

# GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

## A

A	amplitude; augmentation; away (altitude intercept); Arctic/Antarctic (air mass).
a	semimajor axis.
<i>a</i>	altitude intercept (Ho~Hc); altitude factor (change of altitude in 1 minute of time from meridian transit); assumed.
ABAND	abandoned.
AC	alternating current; altocumulus.
ACC	Antarctic Circumpolar Current.
add'l	additional.
ADF	automatic direction finder.
ADIZ	air defense identification zone.
AEB	acquisition exclusion boundary.
AERO	aeronautical.
AF	audio frequency.
AFC	automatic frequency control.
AGC	automatic gain control.
AISM	Association Internationale de Signalisation Maritime (International Association of Lighthouse Authorities).
aL	assumed latitude.
Al., Alt, <i>A.L.R.S.</i>	alternating (light). <i>Admiralty List of Radio Signals.</i>
am	amber.
AM	amplitude modulation.
AM	ante meridian (before noon).
Anch	anchorage.
antilog	antilogarithm.
AP	assumed position.
approx.	approximate, approximately.
ARPA	automatic radar plotting aid.
ASAM	anti-ship action message.
ASF	Additional Secondary Phase Factor.
AT	atomic time.
AU	astronomical unit.
AUSREP	Australian Ships Reporting System.
al	assumed longitude.

## B

B	atmospheric pressure correction (altitude); bearing, bearing angle.
Bdy Mon	boundary monument.
BFO	beat frequency oscillator.

BIH	Bureau Internationale de l'Heure.
BIPM	International Bureau of Weights and Measures.
bk	broken.
bkw	breakwater.
bl	blue.
BM	bench mark.
Bn	beacon.
Bpgc	bearing per gyrocompass.
br	breakers.
Brg.	bearing (as distinguished from bearing angle).
bu	blue.

## C

C	Celsius (centigrade); chronometer time; compass (direction); correction; course, course angle; can; cylindrical; cove.
CALM	catenary anchor leg mooring.
CB	compass bearing.
CBDR	constant bearing, decreasing range.
CC	compass course; chronometer correction.
CCIR	International Radio Consultative Committee.
CCU	Consultative Committee for Units of the International Committee of Weights and Measures (CIPM).
CCZ	Coastal Confluence Zone.
cd	candela, candelas.
CD	chart datum.
CD-ROM	compact disk-read only memory.
CG	Coast Guard.
CE	chronometer error- compass error.
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations.
cec	centicycle.
cel	centilane.
CEP	circular probable error.
CES	coast earth station.
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations.
CGPM	General Conference of Weights and Measures.
CH	compass heading.
CIPM	International Committee of Weights and Measures.
Cl	clearance.

cm	centimeter(s).
CMG	course made good.
Cn	course (as distinguished from course angle).
co	coral.
co-	the complement of (90° minus).
COA	course of advance.
COE	Committee on ECDIS (IHO).
COG	course over ground.
coL	colatitude.
colog	cologarithm.
corr.	correction.
cos	cosine.
cot	cotangent.
cov	coversine.
CPA	closest point of approach.
CPE	circular probable error.
Cpgc	course per gyrocompass.
cps	cycles per second.
Cpsc	course per standard compass.
Cp stg c	course per steering compass.
CPU	central processing unit.
crs	course.
CRT	cathode-ray tube.
csc	cosecant.
cup	cupola.
Cus Ho	customs house.
CW	continuous wave.
CZn	compass azimuth.

**D**

D	deviation; dip (of horizon); distance; destroyed.
d	declination (astronomical); altitude difference.
d	declination change in 1 hour.
dA	difference of longitude (time units).
DC	direct current.
deg.	degree(s).
Dec.	declination.
Dec. Inc.	declination increment.
Dep.	departure.
destr	destroyed.
Dev.	deviation.
DG	degaussing.
DGPS	differential global positioning system.
DHQ	mean diurnal high water inequality.
Dia	diaphone.
diff.	difference.
Dist.	distance.
D. Lat.	difference of latitude.
DLo	difference of longitude (arc units).
DLQ	mean diurnal low water inequality.
dm	decimeters.

