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SDLC *n.* Acronym for Synchronous Data Link Control, the data transmission protocol most widely used by networks conforming to IBM's Systems Network Architecture (SNA). SDLC is similar to the HDLC (High-level Data Link Control) protocol developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). *See also* HDLC.

SDM *n.* *See* space-division multiplexing.

SDRAM \S`D`ram\ *n.* Acronym for synchronous DRAM. A form of dynamic random access memory (DRAM) that can run at higher clock speeds than conventional DRAM by employing a bursting technique in which the DRAM predicts the address of the next memory location to be accessed. *See also* dynamic RAM.

SDSL *n.* Acronym for symmetric (or single-line) digital subscriber line, a digital telecommunications technology that is a variation of HDSL. SDSL uses one pair of copper wire rather than two pairs of wires and transmits at 1.544 Mbps. *Compare* ADSL.

.sea *n.* A file extension for a self-extracting Macintosh archive compressed with StuffIt. *See also* self-extracting archive.

seamless integration *n.* The favorable result that occurs when a new hardware component or program blends smoothly into the overall operation of the system. It is usually the result of thoughtful design and programming.

search¹ *n.* The process of seeking a particular file or specific data. A search is carried out by a program through comparison or calculation to determine whether a match to some pattern exists or whether some other criteria have been met. *See also* binary search, hash search, linear search, search and replace, wildcard character.

search² *vb.* **1.** To look for the location of a file. **2.** To seek specific data within a file or data structure. *See also* replace.

search algorithm *n.* An algorithm designed to locate a certain element, called the target, in a data structure. *See also* algorithm, binary search, hash search, linear search.

search and replace *n.* A common process in applications such as word processors in which the user specifies two strings of characters. The process finds instances of the first string and replaces them with the second string.

search criteria *n.* The terms or conditions that a search engine uses to find items in a database. *See also* search engine.

search engine *n.* **1.** A program that searches for keywords in documents or in a database. **2.** On the Internet, a program that searches for keywords in files and documents found on the World Wide Web, newsgroups, Gopher menus, and FTP archives. Some search engines are used for a single Internet site, such as a dedicated search engine for a Web site. Others search across many sites, using such agents as spiders to gather lists of available files and documents and store these lists in databases that users can search by keyword. Examples of the latter type of search engine are Lycos and Excite. Most search engines reside on a server. *See also* agent (definition 2), FTP, Gopher, newsgroup, spider, World Wide Web.

search key *n.* **1.** The particular field (or column) of the records to be searched in a database. *See also* primary key, secondary key. **2.** The value that is to be searched for in a document or any collection of data.

search path *n.* The route followed by an operating system to find the location of a stored file. The search path begins with a drive or volume (disk) designator or a network share, continues through a chain of directories and subdirectories, if any, and ends with the filename. C:\books\diction\start.exe is an example of a search path. *Also called* access path.

search string *n.* The string of characters to be matched in a search—typically (but not necessarily) a text string.

seat¹ *n.* One workstation or computer, in the context of software licensing on a per-seat basis. *See also* license agreement, workstation (definition 1).

seat² *vb.* To insert a piece of hardware fully and position it correctly in a computer or affiliated equipment, as in seating a single inline memory module (SIMM) in its socket.

secondary channel *n.* A transmission channel in a communications system that carries testing and diagnostic information rather than actual data. *Compare* primary channel.

secondary key *n.* A field that is to be sorted or searched within a subset of the records having identical primary key values. *See also* alternate key (definition 1), candidate key. *Compare* primary key.

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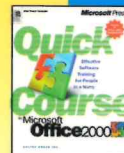
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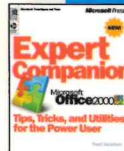
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