

# Acronyms

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The telecommunications industry delights in the use of acronyms, some of which are universally accepted, but many are specific to a particular corporation. Other acronyms may have more than one meaning, and can only be deciphered by the context.

2B1Q	2 Binary 1 Quaternary
4B3T	4 Binary 3 Ternary
4WTS	4 Wire Terminating Set
AAL	ATM Adaptation Layer
ABM	Access Bandwidth Manager; Asynchronous Balance Mode [HDLC]
ACD	Automatic Call Distributor
ACF	Access Control Field [DQDB]
ACK	ACKnowledgement
ADM	Add Drop Multiplexer
ADPCM	Adaptive Differential Pulse Code Modulation
AIS	Alarm Indication Signal
AMI	Automatic Mark Inversion
AMPS	Advanced Mobile Phone Service
ANI	Automatic Number Identification
ANS	American National Standard
ANSI	American National Standards Institute
APPN	Advanced Peer to Peer Networking
APS	Automatic Protection Switching
ARDIS	Advanced Radio Data Information Service
ARP	Address Resolution Protocol
ARPANET	Advanced Research Projects NETWORK
ARQ	Automatic Repeat reQuest
ASCI	Advanced Speech Call Items
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ATM	Asynchronous Transfer Mode
AT&T	American Telephone & Telegraph
AUI	Attachment Unit Interface [Ethernet 802.3]
BATMOS	Bipolar Analog Telecom Metal Oxide Semiconductor
Bellcore	BELL COMMUNICATIONS RESEARCH
BCD	Binary Coded Decimal
BCR	Bell Communications Research

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BER	Bit Error Ratio/Rate
BHCA	Busy Hour Call Attempts
BIP	Bit Interleaved Parity; Breaker Interface Panel
B-ISDN	Broadband ISDN
B-NT	Broadband Network Terminator
BnZS	Binary n Zero Substitution [n = 3, 6, or 8]
BOC	Bell Operating Company
BOM	Beginning Of Message [DQDB]
BORSCHT	Battery, Over voltage protection, Ringing, Supervision, Coding, Hybrid, Test
bps	bits per second
BRA	Basic Rate Access (2B+D, 144 Kbps)
BRI	Basic Rate Interface [ISDN]
BSC	Binary Synchronous Communications
BT	British Telecom
B-TA	Broadband Terminal Adapter [ATM]
B-Te	Broadband Terminal Equipment [ATM]
CAD/CAM	Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacturing
CAI	Common Air Interface
CAMEL	Customized Applications for Mobile Enhanced Logic
CAP	Competitive Access Provider
CBDS	Connectionless Broadband Data Service
CC	Central Control
CCIR	Consultative Committee for International Radio
CCITT	Comité Consultatif Internationale de Telegraphique et Telephonique
CCS	Common Channel Signaling
CCS	C [hundred] Call Seconds
CD	collision detection; count down [DQDB]
CDMA	Code Division Multiple Access
CDPD	Cellular Digital Packet Data
CDS	Copper Distribution Shelf
CEC	Commission of European Communities
CEPT	Conference on European Post & Telegraph
CIR	Committed Information Rate [frame relay]
CL	ConnectionLess
CLASS	Custom Local Area Signaling Services
CLIP	Calling Line Identity Presentation

