

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; Comité 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
CMP: 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
codect: 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
FEF: 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
- ITCO:** Independent Telephone Company
- ITU-T:** International Telecommunications Union - Telecommunications Standardization Section
- IW (C):** Inside Wiring (cable)
- J:** Joule
- kcmil:** 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 (10³)
- 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 (10⁶)
- 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 (10⁶)
- 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 junction 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
- SEMKO:** Approval agency for Sweden
- SFTP:** Simple File Transfer Protocol
- SI:** System Internationale
- SJ:** Junior hard-service, rubber-insulated pendant or portable cord. Same construction as type S, but 300V. Jacket thickness different.
- SJO:** Same as SJ, but carolprene, oil-resistant compound outer jacket. Can also be made "water-resistant." 300V, 60°C.
- SJT:** Junior hard service thermoplastic or rubber-insulated conductors with overall thermoplastic jacket, 300V, 60°C to 105°C.
- SJTO:** Same as SJT but oil-resistant thermoplastic outer jacket. 60°C.
- SMTP:** Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
- SNA:** Systems Network Architecture
- SNM:** Shielded Non Metallic Sheathed Cable, NEC Article 337 Cable Designation
- SNMP:** Simple Network Management Protocol
- SNR:** Signal to Noise Ratio
- SO:** Hard-service cord, same construction as type S except oil-resistant carolprene jacket, 600V, 60° to 90°C.
- SONET:** Synchronous Optical Network
- SP-1:** All rubber, parallel-jacketed, two-conductor light-duty cord for pendant or portable use in damp locations. 300V.
- SP-2:** Same as SP-1, but heavier construction, with or without third conductor for grounding purposes. 300V.
- SP-3:** Same as SP-23, but heavier construction for refrigerators or room air conditioners. 300V.
- SPC:** Stored Program Control
- SPG:** Single Point Ground
- SPT-1:** Same as SP-1, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.
- SPT-2:** Same as SP-2, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.
- SPT-3:** Same as SP-3, except all-thermoplastic. 300V. With or without third conductor for grounding.
- SRD:** Portable range or dryer cable. Three or four rubber-insulated conductors with rubber or neoprene jacket, flat or round construction. 300V, 60°C.
- SRDT:** Same as SRD, except all-thermoplastic with a maximum temperature of 90°C.
- SRL:** Structural return loss
- ST:** Hard-service cord, jacketed, same as type S except all-plastic construction, 600V, 60°C to 105°C.
- STA:** Station
- STO:** Same as ST but with oil-resistant thermoplastic outer jacket. 600V, 60°C.
- STP:** Shielded twisted pair
- SV:** Vacuum cleaner cord, two or three-conductor, rubber-insulated. Overall rubber jacket. For light-duty in damp locations. 300V, 60°C.
- SVO:** Same as SV except carolprene jacket, 300V, 60°C.
- SVT:** Same as SV except all-plastic construction. With or without third conductor for grounding purposes only. 300V, 60°C to 90°C.
- SW:** Station Wire
- SWB:** Switchboard
- SWR:** Standing Wave Ratio
- SYS:** System
- TC:** (1) Power and Control Tray Cable, NEC Article 340 Cable Designation (2) Telecommunications Closet
- TCP:** Transmission Control Protocol
- TDM:** Time-Division Multiplexing
- TEL:** Telephone
- TELCO:** Telephone Company
- TERM:** Terminal or termination
- TEW:** Canadian Standard Association type appliance wires. Solid or stranded single conductor, plastic-insulated, 600V, 105°C.
- TF:** Fixture wire, thermoplastic-covered solid or seven strands. 60°C.
- TFE:** Tetrafluoroethylene
- TFF:** Same as TF but flexible stranding. 60°C.
- THHN:** 90°C, 600V nylon jacketed building wire
- THW:** Thermoplastic vinyl-insulated building wire. Flame-retardant, moisture- and heat-resistant. 75°C. Dry and wet locations.
- THWN:** Same as THW but with nylon jacket overall. 75°C.
- TIA:** Telecommunications Industry Association
- TOC:** Tin Overcoat
- TP:** Transport Protocol
- TP-PMD:** Twisted Pair-Physical Medium Dependent
- TPDDI:** Twisted Pair Distributed Data Interface
- TSB:** Telecommunications System Bulletin
- TT:** Telephone Terminal
- TTB:** Telephone Terminal Board
- TTY:** Text Telephones
- TW:** Thermoplastic vinyl-jacketed building wire, moisture-resistant. 60°C.
- UCC:** Uniform Code Council
- UF:** Thermoplastic underground feeder and branch circuit cable
- UF:** Underground Feeder and Branch Circuit Cable, NEC Article 339 Cable Designation
- UG:** Underground
- UHF:** Ultra High Frequency, 300 to 3,000 MHz
- UL:** Underwriter's Laboratories, Inc.
- µm:** Micron or micrometer
- UPC:** Universal Packaging Code
- UPS:** Uninterruptible Power Supply
- 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