

# NEWTON's TELECOM DICTIONARY

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ized that data is being written to all five drives in such a way that if one drive fails, no data will be lost. That failed drive is now removed and replaced with a good drive. Immediately, the remaining four drives start writing data to the new, good, but empty drive. That process of rebuilding might take a few minutes, or an hour or two. It depends on how much data is in the system and how much activity is taking place. Typically, this rebuilding process happens in a system called RAID (which stands for Redundant Array of Inexpensive Disks). And typically RAID (which is not cheap) is found on servers on LANs. The process of rebuilding is also called reconstruction.

**rebundling** Rebundling is the process of putting UNEs (Unbundled Network Elements) back together by a CLEC to become part of a competitive service offering by him to a customer. See UNE.

**recall** The recall button on many phones provides a fresh dial tone without physically putting down and picking up the handset. Don't confuse it with REDIAL, which is a feature of a phone or phone system that allows a user to call the previously-dialed number by pressing one or a few buttons.

**recall dial tone** A stutter or interrupted dial tone indicating to the extension user that the hookswitch flash has been properly used to gain access to system features.

**recall key** Used to get dial-tone or to transfer calls on a key system installed within a PBX. See also Recall.

**RECAPSS** Remote Cable Pair Switching System is used to remotely handle cable transfers and related cable switching tasks by connecting a distribution cable pair to either an old cable pair or a new cable pair without interrupting service. The system accommodates both POTS and special services and the computer console operator can select one pair at a time or select thousands for sequential transfer.

**receipt notification** A report prepared by a recipient UA (User Agent) or Access Unit (upon request) and sent to the originating UA or Access Unit when a message is received by a recipient.

**receive interruption** The interruption of a transmission to a terminal to receive or send a higher priority message from the terminal.

**Receive Only** RO. Describing operation of a device, usually a page printer, that can receive transmissions but cannot transmit.

**received line signal detector** Modem interface signal defined in RS-232-C EIA interface which indicates to the attached data terminal equipment that it is receiving a signal from the distant modem.

**Received Signal Level** RSL. The strength of a radio signal received at the input to a radio receiver.

**received signal strength indication** The measured power of a received signal.

**receiver** 1. Any device which receives a transmission signal.

2. Any portion of a telecommunications device which decodes an encoded signal into its desired form.

3. The earpiece portion of a telephone handset, which converts an alternating electric current into sound waves, usually through an electromagnet moving a diaphragm.

4. An electronic component capable of collecting radio frequency broadcasts and reproducing them in their original audio and/or video form, e.g. a TV or radio receiver.

**receiver congestion** A Token Ring error reported by any ring station that receives a frame addressed to itself, but has no room in its buffer to store the frame. The frame is then discarded, and within two seconds the station will report how many times this happened over the reporting period.

**receiver multicoupler** A receiver multicoupler is a device that enables several radio receivers to use a single antenna system. Typically a receiver multicoupler will consist of a bandpass preselector (filter) to determine range of receiving frequencies, and a RF amplifier with low noise figure and high gain to overcome multicoupling losses, and a balanced impedance power divider to divide the amplifier's output into the number of receiving channels required. A regulated power supply is also required for the amplifier. A received multicoupler is used extensively for cellular and trunked radio sites. Natalie Duran of the Area Transmission Engineering department of the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power writes "We use it for the simple reason of having to run only one coaxial cable versus three."

**receiver off-hook tone** The loud tone sent by the central office to tell the telephone user that his/her phone is off the hook.

**receiver sensitivity** The magnitude of the received signal necessary to produce objective BER or channel noise performance.

**receiving perforator** Reperforator. A telegraph instrument in which the received signals cause the code of the corresponding characters or functions to be punched in a tape.

**recent change** Changes to line and trunk translations in a stored program control switching machine that have not been merged with the permanent data base.

**recession** A recession is defined by economists as two consecutive quarters in which the nation's GDP (gross domestic product) declines.

**recip comp** See Reciprocal Compensation.

**recipient switch** The switch to which a local number being ported is ported to. Sorry for the mouthful.

**reciprocal agreements** Also called Inter-carrier Roaming Agreements. An agreement between two cellular carriers that allows the respective customers of the two carriers to use each others' systems automatically, without the necessity of registering as roamers.

**reciprocal compensation** Recip comp. A form of financial compensation that occurs when a local or long distance service provider terminates a call on another provider's facilities. Imagine a phone call from New York to Los Angeles. It may start with the customer of a new phone company, then proceed to a local phone company (let's say New York Telephone, now called Bell Atlantic). Then it may proceed to a long distance company before ending in Los Angeles and going through another one or two local phone companies before reaching the person dialed. Under the existing rules, all the companies carrying these phone calls have to be paid in some way for their transmission and switching services. There are programs in place such that the company doing the billing and collecting the money pays over some of those monies to the other phone companies in the chain. One such program is called "reciprocal compensation." The opposite of reciprocal compensation is called "Bill and Keep." Under this program, the company billing the call gets to keep all the money. The others in the chain (or most of the others in the chain) get nothing.

**reciprocal compensation call** A telephone exchange service call, completed between the end users of different carriers, which qualifies for reciprocal compensation under the terms of an interconnection agreement and any prevailing regulatory rules that may exist. Reciprocal compensation is the payment by telecommunications providers to one another for terminating each other's local exchange traffic.

**reciprocal link** A hyperlink or link placed on one Web site to return the favor of another site putting a link on their page.

**RECO** A line item Profit and Loss description for a typical networking services business signifying the four major cost classifications: Resources (People), Equipment, Circuits and Other. RECO is used by countless IBMers.

**recognition assisted data entry** Commonly known as Forms Processing.

**Recognized Operating Agency** See ROA.

**Recognized Private Operating Agency** RPOA. The ITU-T term for a packet interexchange carrier. The status granted to a communications entity by its national government after it pledges to abide by mandatory regulations under Article 44 of the ITU (International Telecommunications Union) convention. For example, a publicly recognized VAN (Value Added Network)

**recognizer** A voice recognition term. A system that attempts to classify speech (input utterances) as words from an active vocabulary.

**reconfiguration** A fancy word for rearranging equipment, features and options.

**record** In a database, a record is a group of related data items treated as one unit of information—for example, your name, address and phone number. Each Record is made up of several fields. A field is simply your last name.

**record communications** Any form of communication which produces a "written" record of the transmission. Teletypewriter and facsimile are examples of record communications. Companies such as RCA Globecom, ITT Worldcom, TRT and MCI, which provide international telex, are known as international record carriers. Before deregulation, that business was exceptionally profitable.

**record head** The electromagnetic device which magnetizes the surface of a magnetic recording—tape, disk, etc.—in proportion to an electrical signal.

**record length** The number of bytes in a record. See Record.

**record locking** Think about an airline reservation. You call up. You want to change your reservation. While the airline has your record open, your travel agent calls up to change it. You change your reservation. Your travel agent changes it. Which one ends up in the "permanent" record? Confusion reigns. Clearly it makes sense to only allow one person to access one record at once and lock everyone else out. Record locking is the most common and most sophisticated means for multi-user LAN applications to maintain data integrity. In a record locking system, users are prevented from working on the same data

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