

Abbreviations & Acronyms

A-D: Analog to digital conversion
ac: Alternating current
AC: Armored Cable, NEC Article 333 Cable Designation
ACO: Analog Central Office
ACR: Attenuation to Crosstalk Ratio
ADO: Auxiliary Disconnect Outlet
AER: Aerial
AF: Audio frequency
AIA: American Institute of Architects
ALPETH: An aerial telephone cable having an aluminum shield and polyethylene jacket
ALS: A type of cable consisting of insulated conductors enclosed in a continuous, closely fitting aluminum tube
ALVYN: An indoor, riser rated telephone cable having an aluminum shield and vinyl jacket (PVC)
AM: Amplitude Modulation
ANSI: American National Standards Institute
ARPANET: Advanced Research Projects Agency Network
ASCII: American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ASME: American Society of Mechanical Engineers
ASP: A filled, direct burial telephone cable used in areas subject to rodent attack. It consists of a filled cable core, corrugated aluminum shield, corrugated steel tape, flooding compound and polyethylene jacket.
ASTA: United Kingdom approval agency
ASTM: American Society for Testing and Materials
AWG: American Wire Gauge
AWM: Appliance wiring material
B & S Gauge: See American Wire Gauge (AWG)
B or BUR: Buried
AWM: Appliance wiring material
BCF: Billion Conductor Feet
BEF: Building Entrance Facility
BER: Bit Error Rate
BIC: Building Industry Consultant
BICS: Building Industry Consulting Service International
BISDN: Broadband Integrated Services Digital Network
BTU: British Thermal Unit
CA: Cable
CATV: (1) Community Antenna Television; Cable Access Television (2) CATV Cable, NEC Article 820 Cable Designation
CATVP: CATV Plenum Cable, NEC Article 820 Cable Designation
CATVR: CATV Riser Cable, NEC Article 820 Cable Designation
CATVX: CATV Limited Use Cable, NEC Article 820 Cable Designation
CB: Citizens band
C-C: Conductor to conductor capacitance
CCITT: The International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee
CCTV: Closed-circuit television
CDDI: Copper Distributed Data Interface
CDF: Central Distribution Frame
CDO: Community Dial Office
CEBEC: Belgium approval agency; Commite Electrotechnique Belge Service de la Marque
CEE: European standards agency; International Commission on Rules for the Approval of Electrical Equipment

CEN: European Committee for Standardization
CENELEC: European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization
CFC: Communications Flat Cable
ckt: Circuit
CLT or CLOS: Closet
CL2: Class 2 Circuit Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL2P: Class 2 Circuit Plenum Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL2R: Class 2 Circuit Riser Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL2X: Class 2 Circuit Limited Use Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL3: Class 3 Circuit Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL3P: Class 3 Circuit Plenum Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL3R: Class 3 Circuit Riser Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CL3X: Class 3 Circuit Limited Use Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation
CM: Communications Cable, NEC Article 800 Cable Designation
CMA: Circular Mil Area
CMF: Communication Cable Plenum, NEC Article 800 Cable Designation
CMR: Communications Cable Riser, NEC Article 800 Cable Designation
CMX: Communications Limited Use Cable, NEC Article 800 Cable Designation
CO: Central Office
codec: Coder decoder
COE: Central Office Equipment
COS: Cooperation for Open Systems
COSINE: Cooperation for Open Systems Interconnection Network in Europe
COT: Central Office Terminal
CPC: Customer Premises Communication
CPE: (1) Chlorinated Polyethylene (2) Customer Premises Equipment or Customer Provided Equipment
CPU: Central Processing Unit
CRT: Cathode Ray Tube
CSMA/CD: Carrier Sense Multiple Access/ Collision Detection
CSPE: Chlorosulfonated Polyethylene
CTR: Certified Test Report
CV: Continuous vulcanization
D-A: Digital to analog conversion
DAF: Dedicated Access Facility
dB: Decibel
DBS: Direct Broadcast Satellite
dc: Direct current
DCE: Data Circuit-Terminating Equipment
DCO: Digital Central Office
DCR: Direct Current Resistance
DD: Distribution Designer or Distribution Device
DEMARC: Demarcation point
DEMKO: Approval agency of Denmark
DGM: Data Grade Medium
DISA: Defense Information Systems Agency (formerly DCA)
DISI: Directory Information Services Infrastructure
DIST: District
DRT: Plastic range and dryer cord (CSA)
DTE: Data Terminal Equipment
DVD: Digital Versatile Disc
DW: Distribution Wire

