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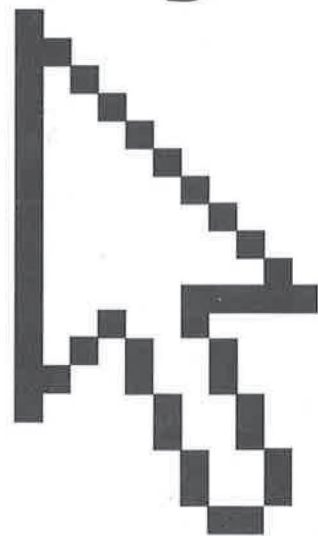
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WIMP *n.* Acronym for **Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pointers**. A graphical user interface (GUI) such as those provided by the Apple Macintosh and Microsoft Windows operating systems. WIMP is usually said to stand for Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pointers, but the acronym is sometimes spelled out as either Windows, Icons, Menus, and Pointers or Windows, Icons, Mouse, and Pull-down menus. The WIMP interface was invented at the Xerox Palo Alto Research Center (PARC), where it was first used in the Alto computer in the early 1970s. *See also* graphical user interface.

Win32 *n.* The application programming interface in Windows 95 and Windows NT that enables applications to use the 32-bit instructions available on 80386 and higher processors. Although Windows 95 and Windows NT support 16-bit 80x86 instructions as well, Win32 offers greatly improved performance. *See also* 16-bit machine, 32-bit machine, 80386DX, 8086, application programming interface, central processing unit, Win32s.

Win32 Driver Model *n.* *See* Windows Driver Model.

Win32s *n.* A subset of the Win32 application programming interface that works under Windows 3.x. By including the Win32s software, which is distributed as freeware, an application can gain in performance from using the 32-bit instructions available on 80386 and higher processors while running on Windows 3.x. *See also* 32-bit machine, 80386DX, central processing unit, Win32.

Winchester disk *n.* An early IBM name for a hard disk. The term is derived from IBM's internal code name for its first hard disk, which stored 30 megabytes (MB) and had a 30-millisecond access time, reminding its inventors of a Winchester .30-caliber rifle known as a ".30-.30."

window *n.* In applications and graphical interfaces, a portion of the screen that can contain its own document or message. In window-based programs, the screen can be divided into several windows, each of which has its own boundaries and can contain a different document (or another view into the same document).

Window definition function *n.* A resource associated with a window in a Macintosh application. The Macintosh Window Manager calls this function to perform

such actions as drawing and resizing the window. *Also called:* WDEF.

windowing *n.* An approach to remediation (correction of problems) or simply user convenience in which two-digit years are interpreted in relation to a window of time. Logical procedures based on windowing thus enable software to correctly produce accurate four-digit years. In windowing, the century is determined by presuming that the year falls within a 100-year span. So if the window ranges from 1995 to 2094, any year that is 95 or greater is presumed to be in the twentieth century (19xx), while any number less than 95 is presumed to be in the twenty-first century (20xx). *Fixed windowing* presupposes that a window always starts with the same date, or pivot year. *Moving windowing* permits a user or another system to specify the pivot year when the program is installed or started. *Sliding windowing* is calculated every time a program runs and can be based on a predetermined span of time, called a slider, that can be added to the current date to produce the pivot year for the window. Potential differences in windows require analysis whenever importing or exporting data between systems. *Also called:* logic fix. *See also* pivot year.

windowing environment *n.* An operating system or shell that presents the user with specially delineated areas of the screen called *windows*. Windowing environments typically allow windows to be resized and moved around on the display. The Macintosh Finder, Windows, and the OS/2 Presentation Manager are all examples of windowing environments. *See also* graphical user interface, window.

window random access memory *n.* *See* WRAM.

Windows *n.* An operating system introduced by Microsoft Corporation in 1983. Windows is a multitasking graphical user interface environment that runs on MS-DOS-based computers (Windows 3.x. and Windows for Workgroups), and as a self-contained operating system for desktop computers (Windows 9x and Windows Me), workstations (Windows NT Workstation, Windows 2000 Professional), and network servers (Windows NT Server, Windows NT Enterprise Edition, Windows 2000 Server, and Windows 2000 Advanced Server). The most recent

