SATELLITE RELATED

ACRONYMS,

ABBREVIATIONS,

ANNOTATIONS,

ADAPTATIONS,

AND

ASSOCIATED

ALTERNATIVES

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INTRODUCTION

This paper delineates a number of acronyms, etc., that occur frequently or sometimes so infrequently that the meaning/interpretation of the term is lost. It is becoming ever increasingly difficult to retain the evolving terminology related to the Earth satellite programs of not just the United States, but also the many nations that now participate in the space program. The list is ever growing and I have received comments on how such a list can be improved by including much more information than just the original meaning. Many people have helped by providing lists of acronyms to be incorporated. Many terms have become generic. Six of the major sources that can serve as a resource to others are in the bibliography.

For the most part units have not been included and will be the subject of a separate paper at some future time. I have not attempted to purge "old" acronyms that are not in common usage now. When dealing with the international community, in particular the developing countries, many old publications and literature are frequently discussed. I find the "oldies" to come in handy. Purposely I have omitted the names/abbreviations of commercial companies in the United States, although certain specific foreign companies are included.

Not all acronyms and abbreviations are necessarily found in the publications and documents of NOAA, NASA, DoD, etc., but fall in the category of "slang" that one hears in briefings, hallways, farewells, etc. It is hoped that the inclusion of these terms will help the uninitiated. I expect to informally issue revised versions of this list on a yearly basis. Publishing it more formally in the annual NOAA Technical Memorandum Series (NESDIS - No.) is
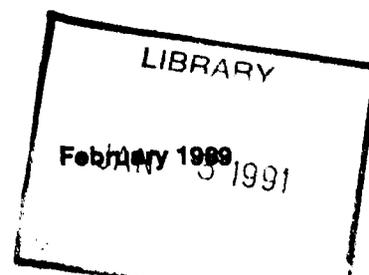
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
TIROS Satellites and Satellite Meteorology

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being considered. It would be particularly helpful if the user's knowledge of any of the original meanings could be forwarded to me to help improve the listing.

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Payload Flight Assignments NASA Mixed Fleet, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Office of Space Flight (this document is also posted on the NASA Mail.L Bulletin Board), Washington, DC; January 1989.

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
A	[Mode] GOES 1-7 VISSR operational data format(discont'd 1987)
A & T	assembly & test
AA	Assistant Administrator
AA	[Mode] GOES 4-7 VAS research data format (discont'd May 1987)
AAA	[Mode] GOES 1-7 VAS operat. data format(to be replaced by GVAR
AAAA	Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Associated Alternatives (this document only)
AAC	Alaskan Air Command
AAFE	Advanced Applications Flight Experiment (old NASA acronym)
AAFE	Aeroassist Flight Experiment (related to AOTV)
AAM	apogee adjust maneuver
AB	as-built
ABI	NWS station identifier for Abilene, TX
ABLE	Atmospheric Boundary Layer Experiment
ac	alternating current
AC	Atlas Centaur (intermediate class ELV)
ACB	Applied Climatology Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
ACCESS	Assembly Concept for Construction of Erectable Space Structure (NASA)
ACCS	Ambroziak Color-Coordinate System
ACES	Acoustic Containerless Experiment System (NASA/microgravity)
ACGE	Analog Command Generation Equipment (NASA)
ACN	Ascension Island
ACR	active cavity radiometer
ACRIM	Active Cavity Radiometer Irradiance Monitor (SMM)
ACTS	Advanced Communications Technology Satellite (NASA)
ACZCS	Advanced Coastal Zone Color Scanner
AD	as-designed
ADACS	Attitude Determination and Control System
ADCLS	Advanced Data Collection and Location System
ADE	array drive electronics
ADEOS	Advanced Earth Observing System (Japan)
ADESS	Automatic Data Editing and Switching System
ADM	Administrator or Administration
ADM	Admiral
ADM	angular dependence models
ADM	Attitude Data Multiplexer (GOES I-M)
ADP	automated data processing (or processor)
ADPE	automatic data processing equipment
ADPUPA	Automated Data Processing Upper Air
ADS	Angular Displacement Sensor (GOES I-M)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ADS	atmospheric density specifications
ADS	attitude determination software
ADSF	Automatic Directional Solidification Furnace (NASA, materials)
ANDOSL	Advanced Night/Day Optical Survey of Lightning (NASA/optical monitoring)
AE	Autumnal Equinox
AEG	Atlantic Environmental Group (NOAA)
AEM	Applications Explorer Mission (NASA, either an A or B follows)
AES	Atmospheric Environmental Service (Canada)
AF	Air Force
AF Polar Bear	
	Air Force Polar Bear (atmospheric effects on EM propagation)
AFB	Air Force Base
AFE	American Flight Echocardiograph (NASA, cardiovascular)
AFESMC	Air Force Eastern Space and Missile Center (Cape Kennedy, FL)
AFETR	Air Force Eastern Test Range
AFGL	Air Force Geophysics Laboratory (Bedford, MA)
AFGWC	Air Force Global Weather Center (Offutt AFB,Omaha, NE)
AFITV	AF Instrumented Test Vehicle (anti-satellite target vehicle)
AFOS	Automation of Field Operations and Services
AFPRO	Air Force Plant Representative Office
AFRCC	Air Force Rescue Control Center
AFSC	Air Force System Command (Space Division, Fairchild AFB)
AFSCF	Air Force Satellite Control Facility
AFT	Aft flight deck
AFWSMC	Air Force Western Space and Missile Center (see WSMC)
AFWTR	Air Force Western Test Range
AGC	automatic gain control
AGE	aerospace ground equipment
AGO	Santiago, Chile
AgRISTARS	Agricultural Resource Inventory Survey Through Aerospace Remote Sensing (USDA led activity)
AGS	ascent guidance software
AGU	American Geophysical Union
AIAA	American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
AID	Agency for International Development (DoS)
AIDJEX	Arctic Ice Dynamics Joint Experiment
AIRIES	Artificial Intelligence Research In Environmental Sciences
AIRS	Advanced Infrared Sounder
AIRS	Atmospheric Infrared Sounder (old ITS)
AIS	Airborne Imaging Spectrometer

