

# Preface

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Internetworking continues to be one of the fastest developing high-technology fields today. Businesses and individuals have come to depend on the Internet for completing a wide range of their daily operations and activities.

It is no secret that Cisco Systems has capitalized on the Internet's potential, performing many of its business operations and functions across the web, including over 85% of its annual sales transactions across the Internet.

For these reasons, the World Wide Web and the field of internetworking continue to grow at accelerated speeds. Cisco Systems, which provides the backbone for more than 60% of the world's networking systems, has created this Cisco Press internetworking reference in order to provide professionals both inside and outside the field of networking with definitions and meanings for the terms and acronyms used in the area of internetworking.

Many terms are included that relate to specific networking technology areas such as telephony, broadband, and wireless communications. Because comprehensive glossaries exist for these technologies elsewhere, and because including every term for all related technologies would prove unrealistic and burdensome, only those terms which are in some way related to networking are included here.

Additionally, because Cisco continues to lead the network industry by developing and releasing new products in areas of networking year after year, this book contains a section of Cisco-related terms for Cisco-specific and Cisco-product-specific terms.

We at Cisco Press, hope you find this reference useful, whether you are a student or professional working in the field of internetworking, or someone who uses the Internet in his or her daily operations at work or home. Because of the dynamic pace at which this field is developing, we realize that some of the information in this book may have changed by press time. For this reason, we have included a feedback card, which we hope you will use to provide us with information for future editions. Additionally, the feedback card contains online addresses so that you can contact us via the Internet. Please do so—we look forward to hearing from you.

E-mail your comments to the following address:

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