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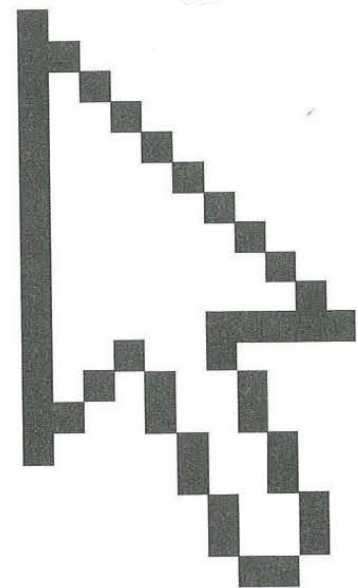
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per-pixel lighting *n.* A lighting scheme used in 3D computer game rendering and other digital animation applications that calculates proper lighting for every pixel displayed. Per-pixel lighting allows highly realistic lighting effects but requires significant video card capabilities to display properly. *Also called:* Phong shading.

Per Seat Licensing *n.* A licensing mode that requires a separate Client Access License for each client computer, regardless of whether all the clients access the server at the same time. *See also* client. *Compare* Per Server Licensing.

Per Server Licensing *n.* A licensing mode that requires a separate Client Access License for each concurrent connection to the server, regardless of whether there are other client computers on the network that do not happen to connect concurrently. *Compare* Per Seat Licensing.

persistence *n.* A characteristic of some light-emitting materials, such as the phosphors used in CRTs, that causes an image to be retained for a short while after being irradiated, as by an electron beam in a CRT. The decay in persistence is sometimes called *luminance decay*.

persistent client connection *n.* *See* persistent connection.

persistent connection *n.* A connection to a client that remains open after a server sends a response. Included in HTTP 1.1 and similar to the Netscape HTTP 1.0 Keep-Alive extension, persistent connections are used to improve Internet efficiency and performance by eliminating the overhead associated with multiple connections. *Also called:* persistent client connection. *See also* pipelining (definition 1).

persistent data *n.* Data that is stored in a database or on tape so that it is retained by the computer between sessions.

persistent link *n.* *See* hot link (definition 1).

persistent storage *n.* Memory that remains intact when the power to a device is turned off, such as ROM. *See also* memory.

Personal Communications Services *n.* Term used by the United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to cover a range of wireless, all-digital communications technologies and services, including cordless phones, voice mail, paging, faxing, and personal digital assistants (PDAs). Personal Communications Services, or PCS, is

divided into narrowband and broadband categories. Narrowband, which operates in the 900 MHz band of frequencies, provides paging, data messaging, faxing, and one- and two-way electronic messaging capabilities. Broadband, which operates in the 1850 MHz to 1990 MHz range and is considered the next-generation PCS, enables two-way voice, data, and video communications. The cellular phone technologies known as GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications), CDMA (Code Division Multiple Access), and TDMA (Time Division Multiple Access) are included in the PCS category. *Acronym:* PCS. *Compare* Code Division Multiple Access, Global Systems for Mobile Communications, Time Division Multiple Access.

personal computer *n.* A computer designed for use by one person at a time. Personal computers do not need to share the processing, disk, and printer resources of another computer. IBM PC-compatible computers and Apple Macintoshes are both examples of personal computers. *Acronym:* PC.

Personal Computer *n.* *See* IBM PC.

Personal Computer Memory Card International Association *n.* *See* PCMCIA.

personal digital assistant *n.* *See* PDA.

personal finance manager *n.* A software application designed to assist the user in performing simple financial accounting tasks, such as balancing checkbooks and paying bills.

Personal Handyphone System *n.* A device developed in Japan to act as a cellular phone that can handle phone, FAX, and voice. *Acronym:* PHS.

personal identification number *n.* *See* PIN.

personal information manager *n.* *See* PIM.

personalization technology *n.* An e-commerce marketing technique in which Web sites and services analyze the interests of individual customers. The e-business then uses this information to deliver services, product offerings, and advertising that match each customer's personal interests.