CLNS	ConnectionLess Network Services [OSI]
CLSF	ConnectionLess Server Function [ITU-T]
CMI	Coded Mark Inversion
CMIP	Common Management Interface Protocol [ISO]
CMIS	Common Management Information Service [ISO]
CMS	Call Management Services
CO	Central Office
CODEC	COder DECoder
COM	Continuation Of Message
COMPAND	COMpress exPAND
CONS	Connection Oriented Network Service [ISO]
CPE	Customer Premise Equipment
CPY	Central Processor Unit
CRC	Cyclic Redundancy Check
CRTC	Canadian Radio and Television Commission
CS	Convergence Sublayer
CSC	Common Signaling Channel
CSMA	Carrier Sense Multiple Access
CSMA/CD	Carrier Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection
CT2	Cordless Telephone 2
CT3	Cordless Telephone 3
CTIA	Cellular Telephone Industry Association
DA	Destination Address field
DBS	Direct Broadcast Satellite
DCM	Digital Carrier Module
DCS	Digital Cellular System; Digital Channel Service; Digital Cross-connect System
DCT	Digital Cordless Telephone
DDD	Direct Distance Dialing
DDS	Digital Data Service
DEC	Digital Electronic Corporation
DECT	Digital European Cordless Telecommunications
DID	Direct Inward Dial
DMS	Digital Multiplexing System
DNA	Digital Network Architecture [Decnet]
DNHR	Dynamic Non-Hierarchical Routing
DOD	Direct Out Dial
DP	Dial Pulse
DPO	Dial Pulse Originating

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DPT	Dial Pulse Terminating
DQDB	Distributed Queue Dual Bus [IEEE]
DQPSK	Differential Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
DS-0	Digital Signal type 0, 0 – 64 Kbps PCM channel
DS-1	Digital Signal type 1, 24xDS-0 + 1 signaling bit (1.544 Mbps)
DS-1c	DS-1 concatenated [2xDS-1]
DS-3	Digital Signal type 3, 28xDS-1 (44.736 Mbps)
DS-CDMA	Direct Sequence Code Division Multiple Access
DSMA	Data Sense Multiple Access [Ardis]
DSP	Digital Signal Processing
DSU	Data Service Unit
DSX	Digital cross-connect
DTMF	Dual Tone Multiple Frequency
DX	Digital eXchange
DXC	Digital cross (X) Connect
EBS	Electronic Business Set
E&M	Ear and Mouth; a signaling method
ECSA	Exchange Carriers Standards Association
EIA	Electronics Industries Association
EO	Electro-Optical
EOM	End Of Message
ERMES	European Radio MESSaging System
ESF	Extended Super Frame
ESI	External Synchronization Interface
ESS	Electronic Switching System
ESTI	European Telecommunications Standards Institute
ETB	End of Transmission Block
ETO	Equalized Termination Only
ETR	Early Token Release
ETX	End Of teXt
F	Flag
FCC	Federal Communication Commission [US]
FCOT	Fiber Central Office Terminal
FCS	Frame Check Sequence
FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
FDDI	Fiber Distributed Data Interface (ANSI)
FDM	Frequency Division Multiplexing

FDMA	Frequency Division Multiple Access
FDS	Fiber Distribution Shelf
FEC	Forward Error Correction
FEP	Front End Processor
FM	Frequency Modulation
FR	Frame Relay
FSR	Frequency Selective Ringing
FST	Fiber Services Terminal
FT1	Fractional T-1
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
FX	Foreign eXchange
FXO	Foreign eXchange Office
FXS	Foreign eXchange Station [or services]
Gbps	Giga bits per second
GFC	Generic Flow Control
GFSK	Gaussian filtered Frequency Shift Keying
GMSK	Gaussian filtered Minimum Shift Keying
GOSIP	Government Open System Interconnection Profile
GSM	Groupe Speciale Mobile; Global System for Mobile communication
HCS	Header Check Sequence [DQDB]
HD3B	High-Density 3rd order Binary code
HDLC	High-level Data Link Control [ISO]
HDTV	High Definition TeleVision
HEC	Header Error Control
HIPERLAN	HIgh Performance European Radio LAN
HOB	Head Of Bus [DQDB]
HRC	Hybrid Ring Control
HSCSD	High Speed Circuit Switched Data
HSLN	High Speed Local Network
IBM	International Business Machines Corp.
ICMP	Internet Control Message Protocol
ID	IDentification
IDDD	International Direct Distance Dialing
IDLC	Integrated Digital Loop Carrier
IEC	Inter-Exchange Carrier
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers

