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Real-Time Control Protocol *n.* A scalable transport control protocol that works with the Real-Time Protocol (RTP) to monitor real-time transmissions to multiple participants over a network—for example, during videoconferencing. The Real-Time Control Protocol, or RTCP, transmits packets of control information at regular intervals and is used to determine how well information is being delivered to recipients. *Acronym:* RTCP. *See also* Real-Time Protocol, Real-Time Streaming Protocol, Resource Reservation Setup Protocol.

real-time operating system *n.* An operating system designed for the needs of a process-controlled environment. A real-time operating system recognizes that responses must be made and tasks handled instantly, with no lag time. Real-time operating systems are typically used as embedded systems in devices and applications requiring time-critical reaction, such as telecommunications, air traffic control, and robotic functions. *Acronym:* RTOS. *See also* real-time system.

Real-Time Protocol *n.* An Internet-standard network transport protocol used in delivering real-time data, including audio and video. The Real-Time Protocol, or RTP, works with both unicast (single sender, single recipient) and multicast (single sender, multiple recipients) services. RTP is often used in conjunction with the Real-Time Control Protocol (RTCP), which monitors delivery. *Acronym:* RTP. *See also* Real-Time Control Protocol, Real-Time Streaming Protocol, stream.

real-time streaming *n.* The process of delivering a streaming media file via a specialized streaming media server using real-time streaming protocol (RTSP). With real-time streaming, the file itself actually plays on the streaming media server, even though it is viewed on the computer that opened the file. Real-time streaming transmits at a higher bandwidth than HTTP streaming. It is often used to broadcast live events, such as concerts or keynote conference addresses. *See also* HTTP streaming.

Real-Time Streaming Protocol *n.* A control protocol for the delivery of streamed multimedia data over Internet Protocol (IP) networks. The Real-Time Streaming Protocol, or RTSP, was developed by Columbia University, Progressive Networks, and Netscape and has been submitted as a proposed standard to the IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force). RTSP is designed to deliver real-time, live, or stored audio and video efficiently over a network. It can be used either for groups of recipients or for on-demand

delivery to a single recipient. *Acronym:* RTSP. *See also* Advanced Streaming Format, Real-Time Protocol, Resource Reservation Setup Protocol, stream.

real-time system *n.* A computer and/or a software system that reacts to events before the events become obsolete. For example, airline collision avoidance systems must process radar input, detect a possible collision, and warn air traffic controllers or pilots while they still have time to react.

RealVideo *n.* The streaming technology developed by RealNetworks, Inc., for distributing video over intranets and the Internet. RealVideo transmits video from a server in encoded (compressed) form. The video and accompanying sound are viewed on the client end with the help of a software player. RealVideo works with both IP and IP multicasting and, as with RealAudio, does not require transmission of complete files before playback can begin. *See also* RealAudio, RealPlayer, streaming.

reboot *vb.* To restart a computer by reloading the operating system. *See also* boot², cold boot, warm boot.

receipt notification *n.* An e-mail feature providing feedback to the sender that a message has been received by the recipient.

receive *vb.* To accept data from an external communications system, such as a local area network (LAN) or a telephone line, and store the data as a file.

Receive Data *n.* *See* RXD.

rec. newsgroups *n.* Usenet newsgroups that are part of the rec. hierarchy and whose names have the prefix *rec.* These newsgroups cover topics devoted to discussions of recreational activities, hobbies, and the arts. *See also* newsgroup, traditional newsgroup hierarchy, Usenet. *Compare* comp. newsgroups, misc. newsgroups, news. newsgroups, sci. newsgroups, soc. newsgroups, talk. newsgroups.

recompile *vb.* To compile a program again, usually because of changes that needed to be made in the source code in response to error messages generated by the compiler. *See also* compile.

record¹ *n.* A data structure that is a collection of fields (elements), each with its own name and type. Unlike an array, whose elements all represent the same type of information and are accessed using an index, the elements of a record represent different types of information and are accessed by name. A record can be accessed as a collective