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rigid disk An occasionally used synonym for **hard disk**.

RIMM The module utilized with **RDRAM** chips. Also called **RIMM module**.

RIMM module Same as **RIMM**.

ring 1. An object or arrangement of objects in the form of a circle whose center is not filled. For example, a ring magnet, or a ring network. 2. Movement whose path resembles a circle. Also, to form such rings around a given point or location. For instance, the path a signal follows in a ring network. 3. One of multiple turns, such as those of a coil or helix. 4. To surround with a circular arrangement. For example, to place a guard ring. 5. Of the two wires of a POTS line, the more electrically negative. The more electrically positive is the **tip** (3). Also called **ring lead**, or **ring wire**. 6. For a telephone or similar device, such as a fax, to emit a sound which indicates that there is an incoming call. 7. Same as **ring network**.

ring-back Same as **ringback**.

ring-back signal Same as **ringback**. Also spelled **ringback signal**.

ring-back tone Same as **ringback**. Also spelled **ringback tone**.

ring cadence For a telephone receiving an incoming call, the timing pattern of the incoming ring signal. This varies from country to country, or zone to zone, and may consist, for instance, of the ring voltage being applied for two seconds, followed by four seconds off, then back on for two seconds, and so on, until the phone is answered or the calling party hangs up, or a maximum number of rings is reached. If there is distinctive ringing, different phones in the same location may each have their own unique cadence. Also called **ringing cadence**, **ring cycle**, **ring pattern**, **ring interval**, **ringing cycle**, **ringing pattern**, or **ringing interval**.

ring circuit 1. A circuit via which a **ring signal** is sent. Also called **ringing circuit**. 2. A circuit arranged roughly in the form of a circle, or in which signals travel along a path which forms a closed ring. For example, a household electrical circuit in which all appliances are connected in series, with each end connected to the power supply.

ring configuration The physical arrangement or layout of a **ring network**.

ring counter A counter whose multiple stages are arranged in a circle, and in which only one stage is active at any given moment. Each input pulse advances the counter through each step of a stage, and then on to the next stage, successively.

ring current Same as **ringing current**.

ring cycle Same as **ring cadence**.

ring-down Same as **ringdown**.

ring-down circuit Same as **ringdown circuit**.

ring-down signaling Same as **ringdown**. Also spelled **ring-down signaling**.

ring generator A device which generates a **ring signal**. Also called **ringing generator**.

ring indicator In a modem, an indicator, such as a signal from a specific pin, which alerts to an incoming call. Its abbreviation is **RI**. Also called **ringing indicator**.

ring interval Same as **ring cadence**.

ring junction A hybrid junction molded into the shape of a ring. Used, for instance, as a high-power duplexer. Also called **rat race**, or **hybrid ring**.

ring laser Same as **ring laser gyro**.

ring laser gyro Abbreviation of **ring laser gyroscope**. A gyroscope in which two laser beams travel in opposite directions over a ring-shaped path utilizing multiple angled mirrors. During any movement of the aircraft, or other vehicle it is mounted on, the angular rotation rate is measured by de-

termining the frequency shift in the beams, thus providing the angular position. Such a gyro is very rugged, and has no moving parts. Its own abbreviation is **RLG**. Also called **ring laser**, or **laser gyro**.

ring laser gyroscope Same as **ring laser gyro**.

ring latency In a ring network, such as a token-ring network, the time required for a given packet or signal to travel all the way around the ring.

ring lead Same as **ring** (5).

ring magnet A permanent magnet in the shape of a doughnut. Used, for instance, in particle accelerators, or loudspeakers. Also called **donut magnet**.

ring main A power mains which is wired as a **ring circuit** (2).

ring modulator A modulator in which the incorporated diodes are arranged in a manner that forms a closed ring. Used, for instance, as a mixer, demodulator, or balanced modulator.

ring network A communications network in which each node has two branches connected to it, so as to form a continuous loop or ring. As a given message or packet travels around such a ring, the appropriate nodes accept it, otherwise said message or packet is regenerated, enabling a ring network to span considerable distances. Used, for instance in LANs. Also called **ring** (7).

ring oscillator An oscillator whose components are arranged so as to form a closed ring.

ring pattern Same as **ring cadence**.

ring signal In a telephone or similar device, such as a fax, a signal sent by a telephone company which alerts to an incoming call. In the United States it is typically between 70 and 90 volts at 20 Hz, although it varies from country to country, or from zone to zone. The receiving unit may emit an audible tone and/or flash a light to indicate this condition, among other possibilities, with the ring cadence depending on whether there is distinctive ringing, and so on. Also called **ringing signal**.

ring time Same as **ringing time**.

ring tone A **ring signal** which consists of an audible tone. Also called **ringing tone**.

ring topology The topology of a **ring network**.

ring voltage The voltage of a **ring signal**. The typical value in the United States lies between 70 and 90 volts at 20 Hz, but this amount may vary from country to country, or from zone to zone. Also called **ringing voltage**.

ring winding A winding whose turns are wound around a doughnut-shaped core.

ring wire Same as **ring** (5).

ringback In telephony, a tone which is heard by a calling party when the receiving party's telephone is ringing or is otherwise being alerted to an incoming call. The sound heard by the calling party may bear no relationship to the sound, or other altering signal, at the receiving end. Also spelled **ring back**. Also called **ringback tone**, or **ringback signal**.

ringback signal Same as **ringback**. Also spelled **ring-back signal**.

ringback tone Same as **ringback**. Also spelled **ring-back tone**.

ringdown Also spelled **ring-down**. Also called **ringdown signaling**. 1. To manually signal another telephonic device. Used especially in the context of communicating with an operator. 2. Same as **ringdown circuit**. 3. To signal another telephonic device by making it ring. This may be accomplished manually or automatically.

ringdown circuit A circuit that connects two telephonic devices, and in which an off-hook condition in one automati-