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
AIS	Automated Information Security
AISC	Assessment and Information Services Center (now defunct formerly with NESDIS, Washington,DC)
AKM	Apogee Kick Motor (GOES I-M)
AL	assigned level
ALC	automatic level control
ALE	Atmospheric Lifetimes Experiment
ALP	ascent load package
ALT	altitude (orbit altitude)
ALT	altimeter
ALU	arithmetic logic unit
AM	amplitude modulation
AM	assurance manager
AMAO	Advanced Missions Analysis Office (NASA)
AMBA	adaptive multibeam antenna
AMF	apogee maneuver firing
AMF	apogee motor firing
AMI	Advanced Microwave Instrument
AMIR	Advance Microwave Imaging Radiometer
AMOS	AF Maui Optical Station (AF/ground-based electro-optical sensors)
AMPTE	Active Magnetosphere Particle Tracer Experiment(NASA/solar wind)
AMR	Advanced Microwave Radiometer
AMRIR	Advanced Medium-Resolution Imaging Radiometer
AMS	American Meteorological Society
AMS	Automatic Meteorological Station
AMSR	Advanced Microwave Scanning Radiometer
AMSU	Advanced Microwave Sounding Unit
AMTS	Advanced Moisture and Temperature Sounder
AN	ascending node
ANC	active nutation control
ANS	Astronomical Netherlands Satellite (μv and x-ray)
ANSI	American National Standards Institute (nonprofit, nongovernment)
AO	Announcement of Opportunity
AOC	award of contract
AOC	Argos Operations Committee
AOCE	Attitude and Orbit Control Electronics (GOES I-M)
AOCI	Airborne Ocean Color Instrument (NASA Ames U-2 type aircraft)
AOCS	Attitude and Orbit Control Subsystem
AOIPS	Atmospheric and Oceanographic Information Processing System
AOL	Airborne Oceanographic Lidar