E: Symbol for voltage. Usually used to represent direct voltage or the effective (root-mean-square) value of an alternating voltage
EFTS: Electronic funds transfer system
EIA: Electronic Industries Association
EMF: Electromotive Force
EMI: Electromagnetic Interference
EMT: Electric Metallic Tubing
EP: Entrance point
EPDM: Ethylene-propylene-diene monomer rubber
EPOS: Electronic Point-Of-Sale
EPR: Ethylene-propylene rubber
ER: Equipment room
ESS: Electronic Switching System
ESTA: Australian approval agency; Electricity Trust of South Australia
ETPC: Electrolytic Tough Pitch Copper
ETV: Educational Television
E/W: Equipped With
EX or EXT: Extension
EXCH: Exchange
f: Frequency
FAA: Federal Aeronautics Administration
FCC: (1) Federal Communications Commission (2) Flat Conductor Cable, NEC Article 328 Cable Designation
FDDI: Fiber Distributed Data Interface
FDM: Frequency-Division Multiplexing
FDR: Feeder
FEP: Fluorinated ethylene propylene
FEXT: Far End Crosstalk
FI: Approval agency of Finland; Electrical Inspectorate
FIPS PUB: Federal Information Processing Standard Publication
FM: Frequency modulation
FOCIS: Fiber Optic Connector Intermateability Standard
FOTP: Fiber Optic Test Procedure
FOTS: Fiber Optics Transmission System
FPL: Power Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation
FPLP: Power Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Plenum Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation
FPLR: Power Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Riser Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation
FR-1: A flammability rating established by Underwriter's Laboratories for wires and cables that pass a specially designed vertical flame test
freq: Frequency
FRICC: Federal Research Internet Coordinating Committee (now FNC)
FRPE: Flame Retardant Polyethylene
ft: Foot
FTP: Fire Transfer Protocol
ga: Gauge
gHz: Gigahertz
grd: Ground
GTO: Gas tube sign and oil-burner ignition cable. 5,000V-15,000V.
H: Designation for intensity of magnetic energy
hc: Handset combination (single-line telephone)
HC: Horizontal cross-connect
hck: Handset combination; key (six-button telephone)
HDPE: High Density Polyethylene
HF: High Frequency

Abbreviations & Acronyms

hh: Handhole

Hi-Pot: A test designed to determine the highest voltage that can be applied to a conductor without breaking through the insulation.

HPD: Rubber- and asbestos-insulated heater cord. No braid on individual conductors but with braid overall. Also made with neoprene insulation and no asbestos or PVC/NBC.

HPN: Two-conductor, neoprene-insulated heater cord. Parallel construction. For use in damp locations.

HSJ: Same as type HS but with #18, #16 and #14 conductors and differing thickness of jacket.

HVAC: Heating, ventilation and air conditioning

Hz: Hertz

i: Symbol used to designate current

IC: Intermediate cross-connect

ICEA: Insulated Cable Engineers Association

IDC: Insulation Displacement Connector

IEC: International Electrotechnical Commission

IEEE: Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers

IGS: Integrated Gas Spacer Cable, NEC Article 325 Cable Designation

IMSA: International Municipal Signal Association

in: Inch

IRSG: Internet Research Steering Group

IRTF: Internet Research Task Force

IS: International Standard

ISA: Instrument Society of America

ISDN: Integrated Services Digital Network

ISO: International Organization for Standardization

ISOC: Internet Society

ITC: Independent Telephone Company

ITU-T: International Telecommunications Union - Telecommunications Standardization Section

IW (C): Inside Wiring (cable)

J: Joule

kcml: One thousand circular mils

KEMA KEUR: Approval agency of the Netherlands

kft: An abbreviation for 1000 ft.

kHz: Kilohertz

Kilo: A numerical prefix denoting 1000 (10^3)

km: Kilometer

KTS: Key Telephone Service

kV: Kilovolt

kVA: Kilovolt Ampere

kW: Kilowatt

LAN: Local Area Network

LASER: Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation

LATA: Local Access Transport Area

lbf: Pound force

LBO: Line Buildout

LDPE: Low Density Polyethylene

LEC: Local Exchange Carrier

LED: Light-Emitting Diode

LLDPE: Linear Low Density Polyethylene

LOCA: Loss of Coolant Accident

locap: Low-capacitance, low-loss paired cable

MAC: Moves, Adds and Changes

MAP: Manufacturing Automation Protocol

MATV: Master Antenna Television

Mbps: Megabits per second

MC: (1) main cross-connect (2) Metal Clad Cable, NEC Article 334 Cable Designation

MCM: One thousand circular mils

MDF: Main Distribution Frame

MDPE: Medium Density Polyethylene

Meg or Mega: A numerical prefix denoting 1,000,000 (10^6)

M/G: Motor/Generator Set

MH: Manhole

Mho: The unit of conductivity. The reciprocal of an ohm.

