
Aviation-Related Abbreviations

| | |
|---------------|---|
| A4A | Airlines for America |
| A/A | air/air |
| A/C | aircraft |
| A/G | air to ground |
| A/I | accident(s)/incident(s) |
| AAAE | American Association of Airport Executives |
| AAC | aircraft approach category |
| AAE | accredited airport executive |
| AALS | advanced approach and landing system |
| AASR | airways and airport surveillance radar |
| ABT | about |
| ABV | above |
| AC | advisory circular |
| ACAD | automated computer-aided design (operator-input+display system) |
| ACE | airport certified employee |
| ACI | Airports Council International |
| ACID | aircraft identification (ICAO) |
| ACI-NA | Airports Council International–North America |
| ACIP | Airports Capital Improvement Plan |
| ACL | altimeter check location |
| ACM | airport certification manual |
| ACPT | accept or accepted |
| ACR | air carrier |
| ACRP | Airport Cooperative Research Program |
| ACS | airport certification specifications |
| AD | airworthiness directive |
| ADA | Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 |
| ADF | automatic direction finding |
| ADG | airplane design group |
| ADM | administrative/administration |
| ADO | Airports district office |
| ADPG | ATM data processing sub-group |
| ADS-B | automatic dependent surveillance–broadcast |
| ADZ | advise |
| ADZD | advised |
| ADZY | advisory |
| AEP | airport emergency plan |
| AFB | Air Force base |

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|----------------|--|
| AFFF | aqueous film-forming foam |
| AFSS | automated flight service station |
| AGL | above ground level |
| AIM | Aeronautical Information Manual |
| AIP | Airport Improvement Program |
| ALP | airport layout plan |
| ALPA | Air Line Pilots Association, International |
| ALRT | alert |
| ALS | approach lighting system |
| ALT | alternate |
| ALT | altitude |
| AMGR | airport manager |
| AMP | airport master plan |
| AOA | air operations area |
| AOC | airport operating certificate |
| AOCI | Airport Operators Council International |
| AOPA | Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association |
| AOZO | airport overlay zoning ordinance |
| AP | airport |
| APAPI | abbreviated precision approach path indicator |
| APCH | approach |
| APL | aircraft parking line limit |
| APLGT | airport lighting |
| APP | approach center/control (office/service) |
| APRC | approach reference code |
| APRT | airport |
| APT | airport(s) |
| APV | approach with vertical guidance (for GPS approaches) |
| ARC | airport reference code |
| ARFF | aircraft rescue and firefighting |
| ARINC | Aeronautical Radio Incorporated (a nonprofit corporation owned by member airlines to define form, fit and functions of avionics equipment) |
| ARP | airport reference point |
| ARTCC | air route traffic control center |
| ARTS | automated radar terminal system |
| ASC | airport security coordinator |
| ASD | air service development |
| ASDA | accelerate-stop distance available |
| ASMGCS | advanced surface movement guidance and control systems |
| ASOS | automated surface observation system |
| ASPH | asphalt |
| ASR | airport surveillance radar |
| ATA | actual time of arrival |
| ATC | air traffic control |
| ATCT | airport traffic control tower |
| ATIS | automatic terminal information service |
| ATO | Air Traffic Organization |
| ATP | airline transport pilot |
| AUTH | authority |
| AUTH | authorized or authorization |
| AUTOCAD | automatic computer-aided design |