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
AOML	Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory (NOAA/ERL, Miami, FL)
AOS	acquisition of signal
AOS/VS	Advanced Operating System/Virtual Storage
AOTV	?
AP	Application Processor (NASA/MSOCC)
AP	array processor
APA	allowance for program adjustment
APACM	Atmospheric Physics and Chemistry Monitors
APE	Aurora Photography Experiment (NASA/extent and dynamics aurora)
APL	Applied Physics Laboratory (JHU and University of Washington)
APL	approved parts list
APR	Agency Procurement Request
APS	auxiliary propulsion system
APT	Automatic Picture Transmission (NOAA satellites)
APU	Auxilliary Processing Unit
ARABSAT	Arab Satellite (Communications satellite of ASCO)
ARC	aggregation of red cells (low-gravity blood studies)
ARC	Ames Research Center (NASA, Mountain View, CA)
ARC	aspect ratio corrected
ARGOS	French DCLS on NOAA operational satellites
ARIA	Advanced-Range Instrumentation Aircraft
ARO	after receipt of order
ARPA	Advanced Research Projects Agency (DoD)
ARPAnet	ARPA network (DoD)
AS	adapter structure
ASAP	attached science and applications payloads
ASAP	Automated Shipboard Aerological Program
ASAP	as soon as possible
ASB	Atmospheric Sciences Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
ASC	administrative support center (generic to NOAA)
ASCII	American Standard Code for Information Interchange
ASCO	Arab Satellite Communications Organization
ASD	ADP Services Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
ASD	ADP Support Division (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
ASDAR	Aircraft to Satellite Data Relay
ASDL	Aircraft-to-Satellite Data Link
ASEM	Augmented Space bnvironment Monitor
ASF	Alaska SAR Facility (NASA, Fairbanks)
ASFIS	Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Information System (FAO)
ASOS	Automated Surface Observing System (NWS, FAA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ASP	Attitude Sensor Package (foreign reimbursable Hitchhiker-G Payload)
ASRM	advanced solid rocket motor
ASTR	Advanced Sea-Surface Temperature Radiometer
ASTRO	Astronomy (Program to obtain μv on astronomical objects)
AT	acceptance test
AT	apogee thruster
ATC	active thermal control
ATD	Advanced Technology Development (NASA useage, i.e. Eos ATD)
Atlas	ELV (intermediate class)
ATLAS	Atmospheric Laboratory for Applications and Science (NASA)
ATLAS	Abbreviated Test Language for Avionics Systems
ATLID	Atmospheric Lidar
ATM	Atmospheric Sciences (NSF)
ATMOS	Atmospheric Trace Molecules Observed by Spectroscopy
ATMUL	automatic thruster momentum unloading (software)
ATN	Advanced TIROS-N
ATNAGE	Advanced TIROS-N Aerospace Ground Equipment
ATP	acceptance test plan
ATS	Applications Technology Satellite
ATSD	Adm. & Tech. Services Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
ATSR	Along-Track Scanning Radiometer (sensor on ERS-1)
AU	Astronomical Unit (mean Earth-Sun distance)
AUSSAT	Australian Communications Satellite (direct broadcast)
AUTODIN	Automatic Digital Network (U.S.)
AUTOVON	Automatic Voice Network (DoD)
AVCS	Advanced Vidicon Camera System
AVE	aerospace-vehicle equipment
AVHRR	Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer (TIROS - N)
AVRIS	Airborne Visible/Infrared Imaging Spectrometer
AWCS	Agency-Wide Coding Structure
AWIPS	Advanced Weather Interactive Processing System (NWS)
AWS	Air Weather Service
ATW	automatic weather station
AWYB	And When's Your Birthday?
AXAF	Advanced X-Ray Astrophysics Facility (NASA/free flyer)
AXBT	Airborne expendable Bathythermograph
AXI	Atmospheric X-ray Imager
A-D	analog-to Digital (converter, also A/D and ADC)
a.k.a.	also known as
A/C	aircraft

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
A/E	anti-Earth
BA	beacon antenna
BAFO	best and final offer
BB	blackbody
BB	Alphabetical designation given to an image enhancement curve
BBCal	blackbody calibration
BBXRT	Broad-band X-ray Telescope (NASA/shuttle attached payload; launch scheduled March 1990)
BCA	battery charge assembly
BCA	beacon command antenna
BCD	beacon command diplexer
BCD	binary coded decimal
BCN	beacon
BCS	battery charger sensor
BCU	bench check unit
BCX	battery charger expanded
BDA	Bermuda STDN Station (NASA)
BDR	bidirectional reflectance
BDT	bulk data transfer
BECO	booster engine cutoff
BED	Block Error Detector (NASA)
BER	bit error rate
BESEX	Bering Sea Experiment
Bhashara-1	India's experimental geostationary satellite
BIOME	Biological Imaging and Observational Mission to Earth
BIOPLATFORM	
	Biological Platform (NASA/free-flyer to conduct life sciences)
BIP	background information package
bit	contraction of binary digit, the smallest unit of information
BITnet	"Because It's Time" network
BLM	Bureau of Land Management (DoI)
BLP	backup load package
BMO	British Meteorological Office
BNSC	British National Remote Sensing Centre
BOD	biological oxygen demand
BOL	beginning of life
BOMAP	Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Analysis Project
BOMEX	Barbados Oceanographic and Meteorological Experiment
bote	back-of-the-envelope
BPE	budgetary price estimate