Personal Web Server *n.* Microsoft applications that allow a computer running the Windows family of operating systems to function as a Web server for publishing personal Web pages and intranet sites. Personal Web

this context, such a card consists of conventional static RAM chips powered by a small battery and is designed to provide additional RAM to the system. *See also* PC Card. *Compare* flash memory.

PCMIA device *n.* *See* PC Card.

p-code *n.* *See* pseudocode.

PCS *n.* *See* Personal Communications Services.

PCT *n.* **1.** Acronym for **program comprehension tool**. A software engineering tool that facilitates the process of understanding the structure and/or functionality of computer programs. **2.** Acronym for **Private Communications Technology**, a protocol standard drafted by Microsoft and submitted to the IETF for consideration. PCT, like the Netscape-designed SSL (Secure Sockets Layer), supports authentication and encryption for securing privacy in Internet communications. **3.** Acronym for **Personal Communications Technology**. An enhanced version of Secure Sockets Layer (SSL).

.pcx *n.* The file extension that identifies bitmapped images in the PC Paintbrush file format.

PC/XT *n.* The second-generation of the original IBM Personal Computer. The IBM PC/XT was introduced in 1983 and was the first of the PC computers to support hard disks. *See also* IBM PC.

PC/XT keyboard *n.* The keyboard for the PC/XT. Strong, reliable, and equipped with 83 keys, the PC/XT keyboard offers a typist an audible click. *See also* IBM PC, PC/XT.

PDA *n.* Acronym for **Personal Digital Assistant**. A lightweight palmtop computer designed to provide specific functions like personal organization (calendar, note taking, database, calculator, and so on) as well as communications. More advanced models also offer multimedia features. Many PDA devices rely on a pen or other pointing device for input instead of a keyboard or mouse, although some offer a keyboard too small for touch typing to use in conjunction with a pen or pointing device. For data storage, a PDA relies on flash memory instead of

power-hungry disk drives. *See also* firmware, flash memory, handheld PC, PC Card, pen computer.

PDC *n.* *See* Primary Domain Controller.

PD-CD drive *n.* Short for **phase change rewritable disc—compact disc drive**. A storage device that combines a CD-ROM drive and a phase change rewritable disc (PD) drive, which can store up to 650 megabytes of data on cartridges of rewritable optical discs. *See also* phase-change recording.

PDD *n.* Acronym for **Portable Digital Document**. A graphics file created from a document by QuickDraw GX under Mac OS. PDDs are stored in a form that is independent of printer resolution; they print at the highest resolution available on the printer used; and they can contain the original fonts used in the document. Therefore, a PDD can be printed by a computer other than the one on which it was created.

.pdf *n.* The file extension that identifies documents encoded in the Portable Document Format developed by Adobe Systems. To display or print a .pdf file, the user should obtain the freeware Adobe Acrobat Reader. *See also* Acrobat, Portable Document Format.

PDL *n.* *See* page-description language.

PDM *n.* *See* pulse duration modulation.

PDO *n.* *See* Portable Distributed Objects.

PDS *n.* **1.** Acronym for **Processor Direct Slot**. An expansion slot in Macintosh computers that is connected directly to the CPU signals. There are several kinds of PDS slots with different numbers of pins and different sets of signals, depending on which CPU is used in a particular computer. **2.** Acronym for **Parallel Data Structure**. A hidden file, located in the root directory of a disk that is shared under AppleShare, that contains access privilege information for folders.

Peachy virus *n.* A virus, first detected in 2001, that was the first to attempt to spread itself through PDF files. The Peachy virus takes advantage of an Adobe Acrobat feature that enables users to embed files in PDF documents. The embedded Peachy virus file infects the computer of a user

Greeking does not involve substituting the Greek alphabet for the Roman one.

greek text *n.* See greeking.