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| AVAIL | available |
| AVBL | available |
| AVG | average |
| AVGAS | aviation gasoline |
| AWOS | Automated Weather Observing System |
| BAS | building automation system |
| BASE | cloud base |
| BASH | bird aircraft strike hazard |
| BC | patches (meteo) |
| BCN | beacon |
| BKN | broken (meteo) |
| BL | blowing (meteo) |
| BRL | building restriction line |
| BYD | beyond |
| CAP | civil air patrol |
| CATEX | categorical exclusion |
| CAT I | facility providing operation down to 200-foot decision height and runway visual range not less than 2,600 feet |
| CAT II a | facility providing operation with no decision height limit to and along the surface of the runway, with external visual reference during final phase of landing and with a runway visual range not less than 700 feet |
| CAT II | facility providing operation down to 100-foot decision height and runway visual range not less than 1,200 feet |
| CAT x | Category x precision approach (I, II or III) |
| Cat | category |
| CBP | U.S. Customs and Border Protection |
| CCTV | closed-circuit television |
| CEQ | Council on Environmental Quality |
| CFC | customer facility charge |
| CFI | certified flight instructor |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| CHRC | fingerprint-based criminal history records checks |
| CIG(s) | ceiling(s) |
| CIP | capital improvement program |
| CMG | cockpit to main gear |
| CMSND | commissioned |
| COM | communications (ICAO) |
| CONC | concrete |
| CONDAR | conflict detection and resolution |
| CONDOR | confidential direct occurrence report |
| CONF | conflict |
| CONFACP | conflict accept |
| CONOPS | Concept of Operations Mode S in Europe |
| CONP | connection-oriented network protocol |
| ConRACs | consolidated rental car facilities |
| CONS | continuous |
| CONST | construction or constructed |
| CSPP | construction safety and phasing plan |
| CTAF | common traffic advisory frequency |
| DA | decision altitude |
| dB | decibel |

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|---------|--|
| DBE | disadvantaged business enterprise |
| DEL | delete |
| DEP | depart, departure |
| DIS | distance |
| DME | distance measuring equipment |
| DNL | day-night average sound level |
| DOT | department of transportation |
| DR | low drifting (followed by DU SA or SN) |
| DS | dust storm (meteo) |
| DSPLCD | displaced |
| DTG | distance-to-go |
| DU | dust (meteo) |
| DUATS | Direct User Access Terminal Service |
| DW | dual wheels |
| DZ | drizzle |
| EA | environmental assessment |
| EAA | Experimental Aircraft Association |
| EAS | Essential Air Service |
| EDDA | environmental due diligence audit |
| EFAS | En Route Flight Advisory Service |
| EIS | environmental impact statement |
| ELT | emergency locator transmitter |
| EMAS | engineered materials arresting system |
| EMMP | equipment maintenance management program |
| END | stop-end (related to runway visual range) |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| EST | estimated |
| ETA | estimated time of arrival/estimating arrival |
| ETD | estimated time of departure |
| ETE | estimated time of entry |
| FAA | Federal Aviation Administration |
| FAR | Federal Aviation Regulations |
| FBO | fixed-base operator |
| FCC | Federal Communications Commission |
| FDR | full-depth reclamation |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency |
| FG | fog (meteo) |
| FICON | field condition |
| FIDS | flight information display system |
| FIMs | facility improvement measures |
| FLD | field |
| FLT | flight |
| FLT/PLN | flight plan |
| FMV | fair market value |
| FNS | Federal NOTAM System |
| FOD | foreign object damage (debris) |
| FONSI | finding of no significant impact |
| FRONT | front (relating to weather) |
| FRQ | frequent |
| FSD | federal security director |
| FSDO | Flight Standards District Office |

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|--------------|--|
| FSL | full stop landing |
| FSS | flight service station |
| FU | smoke (meteo) |
| FZ | freezing (meteo) |
| FZDZ | freezing drizzle |
| FZFG | freezing fog |
| FZRA | freezing rain |
| G | gusts (meteo) |
| G/G | ground/ground |
| GA | general aviation |
| GAMA | General Aviation Manufacturers Association |
| GHG | greenhouse gases |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| GMT | Greenwich Mean Time |
| GND | ground level |
| GOVT | government |
| GP | glide path |
| GPS | global positioning system |
| GPU | ground power unit |
| GQS | glide path qualification surface (now vertical guidance surface) |
| GR | hail > 5 mm (meteo) |
| GRASS | grass landing area |
| GRVL | gravel |
| GS | glide slope indicator |
| GS | small hail or snow pellets (meteo) |
| GW | gross weight |
| HDG | heading |
| HIRL | high-intensity runway lights |
| HURCN | hurricane |
| HVY | heavy |
| IAAE | International Association of Airport Executives |
| IC | ice crystals (meteo) (very small; also known as diamond dust) |
| ICAA | International Civil Airports Association |
| ICAO | International Civil Aviation Organization |
| IFE | independent fee estimate |
| IFR | instrument flight rules |
| ILS | instrument landing system |
| IM | inner marker |
| INOP | inoperative |
| INSTR | instrument |
| INTST | intensity |
| IROPS | irregular operations |
| IATA | International Air Transport Association |
| ITP | into plane |
| KPI | key performance indicator |
| LAA | local airport advisory |
| LAAS | local area augmentation system |
| LAHSO | land and hold short operations |
| LCTD | located |
| LDA | landing distance available |
| LDI | landing direction indicator |