DMAHTC	Defense Mapping Agency Hydrographic/Topographic Center.
DNC	digital navigation chart.
dol	dolphin.
DR	dead reckoning; dead reckoning position.
DRE	dead reckoning equipment.
DRM	direction of relative movement.
DRT	dead reckoning tracer.
Ds	dip short of horizon.
DSC	digital selective calling.
DSD	double second difference.
DSVL	doppler sonar velocity log.
dur.	duration.
DW	Deep Water Route.
DZ	danger zone.

**E**

E	east.
e	base of Napierian logarithms; origin of own ship's true vector.
e	eccentricity.
EBL	electronic bearing line.
ECD	envelope to cycle difference; envelope to cycle discrepancy.
EC	electronic chart.
ECDB	electronic chart data base.
ECDIS	electronic chart display and information system.
ED	existence doubtful.
EDD	estimated date of departure.
EEZ	exclusive economic zone.
EGC	enhanced group calling.
EHF	extremely high frequency.
E. Int.	equal interval; isophase.
EM	electromagnetic (underwater log).
em	other ship's true vector.
ENC	electronic navigation chart.
ENCDB	electronic navigation chart data base.
EP	estimated position.
EPIRB	Emergency Position Indicating Radio-beacon.
EPROM	erasable programmable read only memory.
Eq.T	equation of time.
er	own ship's true vector.
ET	Ephemeris Time.
ETA	estimated time of arrival.
ETD	estimated time of departure.
Exting	extinguished.

**F**

F	Fahrenheit; fast; longitude factor; phase correction (altitude); fixed (light)
f	latitude factor.

f flattening or ellipticity.  
 F.Fl. fixed and flashing.  
 Fl. flashing (light).  
 Fl. (2) group flashing (light).  
 Fl. (2+1) composite group flashing (light).  
 fm(s) fathom(s).  
 FM frequency modulation.  
 Fog Det. fog detector.  
 Fog Sig. fog signal.  
 ft. foot, feet.  
 FTC fast time constant.

**G**

G Greenwich; Greenwich meridian (upper branch); grid (direction); gravel; green.  
 g acceleration due to gravity; Greenwich meridian (lower branch).  
 GAT Greenwich apparent time.  
 GB grid bearing.  
 GC grid course.  
 GCLWD Gulf Coast Low Water Datum.  
 GDOP geometric dilution of precision.  
 GE gyro error.  
 GH grid heading.  
 GHA Greenwich hour angle.  
 GMDSS Global Maritime Distress and Safety System.  
 GMT Greenwich mean time.  
 Gp. Fl. group flashing.  
 GP geographical position.  
 GPS Global Positioning System.  
 Gr. Greenwich.  
 GRI group repetition interval.  
 GST Greenwich sidereal time.  
 GV grid variation.  
 GZn grid azimuth.

**H**

h altitude (astronomical); height above sea level; hours.  
 ha apparent altitude.  
 Hc computed altitude.  
 Hdg. heading.  
 HE heeling error; height of eye.  
 HF high frequency.  
 hf height above sea level in feet.  
 HHW higher high water.  
 HHWI higher high water interval.  
 Hk hulk.  
 HLW higher low water.  
 HLWI higher low water interval.  
 hm height above sea level in meters.

Ho observed altitude.  
 Hor horizontal.  
 Hor Cl horizontal clearance.  
 HP horizontal parallax.  
 Hp precomputed altitude.  
 Hpgc heading per gyrocompass.  
 Hpsc heading per standard compass.  
 Hp stg c heading per steering compass.  
 hr rectified (apparent) altitude.  
 hr. hour, hrs., hours.  
 hs sextant altitude.  
 HSD high speed data.  
 ht tabulated altitude.  
 HW high water.  
 H.W.F.&C. high water full and change.  
 HWI high water interval, mean high water lunitidal interval.  
 HWQ tropic high water inequality.  
 Hz Hertz.