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IMTS	Improved Mobile Telephone Service
IN	Intelligent Network
INMS	Integrated Network Management System
IP	Internet Protocol
IPv6	Internet Protocol version 6
IPX	Internetwork Packet eXchange protocol [Novell]
IRL	Input Return Loss
ISDN	Integrated Services Digital Network
ISDN BRA	ISDN Basic Rate Access; otherwise known as 2B+D
ISDN PRA	ISDN Primary Rate Access
ISDN T	ISDN T interface
ISDN U	ISDN U interface
ISDU	Isochronous Service Data Unit [DQDB]
ISO	International Standards Organization
ISW	Inverted Synchronization Word
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
IVD	Integrated Voice Data
IVDT	Integrated Voice Data Terminal
IXC	Inter-eXchange Carrier
JTC	Joint Technical Committee
LAN	Local Area Network
LAP-B	Link Access Procedure Balanced [X.25]
LAP-D	Link Access Protocol D channel [ISDN]
LAS	Local Analog Switch
LATA	Local Access and Transport Area
LCM	Line Card Module
LCAP	Local Craft Access Panel
LDS	Local Digital Switch
LEC	Local Exchange Carrier
LEO	Low Earth Orbit
LGC	Line Group Controller
LIC	Line Interface Controller
LLC	Logical Link Control
LSB	Least Significant Bit
LSS	Locally Switched Services; services which terminate at the local office
LT	Line Termination
LTE	Line Terminating Equipment [SONET]

MAC	Media Access Control
MAN	Metropolitan Area Network
MAU	Media Attachment Unit; Multistation Access Unit
MBC	Meteor Burst Communications
MBS	Meridian Business Services [or set]
MCI	Microwave Communications Inc.
MDMS	Mobile Data Base Station [CDPD]
MDF	Main Distribution Frame
MD-IS	Mobile Data Intermediate System [CDPD]
M-ES	Mobile End System [CDPD]
MIME	Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions
MIPS	Millions of Instructions Per Second
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPEG	Motion Picture Encoding Group
MTSO	Mobile Telecommunications Switching Office
MTX	Mobile Telephone eXchange
MUX	MUltipleXer
NACK	Negative ACKnowledgment
NAMPS	Narrow band AMPS
NCP	Network Control Program
NE	Networking Element
NetBIOS	Network Basic Input/Output System protocol
NFS	Network File Server
NLS	Non-Locally Switched services; services which terminate and are switched at a remote office
NM	Network Modules
NMT	Nordic Mobile Telephone
NNI	Network Node Interface
NOS	Network Operating System
NRZ	Non-Return to Zero
NRZI	Non-Return to Zero with Inversion
NSS	Non-Switched Services: use dedicated lines
NT	Northern Telecom
NorTel	Northern Telecom
OAM	Operation Administration and Maintenance
OAM&P	Operation, Administration, Maintenance, & Provisioning

OC-1	Optical Carrier 1; an STS-1 signal optically encoded
OC-3	Optical Carrier 3; an STS-3 signal optically encoded
ONU	Optical Network Unit
OPC	OPerations Controller
OPX	Off Premises Extension
OPX intra	an OPX served by a different CO
OPX inter	an OPX served by the same CO
OQPSK	Offset Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
OS	Operating System
OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
PA	Pre-arbitrated Access [DQDB]
PABX	Private Automatic Branch eXchange
PACK	Positive ACKnowledgment
PAD	Packet Assembler Disassembler [X.25]
PBX	Private Branch eXchange
PCN	Personal Communications Network
PCS	Personal Communications System/Service
PCSS	Personal Communications Satellite Services
PDH	Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy
PDN	Public Data Networks
PDU	Protocol Data Unit
PHY	PHYSical layer
PL	Pad Length
PLCP	Physical Layer Convergence Procedure [DQDB]
PM	Peripheral Module; Performance Monitoring; Physical Medium
PMD	Physical layer Medium Dependent
PMR	Private Mobile Radio
POH	Path OverHead [SONET]
PON	Passive Optical Network
POP	Point of Presence
POS	Point Of Sale
POTS	Plain Ordinary Telephone Service
PPP	Point to Point Protocol
PPSN	Public Packet Switched Network
PRA	PRimary Access rate i.e. 23B+D or 30B+D
PRI	Primary Rate Interface [ISDN]
PSDS	Public Switched Digital Service
PSTN	Public Switched Telephone Network