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|---------------|--|
| LED | light-emitting diode |
| LEED® | Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design |
| LF | low frequency |
| LGT | light or lighting |
| LGTD | lighted |
| LIH | light intensity high |
| LIL | light intensity low |
| LIM | light intensity medium |
| LLWAS | low-level windshear alert system |
| LNAV | lateral navigation (for GPS approaches) |
| LOA | letter of agreement |
| LOC | localizer (part of an ILS system) |
| LPV | localizer performance with vertical guidance (for GPS approaches) |
| LSA | light sport aircraft |
| LVL | level |
| LVP | low-visibility procedure |
| LYR | layer or layered |
| MAG | magnetic |
| MAGVAR | magnetic variation |
| MAINT | maintenance |
| MALS | medium-intensity approach lighting system |
| MALSF | medium-intensity approach lighting system with sequenced flashers |
| MALSR | medium-intensity approach lighting system with runway alignment indicator lights |
| MAP | missed approach point |
| MAP | military airport program |
| Mb | millibars |
| MDA | minimum descent altitude |
| MET | meteorological (office) |
| MET | meteorological or request METAR |
| METAR | meteorological aviation routine weather report/actual report |
| MHVDF | medium, high and very high frequency direction-finding station (at the same location) |
| MHz | megahertz |
| MID | midpoint (related to runway visual range) |
| MIL | military |
| MIN | minimum |
| Min | minutes |
| MIRL | medium-intensity runway light |
| MLS | microwave landing system |
| MM | middle marker |
| MN | magnetic north |
| MOA | memorandum of agreement |
| MOA | military operations area |
| MOD | moderate (used to indicate the intensity of weather phenomena, interference or static reports, e.g., MOD RA = moderate rain) |
| MOGAS | motor gasoline |
| MOS | minimum operating strip |
| MOS | modification to standards |
| MOU | memorandum of understanding |
| MPH | statute miles per hour |

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|-----------------|--|
| MPO | metropolitan planning organization |
| MSL | mean sea level |
| MTOW | maximum takeoff weight |
| MUNI | municipal |
| MVAR | magnetic variation |
| NAAQS | National Ambient Air Quality Standards |
| NAS | National Airspace System |
| NASA | National Aeronautics and Space Administration (U.S.) |
| NASAO | National Association of State Aviation Officials |
| NAS-Plan | National Airspace System Plan |
| NATA | National Air Transportation Association |
| NAV | navigation |
| NAVAID | navigational aid |
| NBAA | National Business Aviation Association |
| NDB | nondirectional beacon |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act |
| NextGen | Next Generation Air Transportation System |
| NFPA | National Fire Protection Association |
| NIMS | National Incident Management System |
| NM | nautical mile (= 1.1508 statute miles) |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration |
| NONSTD | nonstandard |
| NOSIG | no significant change (used in trend-type landing forecasts) |
| NOTAM | Notice to Airmen |
| NOTAMC | NOTAM cancelling another NOTAM |
| NOTAMN | new NOTAM |
| NOTAMR | NOTAM replacing another NOTAM |
| NPA | nonprecision approach |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| NPE | nonprimary entitlement |
| NPIAS | National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems |
| NPRM | notice of proposed rulemaking (FAA) |
| NTAP | Notice to Airmen publication |
| NTSB | National Transportation Safety Board (U.S.) |
| NWS | National Weather Service |
| OBSC | obscured, obscure or obscuring |
| OBST | obstacle, obstruction |
| OBSTL | obstruction lights |
| OCS | obstacle clearance surface |
| OE/AAA | Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis |
| OFA | object-free area |
| OFZ | obstacle-free zone |
| OJT | on-the-job training |
| OPLAN | operational plan |
| OPS | operations |
| OTS | out of service |
| OVC | overcast (meteo) |
| OVR | over |
| PA | precision approach |
| PAPI | precision approach path indicator |
| PAT | pattern |