MHz: Megahertz

MI: Mineral Insulated Cable, NEC Article 330 Cable Designation

Micro: A numerical prefix denoting one-millionth (10^6)

MIL STD: Military Standard

MILNET: Military Network

MLT: Multi-Level Threshold

mm: Millimeter

Modem: Modulator demodulator

MTT: Main Telephone Terminal

MTW: Machine Tool Wire

MV: Medium Voltage Cable, NEC Article 326 Cable Designation

MW: Radio hookup wire with polyvinyl insulation and plain or nylon jacket or braid, or shield, 1000V

N: Newton

NAIC: Network Applications and Information Center

NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

NBR: Natural butadiene-acrylonitrile copolymer rubber

NBS: National Bureau of Standards (now NIST)

NEC: National Electrical Code

NEMA: National Electrical Manufacturers Association

NEMKO: Approval agency of Norway

NESC: National Electrical Safety Code

NEXT: Near End Crosstalk

nf: Nanofarad

NFPA: National Fire Protection Association

NI: Network Interface

NID: Network Interface Device

NIST: National Institute of Standards and Technology (formerly NBS)

NIU: Network Interface Unit

nm: Nanometer

NM & NMC: Non Metallic Sheathed Cable, NEC Article 336 Cable Designation

NPLF: Non Power-Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation

NPLFP: Non Power-Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Plenum Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation

NPLFR: Non Power-Limited Fire Protective Signaling Circuit Plenum Cable, NEC Article 760 Cable Designation

NRZ: Non Return to Zero

NRZI: Non Return to Zero Inverted

OC: Optical Carrier

ODC: Ozone Depleting Chemical

OP: Outside Plant

OPE: Outside Plant Engineer

OSHA: Occupational Safety and Health Administration

OSI: Open Systems Interconnection

OVE: Approval agency of West Germany; Oesterreichischer Verband fur Elektrotechnik

PABX: Private Automatic Branch Exchange

PAM: Pulse Amplitude Modulation

PAP: A commonly used term for air core (unfilled) direct burial telephone cable with a corrugated aluminum shield

PBX: Private Branch Exchange

PC: Personal Computer

PCB: Printed Circuit Board

P-FEP: General Cable proprietary dielectric material used in conjunction with FEP.

PCM: Pulse Code Modulation

PCP: A commonly used term for air core (unfilled) direct burial cable with a corrugated copper shield

PE: Polyethylene

pf: Picofarad

PFA: Polyfluoroalkoxy

PIC: A general term for any type of plastic insulated telephone cable

Pico: A numerical prefix denoting one-millionth of one-millionth (10^{-12})

PL: Private Lines

PLSJ: All-rubber, parallel-jacketed, two-conductor, light-duty cord for pendant or portable use in damp locations. 300V.

PLT: (1) Plant (2) Same as PLSJ except thermoplastic insulation

PLTC: Power Limited Tray Cable, NEC Article 725 Cable Designation

PM: Phase Modulation

POI: Point Of Interface

POSJ: All-rubber, parallel, light duty rip-cord for use on lamps and small appliances, 300V, 60°C

POT: Thermoplastic, parallel, light duty rip-cord. 300V, 60°C to 105°C.

POTS: Plain Old Telephone Service (colloquial)

PP: Polypropylene

PR: Pair

PTFE: Polytetrafluoroethylene

PTSS: Passive Transmission Sub-System

PVC: Polyvinyl Chloride

PVDF: Polyvinylidene Fluoride

R: Symbol for resistance

R-F: Radio-frequency

RCDD: Registered Communication Distribution Designer

REA: Rural Electrification Administration

REP: Repair

RFQ: Request for Quote

RG/U: General utility grade military coaxial cable

RH: Relative humidity

RJ-45: A specific pin-point assignment for an eight position modular telecommunications connector.

RMS: (1) rack mount space (2) Root Mean Squares

RoHS: Restriction on Hazardous Substances

S: Heavy-duty, rubber-insulated portable cord.

Stranded copper conductors with separator and individual rubber insulation. Two or more color-coded conductors cabled with filler, wrapped with separator and rubber jacketed overall, 600 Volts.

