

ITechword Reference Service:

Information Technology word and connotation

Data Cholesterol*

Definition - What does *Data Cholesterol* mean?

Data cholesterol is a slang term that refers to the slowing effect that huge amounts of improperly managed information can have on an organization's IT infrastructure. Large amounts of data can slow applications, make it difficult to find relevant information and generally impede an organization. Data cholesterol has many causes, including increased regulatory requirements that require more information to be stored for longer amounts of time, and a general increase in data gathering and analytical techniques.

Techopedia explains *Data Cholesterol*

Data cholesterol draws inspiration from the everyday cholesterol that blocks arteries and puts strain on an individual's heart. Data cholesterol, therefore, puts strain on the organization's networks and IT infrastructure. In practice, data cholesterol is most often employed as a marketing buzzword. Enterprise data management and other data management systems are usually promoted as solutions to organizational data cholesterol.

Posted by: [Cory Janssen](#)

Data Corruption*

Definition - What does *Data Corruption* mean?

Data corruption is a when data becomes unusable, unreadable or in some other way inaccessible to a user or application. Data corruption occurs when a data element or instance loses its base integrity and transforms into a form that is not meaningful for the user or the application accessing it.

Techopedia explains *Data Corruption*

Although there are many factors that trigger data corruption, it is often enabled through an external virus stored or installed within the target computer or device. The virus overwrites the original data, modifies the code or permanently deletes it. Besides viruses, data corruption may also occur as a result of hardware or software malfunctions, errors and environmental calamities such as power outages, storms or other disasters. Data can be restored through a backup copy or it can be rebuilt using various data integrity checking algorithms.

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