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|---------------|--|
| PAX | passengers |
| PBN | performance-based navigation |
| PCI | pavement condition index |
| PCL | pilot-controlled lighting |
| PE | ice pellets |
| PFC | passenger facility charge |
| PIREP | pilot weather report (ICAO) |
| PNR | prior notice required |
| PPR | prior permission required |
| PRKG | parking |
| PRL | pilot request, level (service) |
| PRM | precision runway monitor |
| PROP | propeller |
| R | right (runway identification) |
| RADAR | radio detecting and ranging |
| RAG | runway arresting gear |
| RAI | runway alignment indicator |
| RAIL | runway alignment indicator lights |
| RAPCON | radar approach control facility |
| RCAM | runway condition assessments matrix |
| RCL | runway center line |
| RCLL | runway center line lights |
| RCMT | regulation compliance management tool |
| RCR | runway condition reading |
| RDC | runway design code |
| REDL | runway edge light(s) |
| REIL | runway end identifier lights |
| RENL | runway end light(s) |
| RESA | runway end safety area (ICAO) |
| RF | radio frequency |
| RFF | rescue and firefighting |
| RFI | request for information |
| RFQ | request for qualifications |
| RL | runway lights |
| RMK | remark(s) |
| RNAV | area navigation (generic acronym for any device capable of aircraft guidance between pilot-defined waypoints) |
| RNP | required navigation performance |
| ROD | record of decision |
| RPZ | runway protection zone |
| RQRD | required |
| RSA | runway safety area |
| RTE | route |
| RTHL | runway threshold light(s) |
| RTN | return or returned or returning |
| RTO | reduced takeoff and landing |
| RTS | return to service |
| RVR | runway visual range |
| RVRM | runway visual range midpoint |
| RVRR | runway visual range rollout |
| RVRT | runway visual range touchdown |

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|----------------|--|
| RW | runway |
| RWEWP | runway end waypoint |
| RWIWP | runway intercept waypoint |
| RWY WP | runway waypoint |
| RWY | runway |
| SA | sand (meteo) |
| SASO | specialized aviation service operation |
| SCASDP | Small Community Air Service Development Program |
| SG | snow grains (meteo) |
| SGHAT | Solar Glare Hazard Analysis Tool |
| SICP | snow and ice control plan |
| SID | standard instrument departure (route) |
| SIDA | secure identification display area |
| SIGMET | significant meteorological information (broadcast warnings of weather hazards) |
| SIGWX | significant weather |
| SIR | packed or compacted snow and ice on runway(s) |
| SMGC | surface movement guidance and control |
| SMO | FAA system management office |
| SMS | safety management system |
| SN | snow (meteo) |
| SNOWTAM | A special series NOTAM noting the presence or removal of hazardous conditions due to snow, ice, slush or standing water associated with snow, slush and ice on the movement area, by means of a specific pro forma |
| SOP | standard operating procedures |
| SOQ | statement of qualifications |
| SPCC | spill prevention, control and countermeasure plan |
| SRA | safety risk assessment |
| SRE | snow removal equipment |
| SRM | safety risk management |
| SS | sand storm (meteo) |
| SSI | sensitive security information |
| STA | sequence/scheduled time of arrival |
| STA | straight-in approach |
| STAR | standard terminal arrival route |
| STD | scheduled time of departure |
| STD | standard (altimeter setting) |
| STN | station |
| STOL | short takeoff and landing |
| SUA | special-use airspace |
| sUAV | small unmanned aerial vehicle |
| SVC | service (message) |
| SVCBL | serviceable |
| SVFR | special VFR |
| SWOT | strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats |
| SWPPP | stormwater pollution prevention plan |
| SWY | stopway (ICAO) |
| T | temperature |
| T/O | takeoff |
| TA | traffic advisory (ACAS/TCAS) |