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
bpi	bits per inch
bps	bits per second
Bps	bytes (8 bits) per second
BPSK	biphase shift keying
BRDF	Bidirectional Reflectance Distribution Function
BRW	backup reaction wheel
BSU	Basic Sounding Unit
BTX	beacon transmitter (x implied)
BUAN	Baseline for Upper Air Network
BUFR	Binary Universal Form for data Representation
BUV	backscattered ultraviolet light
BVR	boost voltage regulator
BW	balance weights
BW	bandwidth
B/U	back-up
C	Commander (NASA/member of Shuttle flight crew in command)
C & CS	Command and Control System
C & GCP	Climate and Global Change Program (NOAA Program Office)
C & T	communications and tracking
CA	cloud analysis
CAB	Climate Applications Branch (NESDIS, Columbia, MO)
CAC	Climate Analysis Center (NWS, Camp Springs, MD)
CAD	Climatological Analysis Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
CAD	computer assisted drafting
CADH	communications and data handling
CalCOFI	California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations
CALCRUST	Consortium for Study of the California Crust
CAN	Canberra (NASA Australian Deep Space Communications Network)
CANEX-2	Canadian Experiment (Canadian payload on Space Station; launch scheduled March 1992)
CANEX	Canadian Experiment (Canadian payload on Mission 41-G)
CAP	controlled access period
CAP	cost account plan
CAPL	Capillary Pump Loop Experiment (heat transfer at low-g's)
CAPPI	constant altitude PPI (radar)
CAS	calibrated ancillary system
CAS	Cooperative Applications Satellite
CAS	Committee on Atmospheric Sciences (WMO)
CASES	Control and Structures Experiment in Space (NASA)
CASID	Climate Air-sea Interactive Drifter

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
CASP	Canadian Atlantic Storms Program
CASS	Coarse Analog Sun Sensor
CASSE	Coarse Analog Sun Sensor Electronics
CASSE	Coarse Attitude Sun Sensor Electronics (GOES I-M)
CASSINI	**Cassini** (Saturn Orbiter including rendevous with Saturn; launch scheduled April 1996)
CASTA	Center for Aerospace Science and Terrestrial Applications (UN)
CB	Control Branch (NESDIS/SOCC, Suitland, MD)
CBD	Commerce Business Daily
CBDE	Carbonated Beverage Dispenser Evaluation (NASA space experiment)
CBPIC	Chesapeake Bay Program Implementation Committee (multi-agency)
CBRSWG	Chesapeake Bay Remote Sensing Working Group (CBPIC)
CC & M	Command, Control, & Monitoring (SOCC portion of GMACS)
CCB	Configuration Control Board (NESDIS and NASA satellite systems)
CCC	central cold cover
CCC	command, control and communications
C^3I	command, control, communications, and Intelligence
CCCO	Committee for Climatic Change and the Ocean
CCD	charge coupled device
CCDH	Command, Control, and Data Handling (Eos)
CCF	Central Computer Facility
CCI	charged coupled imager
CCIR	Consultative Committee International Radio
CCITT	Consultative Committee International Telegraph and Telephone
CCN	contract change notice
CCR	configuration change request
CCR	cloud cover radiometer
CCT	computer compatible tape
CCTV	closed circuit television
CD	command diplexer
CD	compact disc
CDA	Command and Data Acquisition (NESDIS, Wallops and Gilmore Creek)
CDAS	command and data acquisition station
CDB	Climate Diagnostics Bulletin
CDB	coefficient data base
CDB	Cooperative Data Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
CDDF	Central Data Distribution Facility (NOAA, Camp Springs, MD)
CDDF	Central Data Dissemination Facility
CDED	core dynamics and the Earth's dynamo
CDF	command data formatter
CDF	common data format