Green Book *n.* A specifications book written by the Sony and Philips Corporations, covering the CD-I (compact disc-interactive) technology. *See also* CD-I. *Compare* Orange Book (definition 2), Red Book (definition 2).

green PC *n.* A computer system designed to conserve energy. For example, some computers shut off power to nonessential systems when no input has been detected for a certain amount of time, a condition known as *sleep mode*. Green PCs may also be distinguished by the use of minimal packaging materials and replaceable components, such as toner cartridges, that are recyclable.

Gregorian calendar *n.* The calendar used today in the Western world, introduced by Pope Gregory XIII in 1582 to replace the Julian calendar. To approximate better the length of the astronomical year (365.2422 days), years divisible by 100 are leap years only if they are also divisible by 400 (thus, 2000 was a leap year, but 1900 was not). To correct the error accumulated since A.D. 1, 10 days were dropped from October 1582; however, Britain and the American colonies did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752 and had to remove 11 days then. Because the Gregorian calendar uses several rules for calculating leap years, systems based on algorithms that did not correctly determine that the year 2000 was a leap year might have encountered difficulties after February 28, 2000. *Compare* Julian calendar.

grep¹ *n.* Acronym for **g**lobal **r**egular **e**xpression **p**rint. A UNIX command used to search a file or files by keyword.

grep² *vb.* To search text, especially with the UNIX grep utility.

grid *n.* **1.** Two sets of lines or linear elements at right angles to each other. **2.** A spreadsheet is a grid of rows and columns; a graphics screen is a grid of horizontal and vertical lines of pixels. **3.** In optical character recognition, a grid is used for measuring or specifying characters. *See also* Cartesian coordinates.

gridlines *n.* **1.** Lines across a page in a graphics program that correspond to intervals on a ruler. **2.** In many word-processing and spreadsheet programs, thin lines that indicate the cell boundaries in a table. **3.** Lines you can add to a chart that make it easier to view and evaluate data. Grid-

lines extend from the tick marks on an axis across the plot area. Gridlines do not print when you print a document.

grok *vb.* To understand deeply and appreciatively. The term comes from Robert A. Heinlein's novel *Stranger in a Strange Land*, where it is also a Martian word for "to drink" and implies the kind of devoted interest that a Martian—native of a dry planet—would have in water. Hackers often use it (for example, in Internet discussions) in reference to computer expertise. *See also* cyberpunk.

ground *n.* A conducting path from an electric circuit to earth or to a conducting body serving in place of earth, usually used as a safety device. *See also* grounding.

grounding *n.* The connection of sections of an electrical circuit to a common conductor, called the *ground*, which serves as the reference for the other voltages in the circuit. The ground conductor on installed circuit boards is usually connected to the chassis, or metal frame, holding the electronic parts; the chassis is in turn usually connected to the third (round) prong on the power plug, which connects to a ground circuit that is, in fact, connected to the earth. This is important to avoid creating a shock hazard.

group¹ *n.* A collection of elements that can be treated as a whole, such as a collection of records in a database report, or a collection of objects that can be moved and transformed as a single object in a drawing program. In various multiuser operating systems, a group is a set of user accounts, sometimes called *members*; privileges can be specified for the group, and each member will then have those privileges. *See also* built-in groups, local group, user account.

group² *vb.* In a drawing program, to transform a number of objects into a group. *See also* drawing program.

Group Policy Object *n.* A collection of Group Policy settings that are essentially the documents created by the Group Policy snap-in, a utility in Microsoft Windows 2000. These settings are stored at the domain level and affect users and computers contained in sites, domains, and organizational units. *Acronym:* GPO.

groupware *n.* Software intended to enable a group of users on a network to collaborate on a particular project. Groupware may provide services for communication (such as e-mail), collaborative document development, scheduling, and tracking. Documents may include text, images, or other forms of information.

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