**I**

I instrument correction.  
 i inclination (of satellite orbit).  
 IALA International Association of Lighthouse Authorities.  
 IAU International Astronomical Union.  
 IC index correction.  
 ICW Intracoastal Waterway.  
 IGLD International Great Lakes Datum.  
 IHB International Hydrographic Bureau.  
 IHO International Hydrographic Organization.  
 IMO International Maritime Organization.  
 in. inch, inches.  
 INM International Nautical Mile.  
 INMARSAT International Maritime Satellite Organization.  
 INS inertial navigation system.  
 int. interval.  
 Int. Qk. Interrupted quick flashing.  
 ION Institute of Navigation.  
 I.Q. interrupted quick flashing.  
 IR interference rejection.  
 IRP image-retaining panel.  
 ISLW Indian spring low water.  
 ISO International Order of Standardization; isophase (light).  
 ITU International Telecommunications Union.  
 IUGG International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics.  
 I.U.Q. interrupted ultra quick flashing.  
 I.V.Q. interrupted very quick flashing.  
 IWW Intracoastal Waterway.

**J – K – L**

J	irradiation correction (altitude).
K	Kelvin (temperature).
kHz	kilohertz.
km	kilometer, kilometers.
kn	knot, knots.
L	latitude; lower limb correction for moon.
l	difference of latitude; logarithm, logarithmic.
LAN	local apparent noon.
LANBY	large automatic navigational buoy.
LASH	lighter aboard ship.
LAT	local apparent time.
lat.	latitude.
LF	low frequency.
L.Fl.	long flashing.
LHA	local hour angle.
LHW	lower high water.
LHWI	lower high water interval.
LL	lower limb.
LLW	lower low water.
LLWD	lower low water datum.
LLWI	lower low water interval.
Lm	middle latitude; mean latitude.
LMT	local mean time.
LNB	large navigational buoy.
LNG	liquified natural gas.
LPG	liquified petroleum gas.
Log	logarithm, logarithmic.
Loge	natural logarithm (to the base e).
Log10	common logarithm (to the base 10).
Long.	longitude.
LOP	line of position.
LST	local sidereal time.
Lt.	light.
Lt Ho	light house.
Lt V	light vessel.
LW	low water.
LWD	low water datum.
LWI	low water interval; mean low water lunitidal interval.
LWQ	tropic low water inequality.

**M**

M	celestial body; meridian (upper branch); magnetic (direction); meridional parts; nautical mile, miles; other ship.
m	meridian (lower branch); meridional difference; meter,(s); U.S. survey mile, miles; end of other ship's true vector; minutes.
mag.	magnetic; magnitude.
MARAD	United States Maritime Administration.
MB	magnetic bearing.

mb	millibar(s).
MC	magnetic course.
mc	megacycle, megacycles; megacycles per second.
MC&G	mapping, charting and geodesy.
MCPA	minutes to closest point of approach.
Mer. Pass.	meridian passage.
MF	medium frequency.
MGRS	military grid reference system.
MH	magnetic heading.
MHHW	mean higher high water.
MHHWL	mean higher high water line.
MHW	mean high water.
MHWI	mean high water lunitidal interval.
MHWL	mean high water line.
MHWN	neap high water or high water neaps.
MHWS	mean high water springs.
MHz	megahertz.
mi.	mile, miles.
mid	middle.
min.	minute(s).
MLLW	mean lower low water.
MLLWL	mean lower low water line.
MLW	mean low water.
MLWI	mean low water lunitidal interval.
MLWL	mean low water line.
MLWN	neap low water or low water neaps.
MLWS	mean low water springs.
mm	millimeters.
Mn	mean range of tide.
mo(s)	month(s).
MODU	mobile offshore drilling unit.
Mon	monument.
Mo.(U)	Morse Uniform (light).
mph	miles per hour.
MPP	most probable position.
MRI	mean rise interval.
MRM	miles of relative movement.
ms	millisecond(s).
MSC	Military Sealift Command.
MSI	maritime safety information.
MSL	mean sea level.
MTI	moving target indication.
MTL	mean tide level.
MWL	mean water level.
MWLL	mean water level line.
MZn	magnetic azimuth.

