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Groupware :-

The first commercial groupware products emerged in early 1990s when international giants such as IBM and Boeing began using electronic meeting systems for their internal projects. Further, Lotus Notes appeared as a major product of this category, further enhancing remote group collaborations.

Group - ware systems are classified based on functions, specifically:

- Computer mediated communication supporting direct participant communication.
- Meeting and decision support systems capturing the common understanding of participants.
- Shared applications.
- Artifacts supporting the interaction of participants through shared work object.
- Groupware is either synchronous or asynchronous in nature.

1) Synchronous groupware

2) Asynchronous groupware.

Synchronous :-

Synchronous groupware is a class of applications that allows a group of individuals who are physically separated to interact with each other using shared computational object in real time. They required shared audio channels for communication.

Asynchronous :-

Asynchronous groupware uses email structured messages, agents, workflow, computer conferencing agents, files sharing system and collaborative writing systems, among others. Asy

- The extensive use of groupware on the internet helped contribute to the development of web 2.0, which uses instant messaging, web conferencing, group calendars, document sharing etc.