PTAT	Private Trans Atlantic Telecommunications
PTT	Post, Telegraph and Telephone
PVC	Permanent Virtual Circuit
QA	Queued Arbitrated access; Quality Assurance
QCPM	Quadrature Continuous Phaseshift Modulation
QoS	Quality of Service
QPSK	Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
QPSX	Queued Packet and Synchronous eXchange
RACE	Research and development in Advanced Communications for Europe
RBOC	Regional Bell Operating Company
RDPS	Reverse Direction Protection System
RFT	Remote Fiber Terminal
RISC	Reduced Instruction Set Computer
RQ	ReQuest
RZ	Return to Zero
SAA	Service Adaptive Access
SAP	Service Access Point
SAR	Segmentation And Reassembly
SCP	Service Control Points
SDH	Synchronous Digital Hierarchy
SDLC	Synchronous Data Link Control [IBM]
SDU	Service Data Unit
S/DMS	SONET Digital Multiplexing System
SF	Super Frame
SIM	Subscriber Identification Module
SIP	Smds Interface Protocol
SLIC	Subscriber Line Interface Circuit
SMDS	Switched Multi-megabit Data Service
SMTP	Simple Mail Transfer Protocol
SNA	Systems Network Architecture [IBM]
SNI	Subscriber Network Interface [SMDS]
SNMP	Systems Network Management Protocol
SOH	Section OverHead
SONET	Synchronous Optical NETwork
SPADE	Single channel, Pulse code modulation, multiple Access, Demand assignment Equipment

SPE	Synchronous Payload Envelope [SONET]
SPRING	Shared Protection RING
SSB	Single Side Band
SSDN	Special Services Digital Network
STM	Synchronous Transfer Mode
STM-1	Synchronous Transport Mode level 1 [3xSTS-1, STS-3c]
STP	Shielded Twisted Pair; Spanning Tree Protocol
STS	Synchronous Transport Signal
STS-1	Synchronous Transport Signal level 1 [51.84 Mbps]
STS-3	Synchronous Transport Signal level 3 [155.52 Mbps]
STS-3c	Concatenated STS-3
SVC	Switched Virtual Circuit; Signaling Virtual Channel
SW	Synchronization Word
SYN	SYNchronous idle
TA	Terminal Adapter
TACS	Total Access Communications System
TADI	Time Assignment Data Interpolation
TASI	Time Assignment Speech Interpolation
TBM	Transport Bandwidth Manager
TCM	Time Compression Multiplexing
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
TDD	Time Division Duplex
TDM	Time Division Multiplexing
TDMA	Time Division Multiple Access
TE	Terminal Equipment
Telco	Telephone company
THL	Trans-Hybrid Loss
TIA	Telecommunications Industry Association
TP	Twisted Pair; Tip Party
TR	Technical Report
TSI	Time Slot Interchange
TSS	Transport Services Shelf; a component of DMS AccessNode
UDLC	Universal Digital Loop Carrier
UDP	User Data Protocol [internet]
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telecommunications Service
UNI	User Network Interface

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UTP	UnTwisted Pair
VAN	Value Added Network
VBR	Variable Bit Rate
VC	Virtual Channel [ATM]; Virtual Call [X.25]
VCI	Virtual Channel Identifier
VF	Voice Frequency
VLSI	Very Large Scale Integration
VP	Virtual Path
VPI	Virtual Path Identifier
VSAT	Very Small Aperture Terminal
VT	Virtual Tributary (SONET)
VT1.5	VT ~1.5 Mbps [capable of carrying a DS-1]
WAN	Wide Area Network
WARC	World Administrative Radio Conference
WATS	Wide Area Telecommunication Service
WBC	Wide Band Channels
WDM	Wave Division Multiplexing
WWW	World Wide Web
XI	X.25 SNA Interconnect
ZBTSI	Zero Byte Time Slot Interchange

## More Acronyms

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