**N**

N	north; nun.
n	natural (trigonometric function).
Na	nadir.
NAD	North American Datum.
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

NAUTO nautophone.  
 NAVSAT Navy Navigation Satellite System.  
 NAVSSI navigation sensor system interface.  
 NBDP narrow band direct printing.  
 NBS National Bureau of Standards.  
 NCS network coordination station.  
 NESS National Earth Satellite Service.  
 NGVD National Geodetic Vertical Datum.  
 NLT not less than (used with danger bearing).  
 n. mi. nautical mile(s).  
 NM nautical mile, miles; notice to mariners.  
 NMEA National Marine Electronics Association.  
 NMT not more than (used with danger bearing).  
 NNSS Navy Navigation Satellite System.  
 NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.  
 NOS National Ocean Service.  
 NRML new relative movement line.  
 NtM notice to mariners.  
 NWS National Weather Service.

**O**

Obsc obscured.  
 Obs Spot Observation spot.  
 Obstr obstruction.  
 Oc. occulting.  
 Oc.(2) group occulting.  
 Oc.(2+1) composite group occulting.  
 Occas occasional.  
 ODAS oceanographic data acquisition systems.  
 Or orange.  
 OTC officer in tactical command.  
 OTSR Optimum Track Ship Routing.

**P**

P atmospheric pressure; parallax; planet; pole; pillar.  
 p departure; polar distance.  
 PA position approximate.  
 PC personal correction; personal computer.  
 PD position doubtful.  
 PCA polar cap absorption.  
 PCD polar cap disturbance.  
 PCP potential point of collision.  
 pgc per gyrocompass.  
 P in A parallax in altitude.  
 PM pulse modulation.  
 PM post meridian (after noon).  
 Pn north pole; north celestial pole.  
 PPC predicted propagation correction.  
 PPDB point positioning data base.

PPI plan position indicator.  
 PRF pulse repetition frequency.  
 Priv private; privately.  
 PROHIB prohibited.  
 PRR pulse repetition rate.  
 Ps south pole; south celestial pole.  
 psc per standard compass.  
 p stg c per steering compass.  
 Pub. publication.  
 PV prime vertical.  
 Pyl pylon.

**Q**

Q quick flashing.  
 Q(3) group quick flashing (3 flashes).  
 Q(6)+L.FI. group quick flashing (6 flashes) plus a long flash.  
 Q Polaris correction.  
 QQ' celestial equator.

**R**

r end of own ship's true vector.  
 R Rankine (temperature); refraction; own ship; red; rocky; coast radio station.  
 RA right ascension.  
 RACON radar transponder beacon.  
 rad radian(s).  
 RB relative bearing.  
 R Bn radiobeacon.  
 RCC Rescue Coordination Center.  
 RDF radio direction finder, RDF station.  
 Rep. reported.  
 rev. reversed.  
 RF (rf) radio frequency.  
 R Fix running fix.  
 rk rock, rocky.  
 RLG ring laser gyro.  
 rm relative DRM-SRM vector.  
 R Mast radio mast.  
 RORO roll-on/roll-off.  
 RML relative movement line.  
 RMS root mean square.  
 RSS root sum square.  
 RTCM Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services.  
 RZn relative azimuth.

**S**

s second(s).  
 S sea-air temperature difference correction; slow; south; set; speed; sand.

