



Standard Terminology Relating to Printers¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 909; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

1. Scope

1.1 These terms and definitions are related to printers operated by computers.

2. Terminology

2.1 Definitions:

ball element—an element used in an impact printing device in which the fully formed characters are located on the outer surface of a sphere-like device. Frequently called *golf-ball element*.

ball printer—an impact printing device utilizing a ball element. The paper on the carriage remains stationary while the element is positioned and caused to strike the paper to produce characters in their proper positions.

band printer—a type of printer that employs an endless steel band containing fully formed characters. The band transverse the width of the paper form. Hammers strike the back of the form, synchronized in such a way as to produce the desired characters in their proper position.

bar—See **type bar**.

bar printer—an impact printer in which the type slugs are carried on a **type bar**. *Syn.* print bar.

belt printer—a type of printer that employs an endless belt, the outer surface of which contains fully formed characters. The belt is caused to transverse the width of the paper form. Hammers are caused to strike the back of the form, synchronized in such a way as to produce the desired characters in their proper positions.

black write—a process in electrostatic printing where the photoconductive element is charged with a charge of the same sign as that of the toner. A light beam, used like a "stylus" is used to discharge only those areas that are to receive toner to form the image. In the development process, the charged background areas repel the like charged toner to the discharged areas on the photoconductor.

chain printer—a type of printer that employs an endless chain, each link of which contains a fully formed character. The chain is caused to transverse the width of the paper

form. Hammers are caused to strike the back of the form, synchronized in such a way as to produce the desired characters in their proper position.

copying—the act of producing an image on a document or other receptor media which is a duplication of the image of another document, such as by a photographic, xerographic or facsimile process or by carbon or carbonless papers.

daisy wheel element—an element used in an impact printing device in which the fully formed characters are contained on the ends of finger-like projections radiating out from the center of a disk, the device resembling a daisy.

daisy wheel printer—an impact printing device utilizing a daisy wheel element. The paper on the carriage remains stationary while the element is positioned and caused to strike the paper to produce the characters in their proper positions.

dielectric printing process—a nonimpact printing technique in which specially treated paper consisting of a conductive base layer coated with a nonconductive thermoplastic material is used to hold an electric charge usually applied directly by a set of electrode styli. The electric charge corresponds to the latent image of the original. Following the charging step, the paper is imaged by a toner system similar to that of electrostatic copying devices. This technique is sometimes called electrographic, and is currently employed on general purpose nonimpact printers, plotting and facsimile devices.

dot matrix—a method of character generation in which each character is formed by a pattern of dots selected from a grid or matrix.

drum printer—a type of printer that employs a rotating cylinder or drum, the outer surface of which contains fully formed characters. As the drum rotates in front of the paper form, hammers are caused to strike the back of the form synchronized in such a way as to produce the desired character in their proper position.

electric typewriter—a typewriter in which an electromechanical device causes the type element to be activated when the keys are struck.

electrolytic printer—a facsimile printing device employing a moist, electrolyte-impregnated roll-fed paper. The current (signals) is applied by feeding the paper between a stationary contact and a revolving drum with a helical contractor. The revolving of the drum causes the point of electrical contact between the blade and helical wire to move laterally across

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F05 on Business Copy Products and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F05.01 on Nomenclature and Definitions.

Current edition approved Dec. 15, 1994. Published February 1995. Originally published as F 909 – 85. Last previous edition F 909 – 94.