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION

CDF	coded digital Fax
CDHF	Command and Data Handling Facility
CDHF	Central Data Handling Facility
CDMRSF	Commercially Developed Microgravity Research Space Facility (NASA)
CDOS	Customer Data and Operations System
CDR	Critical Design Review
CDROM	Compact Disk Read-Only Memory
CDS	Control/Diagnostic System (NASA)
CDSF	Commercially Developed Space Facility (free-flyer 1993, alternate name for ISF)
CDU	command decoding unit
CEDAR	Coupling, Energetics, and Dynamics of Atmospheric Regions
CEI	contract end Item
CELSS	Closed Environmental Life Support System
CEMSCS	Central Environmental Satellite Computer System
CEMSYS	Central Environmental Meteorological Computer System
CEOS	Committee on Earth Observations Satellites (International)
CEOS/WGD	CEOS/Working Group on Data Management
CFE	contractor furnished equipment
CFES	Continuous Flow Electrophoreseis System (NASA/pharmaceutical)
CFM	Chlorofluoromethane
CG	Coast Guard (U.S. DoT)
CGC	Climate and Global Change (NOAA/generic)
CGMS	Coordination of Geostationary Meteorological Satellites
CHAMEX	Cloud Height and Motion Experiment (also CHAMTEX)
CHAMP	Comet Halley Active Monitoring Program (STS observations of Halley's Comet)
CHAMTEX	Cloud Height and MoTion EXperiment (also CHAMEX)
CHARM	Coastal Habitat Assessment, Research, and Mensuration Program (NMFS)
Chl-a	Chlorophyll-a
CHROMEX	Chromosomes Experiment (NASA/space flight plant tissue growth)
CI	configuration Item
CIAM	Cooperative Institute for Applied Meteorology (Univ. of Missouri, Columbia, MO)
CIARS	Cooperative Institute for Applied Remote Sensing (Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman, OK)
CICS	Cooperative Institute for Climate Studies (Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD)
CIIS	Common Instrument Interface Study (NOAA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
CIMMS	Cooperative Institute for Mesoscale Meteorological Studies (Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman, OK)
CIRA State	Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere (Colorado Univ., Ft. Collins, CO)
CIRRIS	Cryogenic Infrared Radiance Instrument for Shuttle (DoD; launch scheduled July 1990)
CIRSBP	Cooperative Institute for the Remote Sensing of Global Biogeochemical Processes (Univ. of New Hampshire/Dartmouth)
CIS	Cryogenic Interferometer/Spectrometer
CITE	cargo integration test equipment
CIU	controls interface unit
CIUA	controls interface unit annex
CKTS	circuits
CLAES	Cryogenic Limb Array Etalon Spectrometer (NASA)
CLASS	Cross-chain LORAN Atmospheric Sounding System
CLIMAP	Climatic Long-range Investigation, Mapping and Prediction Project
CLS	contingency landing site
CM	center of mass
CM	configuration management
CM	contract modification
CMC	U.S.S.R. COSPAS Mission Centre
CMCC	Canadian Mission Control Center (Trenton, Ontario, Canada)
CMD	command
CMOS	complementary/metal oxide semiconductor
CMP	configuration management plan
CMU	command memory unit
CMV	cloud motion vectors
CNES	Centre Nationale d'Etudes Spatiales (French Space Agency)
CNODDS	Civilian NODDS
CNRS	Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique (France)
CNS	Computer Network System
CO	Contracting Officer
COADS	Comprehensive Ocean Atmosphere Data Set
COAP	Center for Ocean Analysis and Prediction (NOS, Monterey, CA)
COAST	combined ocean atmosphere sensing technique
COB	close of business
COB	Computer Operations Branch (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
COBE	Cosmic Background Explorer (NASA/anistropy of µwave background, launch scheduled June 1989)
COCORP	Consortium for Continental Reflection Profiling
Codar	Coast Oceanic Dynamics Applications Radar

