INDUSTRY STANDARD ARCHITECTURE — See ISA

INITIALIZATION — The steps required to prepare hardware or software for operation. For example, MS-DOS contains a "mode" command for configuring I/O ports. You initialize a port by executing this command before sending or receiving data or by including this command in your **autoexec.bat** file so that it is executed whenever you reboot.

INSTALL — To set up for operation. Hardware options are installed by attaching them to the appropriate connectors or sockets either inside or outside the computer. Software is installed by copying the necessary files to your hard disk. Some application packages are supplied with installation programs to perform this copying for you.

INTERNAL FONTS — The fonts that reside in the printer when it is shipped. Internal fonts are also called resident fonts.

I/O (INPUT/OUTPUT) — A term referring to the ways a computer receives and transmits data. Often used to refer to a bus (such as the I/O bus), communications ports (I/O ports), or a device (printers and keyboards).

IRQ (INTERRUPT REQUEST) — A signal sent by an I/O device to the microprocessor requesting its immediate attention. For example, each communications port has an interrupt request line for notifying the microprocessor when data has been received. Interrupt request lines are labelled **IRQ2, IRQ3**, etc. Apparent incompatibilities may arise if two or more devices are configured to the same interrupt request line.

ISA (INDUSTRY STANDARD ARCHITECTURE) — The standard 16-bit bus which was defined by IBM in its **AT** computer and which is used in virtually all microcomputers that do not use the newer **MCA** and **EISA** bus architectures. Most **expansion cards** on the market today are compatible with **ISA**. See also **bus, expansion card**. Compare with **MCA, EISA**.

JUMPER — A mechanism for configuring hardware consisting of a block containing two or more pins and one or more plugs, each of which can be used to connect the pins together electrically.

KB (KILOBYTE) — A kilobyte is a unit of measure used for both memory disk storage capacity. It represents 1,024 bytes, a number which varies from the normal metric definition of "kilo" (one thousand) because computer storage is based upon powers of two rather than powers of ten.

KEYBOARD CONTROLLER — A chip installed on the system board that controls the information flow between the keyboard and the microprocessor.