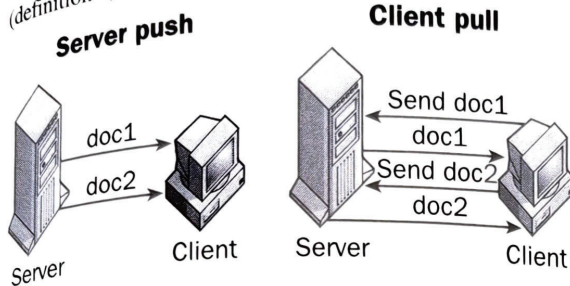
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server push-pull *n.* A combination of Web client/server techniques individually called "server push" and "client pull." In server push, the server loads data to the client, but the data connection stays open. This allows the server to continue sending data to the browser as necessary. In client pull, the server loads data to the client, but the data connection does not stay open. The server sends an HTML directive to the browser telling it to reopen the connection after a certain interval to get more data or possibly to open a new URL. See the illustration. *See also* HTML, server (definition 2), URL.



Server push-pull.

server-side include *n.* A mechanism for including dynamic text in World Wide Web documents. Server-side includes are special command codes that are recognized and interpreted by the server; their output is placed in the document body before the document is sent to the browser. Server-side includes can be used, for example, to include the date/time stamp in the text of the file. *Acronym:* SSI. *See also* server (definition 2).

service *n.* 1. A customer-based or user-oriented function, such as technical support or network provision. 2. In reference to programming and software, a program or routine that provides support to other programs, particularly at a low (close to the hardware) level. 3. In networking, specialized, software-based functionality provided by network servers—for example, directory services that provide the network equivalent of "phone books" needed for locating users and resources. *See also* utility.

Service Advertising Protocol *n.* A method used by a service-providing node in a network (such as a file server or application server) to notify other nodes on the network that it is available for access. When a server boots, it uses the protocol to advertise its service; when the same server goes off line, it uses the protocol to announce that it is no longer available. *Acronym:* SAP. *See also* server (definition 1).

service bureau *n.* 1. A company that provides various services related to publishing, such as prepress production, desktop publishing, typesetting, imagesetting, and optical scanning of graphics. 2. An organization that provides data processing services and access to software packages for a fee.

service provider *n.* *See* ISP.

servlet or servelet *n.* A small Java program that runs on a server. The term is a companion to applet; a Java program that usually runs on the client. Servlets perform lightweight Web services, such as redirecting a Web user from an outdated address to the correct page, tasks traditionally handled by CGI (Common Gateway Interface) applications. Because servlets are automatically threaded and highly responsive, they execute quickly, thereby reducing system overhead. *Also called:* serverlet. *See also* applet, CGI.

servlet container *n.* In Sun Microsystems's J2EE network platform, a container that decodes requests, formats responses, and provides the network services over which requests and responses are sent. All servlet containers must support HTTP as a protocol for requests and responses, but they may also support additional request-response protocols such as HTTPS. *See also* container, HTTP, HTTPS, J2EE.

servo *n.* The part of a servomechanism, controlled by the servomechanism's feedback circuit, that produces the final mechanical output. *Also called:* servomotor. *See also* servomechanism.

servomechanism *n.* A control system in which the final output is mechanical movement. A servomechanism uses feedback to control the position, velocity, or acceleration of a mechanical component. *Also called:* servo system.

servomotor *n.* *See* servo.

servo system *n.* *See* servomechanism.

session *n.* 1. The time during which a program is running. In most interactive programs, a session is the time during which the program accepts input and processes information. 2. In communications, the time during which two computers maintain a connection. 3. A specific protocol layer in the ISO/OSI reference model that manages communication between remote users or processes. *See also* ISO/OSI reference model, session layer.

session bean *n.* In the Java programming language and J2EE network platform, an enterprise bean that is created