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
CoE	Corp of Engineers (Army)
COHMAP	Cooperative Holocene Mapping Project
COLD-SAT	Cyrogenic on Orbit Liquid Depot-Storage and Transfer (NASA)
COMCS	command control software
COMSEC	communications security
COMSTAR	Commercial Communications Satellite (replaced by TELSTAR)
CONUS	Continental United States
COSEPUP	Committee on Science, Engineering, and Public Policy (NAS)
Cosmos	USSR polar satellite series (also Kosmos)
COSPAR	Committee on Space Research (ICSU)
COSPAS	Russian acronym usually teamed with SARSAT (Search and Rescue)
COSTR	Collaborative Solar Terrestrial Research
COTR	Contracting Officer's Technical Representative
COTS	commercial-off-the-shelf
CP	computer program
CPA	controls power converter
CPAF	cost-plus-award fee
CPEE	comparative planetology and the early Earth
CPIDS	Calibration Parameters Input Data Sets
CPT	comprehensive performance test
CPU	central processing unit
CR	carriage return
CR	correlation radiometer
CRAF	Comet Rendevous Asteroid Fly-by (NASA/primitive body study)
CRC	Communications Research Center (DoC)
CRC	cyclic redundancy code
CRC	cyclic redundancy check
CRCC	cyclic redundancy check character
CRCST	CZCS tape designator
CRD	command receiver/demodulator
CRISTA	Cryogenic Infrared Spectrometer Telescope for Atm. (U.S./Germany)
CROHMS	Columbia River Operational Hydrometeorological Management System
CRRES	Combined Release and Radiation Effects Satellite (NASA, launch scheduled June 1990)
CRS	Command Readout Station (AFSC, Maine and Washington states)
CRT	Calibrated Radiance Tape
CRT	cathode ray tube
CRW	crew
CS	command subsystem
CS & C	Communications Switching & Control (CDA portion of GMACS)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
CSI	Controls Structure Interaction (NASA/μ-gravity structure deployment)
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organization (Australia)
CSM	cost and schedule management
CSMA/CD	Carrier Sensing Multiple Access with Collision Detection (NASA)
CSNET	Computer Science Network
CSR	conical scanning radiometer
CSSC	COSPAS-SARSAT Steering Committee
CSSP	Committee on Solar and Space Physics (NAS)
CSTC	Consolidated Satellite Test Center (AF, Sunnyvale,CA)
CSTI	Civil Space Technology Initiative (NASA)
CSU	cross strap unit (XSU for TIROS)
CTA	cross-track angle
CTEC	Canadian Technical Evaluation Centre
CTH	cloud top height
CTM	Collapsible Tube Mast (foreign reimbursable Hitchhiker-G payload)
CTP	Command and Telemetry Processor (old GOES equipment)
CTS	clear to send
CTV	Compatability Test Van (NASA/GSFC)
CT-LED	Clear Track-LED (GOES-7 VAS mirror position encoder)
CTW	cloud track wind
CV	command verification
CVCM	collected volatile condensable materials
CW	continuous wave
CWR	clear water reflectance
CXE	Commercial Cross-bay Carrier (NASA/Commercial Programs; x implied)
CXU	command annex unit
CY	calendar year
CYA	cover your ass (frequently hear when leaving meetings, etc.)
CZCS	Coastal Zone Color Scanner (Nimbus-7)
C360	Cinema 360 (NASA/35mm picture camera for Shuttle crew)
c.g.	center of gravity
C-MAN	Coastal-Marine Automated Network Station
C/No	carrier-to-noise density ratio
D & E	demonstration & evaluation
D & F	determination & finding
DACS	Data Acquistion and Command Subsystem

