INCITS Principle of Inclusive Terminology

Whenever possible, inclusive terminology shall be used to describe technical capabilities and relationships. Insensitive, archaic and non-inclusive terms shall be avoided.

For the purpose of this Principle, "inclusive terminology" means terminology perceived or likely to be perceived as neutral or welcoming by everyone, regardless of their sex, gender, race, color, religion, etc.

EXAMPLES

The terms "**master/slave**" to describe a model where one device or process controls another as subordinate should be avoided. Alternatives such as "main/secondary", "primary/secondary", "primary/replica", "host/target", "leader/follower", "orchestrator/worker", "initiator/responder" or similar descriptive terminology should be used as applicable and where possible.

The terms "**blacklist**" to describe something (i.e., users, websites, emails, or applications) blocked or not permitted and "**whitelist**" to describe counterparts that are allowed or accepted, should be avoided. Alternatives such as "blocklist/passlist", "denylist/allowlist", "permitted/refused" or similar descriptive terminology should be used as applicable and where possible.

New specifications, standards, documentation and other collateral shall be developed using inclusive terminology. As feasible, existing and legacy specifications and documentation shall be updated to identify and replace non-inclusive terms with alternatives more descriptive and tailored to the technical capability or relationship.