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Glossary

ADSL	Asymmetric digital subscriber line is a digital technology that supports high speed services over conventional copper telephone lines. The service is asymmetrical because it sends a high bandwidth downstream (towards the customer) with a lower bandwidth upstream (return).
Community organisations	This term usually refers to small nonprofit or <i>third</i> sector organisations operating in a limited geographical area. They may include member-benefit and public-benefit organisations (Lyons 2001).
Community sector	An Australian term that refers to <i>nonprofit</i> organisations providing community services, plus small locally-based organisations in adjacent fields or activities such as health, legal services, employment services and the arts (Lyons 2001). It has a very specific meaning within ANZSIC which matches fairly closely to the above definition.
ICT	Information and communications technology.
Interoperability	The ability to transfer and use information in a uniform and efficient manner across multiple organisations and information technology systems. It underpins the level of benefits accruing to enterprises, government and the wider economy through e-commerce.
ISDN	The integrated services digital network has evolved from the public switched telephone network (PSTN). ISDN services enable users to send and receive information at faster speeds and with greater reliability than is possible using the standard PSTN service. ISDN services are used for the carriage of information such as voice, data, high quality sound, text, still images and video.
Nonprofit organisation	Formed to achieve a common goal or benefit, based on voluntary membership and prohibited from collecting or distributing profit.
Open source	Software that allows freely available access to source code, redistribution, modification and derived works. It may be used, studied or modified but remains under control of the licence holder.
Personal digital assistant (PDA)	Refers to a wide variety of handheld and palm-size PCs, electronic organisers, Smartphones and pagers. Files created on such a pocket-sized personal computer can be later transferred to a larger computer.

PSTN

The public switched telephone network is the standard fixed line telephone network. It is used primarily to supply long distance, fixed-to-mobile and mobile-to-fixed calls in Australia.

RSS

Really Simple Syndication or RDF Site Summary—a lightweight XML format designed for sharing headlines and other Web content.

Resource Description Framework (RDF) is a general framework for semantic description of any Internet resource.

XML

Extensible Markup Language is a flexible way to create common information formats for sharing data on the World Wide Web, Intranets, and elsewhere.