

Jenn sent around this e-mail:

Hi,

I was working on finding a more appropriate name for the master-slave flipflop configuration to use, and wanted to share my findings in case you want to update your terminology as well. This idea to use more appropriate names has become an actionable movement at many tech companies (Google, GitHub, Twitter for a few), and they are moving fast.

This site has a good summary and options for the terminology related to master-slave:

<https://www.theserverside.com/opinion/Master-slave-terminology-alternatives-you-can-use-right-now>

Based on everything I saw, I will be adapting the language [Twitter](#) is going to use for now (once IEEE establishes a new common term I will use that).

- Master- Slave will be replaced with Leader – follower
- Blacklist will be replaced with denylist
- Grandfathered will be replaced with legacy status
- Dummy Value will be replaced with placeholder value or sample value

I strongly recommend you keep an eye on things because there are a lot of tech companies are making these changes right now, and based on the Twitter centric article, many more changes are to come.

-Jenn

This set off a discussion via e-mail, and Varun suggested someone should set up a gdoc with terminology so we can be consistent in the department - please add/edit as new terms come up!

Problematic terminology	Proposed terminology (or terminologies)
master-slave	leader-follower
blacklist-whitelist	deny list-allow list
black box - grey box - white box	opaque box - translucent - transparent box
blackhat - whitehat	unethical-ethical
grandfathered	legacy status
dummy value	placeholder value

Male Connector	
Female Connector	

Useful external resources:

<https://www.apaonline.org/page/nonsexist> (Bill Rapaport contributed)

<https://itconnect.uw.edu/guides-by-topic/identity-diversity-inclusion/inclusive-language-guide>
(Carl Alphonse contributed)