SALM single anchor leg mooring.  
 SAM system area monitor.  
 SAR search and rescue.  
 SART search and rescue radar transponder.  
 SBM single buoy mooring.  
 SD semidiameter; sounding doubtful.  
 sec secant.  
 sec. second, seconds.  
 semidur. semiduration.  
 SENC system electronic navigation chart.  
 SES ship earth station.  
 SF Secondary Phase Factor.  
 SH ship's head (heading).  
 SHA sidereal hour angle.  
 SHF super high frequency.  
 SI International System of Units.  
 SID sudden ionospheric disturbance.  
 sin sine.  
 SINS Ships Inertial Navigation System.  
 SLD sea level datum.  
 SMG speed made good.  
 SNR signal-to-noise ratio.  
 SOA speed of advance.  
 SOG speed over ground.  
 SOLAS Safety of Life at Sea Convention.  
 SP spire; spherical.  
 SPA sudden phase anomaly.  
 SPM single point mooring.  
 SRM speed of relative movement.  
 SS signal station.  
 U.S. Sur M U.S. Survey mile(s).  
 sub, subm submerged.

**T**

T air temperature correction (altitude); table; temperature; time; toward (altitude intercept); true (direction).  
 t dry-bulb temperature; elapsed time; meridian angle.  
 t' wet-bulb temperature.  
 tab. table.  
 TAI International Atomic Time.  
 tan tangent.  
 TB true bearing; turning bearing; air temperature atmospheric pressure correction (altitude).  
 TC true course.  
 TCA time of satellite closest approach.  
 TCPA time to closest point of approach.  
 TcHHW tropic higher high water.  
 TcHHWI tropic higher high water interval.  
 TcHLW tropic higher low water.  
 TcLHW tropic lower high water.  
 TcLLW tropic lower low water.  
 TcLLWI tropic lower low water interval.

TD time difference (Loran C).  
 Tel telephone; telegraph.  
 TG time difference of groundwaves from master and secondary (slave) stations (Loran).  
 TGS time difference of groundwave from master and skywave from secondary (slave) station (Loran).  
 TH true heading.  
 TMG track made good.  
 TOD time of day (clock).  
 Tk tank.  
 TR track.  
 Tr transit; tower.  
 Ts time difference of skywaves from master and secondary (slave) stations (Loran).  
 TSG time difference of skywave from master and groundwave from secondary (slave) station (Loran).  
 TSS traffic separation scheme.  
 TZn true azimuth.

**U**

U upper limb correction for moon.  
 UHF ultra high frequency.  
 UL upper limb.  
 Uncov uncovers.  
 UPS Universal Polar Stereographic.  
 U.Q. ultra quick flashing.  
 USGS United States Geodetic Survey.  
 USWMS Uniform State Waterway Marking System.  
 UT Universal Time.  
 UT0 Universal Time 0.  
 UT1 Universal Time 1.  
 UT2 Universal Time 2.  
 UTC Coordinated Universal Time.  
 UTM Universal Transverse Mercator.

**V**

V variation; vertex.  
 v excess of GHA change from adopted value for 1 hour.  
 var. variation.  
 vel velocity.  
 Ver vertical.  
 VHF very high frequency.  
 VHSD very high speed data.  
 Vi violet.  
 VLCC very large crude carrier.  
 VLF very low frequency.  
 VPF vector product format.

vol  
VPF  
V.Q.  
V.Q.(3)  
VRM  
VTS

volcano; volcanic.  
vector product format.  
very quick flashing.  
group very quick flashing.  
variable range marker.  
vessel traffic service.

## W

W  
WARC  
WE  
WGS  
Wk  
WMO  
WWNWS

west; white.  
World Administrative Radio Council.  
watch error.  
World Geodetic System.  
wreck.  
World Meteorological Organization.  
World Wide Navigational Warning Service.

WT watch time.

## X – Y – Z

X  
XMTR  
y.  
yd(s).  
yr(s).  
z  
Z  
ZD  
Z Diff.  
Zn  
Znpgc

parallactic angle.  
transmitter.  
yellow.  
yard(s).  
year(s).  
zenith distance.  
azimuth angle; zenith.  
zone description.  
azimuth angle difference.  
azimuth.  
azimuth per gyrocompass.