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|----------------|---|
| TACAN | UHF tactical air navigation aid (azimuth and DME) |
| TALPA | takeoff and landing performance assessment |
| TAS | traffic advisory system |
| TBA | to be advised |
| TBD | to be determined (defined) |
| TBL | triple bottom line |
| TCAS | traffic (alert and) collision avoidance system |
| TCH | threshold crossing height |
| TDG | taxiway design group |
| TDR | transfer of development rights |
| TDZ LGT | touchdown zone lights |
| TDZ | touchdown zone |
| TDZL | touchdown zone lights |
| TEMP | temperature |
| TERPS | U.S. terminal instrument procedures |
| TFMSC | traffic flow management system counts |
| TFR | temporary flight restriction |
| TGL | touch-and-go landing |
| THDG | true heading |
| TIP | transportation improvement program |
| TLOF | touchdown and lift-off area |
| TN | true north |
| TO | takeoff |
| TODA | takeoff distance available |
| TORA | takeoff run available |
| TRB | Transportation Research Board |
| TRSA | terminal radar service area |
| TSA | taxiway safety area |
| TSA | Transportation Security Administration |
| TSR | transportation security regulation |
| TW | taxiway |
| TWS | Terminal Weather Service (ICAO) |
| TWY | taxiway |
| TWYL | taxiway lights |
| UAS | unmanned aircraft system |
| UAV | unmanned aerial vehicle |
| UFA | user-fee airports |
| UFN | until further notice |
| UFO | unidentified flying object |
| UGM | urban growth management |
| UHF | ultra high frequency |
| UNAVBL | unavailable |
| UNL | unlimited |
| UNLGT | unlighted |
| UNMKD | unmarked |
| UNMNT | unmonitored |
| U.S.C. | United States Code |
| USDA | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| UTC | Universal Time Coordinates |
| VALE | Voluntary Airport Low Emissions Program |

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|---|--|
| VASI | visual approach slope indicator |
| VDP | visual descent point |
| VFR | visual flight rules |
| VGS | vertical guidance surface (formerly glide path qualification surface) |
| VHF | very high frequency |
| VIS | visibility |
| VLJ | very light jet |
| VNAV | vertical navigation (for GPS approaches) |
| VOL | volume |
| VOR | VHF omnidirectional range |
| VOR-DME | VHF omnidirectional range/distance measurement equipment |
| VORTAC, VOR/TAC or VOR-TACAN | combined VOR and TACAN |
| VSB | visibility |
| VTOL | vertical takeoff and landing |
| WAAS | wide area augmentation system |
| WAC | world aeronautical chart |
| WAFS | World Area Forecast System |
| WHA | wildlife hazard assessment |
| WHMP | wildlife hazard management plan |
| WHSV | wildlife hazard site visit |
| WHWG | wildlife hazard working group |
| WILCO | will comply |
| WINDMG | wind magnitude |
| WINDR | wind direction |
| WKN | weaken or weakening |
| WND | wind |
| WPT | waypoint |
| WQC | water quality certificate |
| WRNG | warning |
| WS | wind shear |
| WSPD | wind speed |
| WSR | wet snow on runway(s) |
| WT | weight |
| WTR | water on runway(s) |
| WTWS | wind shear and turbulence warning system |
| WWW | World Wide Web (Internet) |
| WX | weather |
| X-BAND | frequency range between 8,000 and 12,500 MHz |
| XFSS | auxiliary flight service station |
| XMIT | transmit |
| X-Wind | crosswind |
| XX | heavy (used to qualify weather such as rain; e.g., heavy rain = XX RA) |
| Z | Zulu time (Greenwich Mean Time) |