SAE: Society of Automotive Engineers

SANZ: Standards Association of New Zealand

SBR: Styrene Butadiene Rubber

ScTP: Screened Twisted Pair

SDN: Switched Digital Network

Abbreviations & Acronyms

SE: Service Entrance Cable, NEC Article 338 Cable Designation	SWR: Standing Wave Ratio
SEMKO: Approval agency for Sweden	SYS: System
SFTP: Simple File Transfer Protocol	TC: (1) Power and Control Tray Cable, NEC Article 340 Cable Designation (2) Telecommunications Closet
SI: System Internationale	TCP: Transmission Control Protocol
SJ: Junior hard-service, rubber-insulated pendant or portable cord. Same construction as type S, but 300V. Jacket thickness different.	TDM: Time-Division Multiplexing
SJO: Same as SJ, but carolprene, oil-resistant compound outer jacket. Can also be made "water-resistant." 300V, 60°C.	TEL: Telephone
SJT: Junior hard service thermoplastic or rubber-insulated conductors with overall thermoplastic jacket, 300V, 60°C to 105°C.	TELCO: Telephone Company
SJTO: Same as SJT but oil-resistant thermoplastic outer jacket. 60°C.	TERM: Terminal or termination
SMTP: Simple Mail Transfer Protocol	TEW: Canadian Standard Association type appliance wires. Solid or stranded single conductor, plastic-insulated, 600V, 105°C.
SNA: Systems Network Architecture	TF: Fixture wire, thermoplastic-covered solid or seven strands. 60°C.
SNM: Shielded Non Metallic Sheathed Cable, NEC Article 337 Cable Designation	TFE: Tetrafluoroethylene
SNMP: Simple Network Management Protocol	TFF: Same as TF but flexible stranding. 60°C.
SNR: Signal to Noise Ratio	THHN: 90°C, 600V nylon jacketed building wire
SO: Hard-service cord, same construction as type S except oil-resistant carolprene jacket, 600V, 60° to 90°C.	THW: Thermoplastic vinyl-insulated building wire. Flame-retardant, moisture- and heat-resistant. 75°C. Dry and wet locations.
SONET: Synchronous Optical Network	THWN: Same as THW but with nylon jacket overall. 75°C.
SP-1: All rubber, parallel-jacketed, two-conductor light-duty cord for pendant or portable use in damp locations. 300V.	TIA: Telecommunications Industry Association
SP-2: Same as SP-1, but heavier construction, with or without third conductor for grounding purposes. 300V.	TOC: Tin Overcoat
SP-3: Same as SP-23, but heavier construction for refrigerators or room air conditioners. 300V.	TP: Transport Protocol
SPC: Stored Program Control	TP-PMD: Twisted Pair-Physical Medium Dependent
SPG: Single Point Ground	TPDDI: Twisted Pair Distributed Data Interface
SPT-1: Same as SP-1, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.	TSB: Telecommunications System Bulletin
SPT-2: Same as SP-2, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.	TT: Telephone Terminal
SPT-3: Same as SP-3, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.	TTB: Telephone Terminal Board
SRD: Portable range or dryer cable. Three or four rubber-insulated conductors with rubber or neoprene jacket, flat or round construction. 300V, 60°C.	TTY: Text Telephones
SRDT: Same as SRD, except all-thermoplastic with a maximum temperature of 90°C.	TW: Thermoplastic vinyl-jacketed building wire, moisture-resistant. 60°C.
SRL: Structural return loss	UCC: Uniform Code Council
ST: Hard-service cord, jacketed, same as type S except all-plastic construction, 600V, 60°C to 105°C.	UF: Thermoplastic underground feeder and branch circuit cable
STA: Station	UF: Underground Feeder and Branch Circuit Cable, NEC Article 339 Cable Designation
STO: Same as ST but with oil-resistant thermoplastic outer jacket. 600V, 60°C.	UG: Underground
STP: Shielded twisted pair	UHF: Ultra High Frequency, 300 to 3,000 MHz
SV: Vacuum cleaner cord, two or three-conductor, rubber-insulated. Overall rubber jacket. For light-duty in damp locations. 300V, 60°C.	UL: Underwriter's Laboratories, Inc.
SVO: Same as SV except carolprene jacket, 300V, 60°C.	µm: Micron or micrometer
SVT: Same as SV except all-plastic construction. With or without third conductor for grounding purposes only. 300V, 60°C to 90°C.	UPC: Universal Packaging Code
SW: Station Wire	UPS: Uninterruptible Power Supply
SWB: Switchboard	USE: Underground Service Entrance Cable, NEC Article 338 Cable Designation
	UTE: Approval agency for France; Union Technique de l'Electricite
	UTP: Unshielded twisted-pair
	V: Volt
	VDE: West Germany approval agency
	VHF: Very High Frequency, 30 to 300 MHz
	VP: Velocity of Propagation
	VSWR: Volume Standing Wave Ratio
	VW-1: A flammability rating established by Underwriters Laboratories for wires and cables that pass a specially designed vertical flame test, (formerly designated FR-1)
	W: Symbol for watt or wattage
	WA: Work area
	WP: Waterproof Outlet
	X: Cross-connect
	XLPE: Crosslinked polyethylene
	Z: Symbol for impedance