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
DAD	Dual Air Density (NASA/global density upper atmosphere and lower exosphere)
DAMB	Data Acquisition & Management Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
DAMUS	Data Management and User Services (NESDIS)
DAOS	Data Administrator for Ocean Satellites (NESDIS/NODC, Camp Springs, MD)
DAPS	DCS Automatic Processing System
DARPA	Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DoD)
DASD	direct access storage devices
DATTS	Data Acquisition, Telecommand, and Tracking Station (Michelstadt, Germany)
DAWG	Data Assimilation Working Group (as in STORM-DAWG)
dB	decibel (unit of sound measurement)
DB	Direct Broadcast
dBi	dB Isotropic
dBm	dB above one milliwatt
DBMD	Data Base Management Div. (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
DBMS	data base management system
DBS	direct broadcast satellite
DBS	direct broadcast system
dB/K	dB per degree Kelvin
DC	device control
DC	digit count
DC	direct current
DCAA	Defense Contract Audit Administration (DoD)
DCAS	Defense Contract Administration/Audit Service (DoD)
DCASR	Defense Contract Administration Service Representative
DCC	Document Control Center
DCDB	Data Collection and Direct Broadcast (Branch) (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
DCLS	Data Collection and Location System
DCN	documentation change notice
DCP	Data Collection Platform
DCPI	Data Collection Platform Interrogation
DCPR	Data Collection Platform Report/Reply
DCS	Data Collection System (GOES)
DCSWG	DCS Working Group
DC-DC	direct current to direct current (converter)
DDD	detailed design document
DDD	direct distance dialing
DDPS	Digital Data Processing System (NASA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
DEE	Dexterous End Effector (NASA/sensor for Shuttle arm)
DEF	data exchange format
demo	demonstration
DET	detailed electrical test
DET	direct energy transfer
DFD	data flow diagram
DFT	digital fourier transform
DGIB	DSN/GSFC 4800-bit Interface Block
DHS	data-handling subsystem
DIAL	Differential Absorption Lidar
DIBS	Drug Interdiction Buoy System
DID	dynamic interaction diagnostic
DIF	Directory Interchange Format (NASA GSFC data exchange format)
DIFAX	digital facsimile (x implied)
DIGS	digital inertial guidance system
DIR	design information report
DIRA	Digital Integrating Rate Assembly
DJF	December-January-February (consecutive months frequently grouped and used for acronym)
DLI	Down-link Interface (DM/PM)
DLM	data listing module
DLM	Down-link Monitor (GOES I-M)
DM	digital multiplexer
DM	Display Monitor (current PM)
DMA	Defense Mapping Agency
DMA	direct memory access
DMD	Digital Muirhead Device
DMI	direct memory interface
DMOS	Diffusive Mixing of Organic Solutions (NASA/crystal growth)
DMS	data management system
DMS	Delta Modulation System (NASA)
DMSP	Defense Meteorological Satellite Program
DN	descending node
DN	discrepancy notice
DND	Department of National Defense (Canada)
DoA	Department of Agriculture
DoC	Department of Commerce
DoC	Department of Communications (Canada)
DOD	Data Operations Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
DoD	Department of Defense
DOD	depth of discharge (batteries)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
DoE	Department of Energy
DoI	Department of the Interior
DOM	Dissolved Organic Material
DOM	domestic
Domsat	Domestic Communications Satellite
DOPLID	Doppler Lidar (Laser Wind Measurement System)
DOPLIGHT	doppler and lightning
DORIS	Determination d'Orbite et Radiopositionement Integré par Satellite (France)
DoS	Department of State
DOSECC	deep observation and sampling of the Earth's continental crust
DoT	Department of Transportation
DOY	day of year
DP	data processor
DP	distinct procedure (command type)
DPB	Data Processing Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
DPC	data processing center
DPS	Data Processing System
DPSK	differential phase shift keying
DPSS	Data Processing and Service Sub-system (NOAA-FB-4)
DPU	data processing unit
DRCC	Data Referencing and Conditioning Centre
DRF	Detailed Requirements Form
DRGS	Direct Readout Ground Station
DRIRU	Dual Redundant & Inertial Reference Unit
DRL	document requirements list
DROT	Domsat Receive-Only Terminal
DRT	data relay transponder
DRU	data recovery unit
DS	Docking System (NASA)
DS	dwell sounding or sounder (GOES 4-7 VAS operating mode)
DSARS	DAMUS Satellite Archive and Retrieval System
DSB	Direct Sounder Broadcast
DSCE	De-spin Control Electronics (GOES I-M)
DSN	Deep Space Network (NASA)
DSP	deployable special payloads
DSS	Digital Sun Sensor
DSSE	Digital Sun Sensor Electronics
DTR	digital tape recorder
DTSR	dual-test support rack
DTT	direct TIP transmission

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
Duck-X	CoE research facility at Duck, North Carolina
DUR	duration (NASA/mission duration of each Shuttle flight)
DUR	design update review
DWIPS	Digital Weather Image Processing System
D/A	digital-to-analog
EA	Earth acquisition
EAB	Experimental Applications Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
EAC	estimate-at-completion
EAGE	electrical aerospace ground equipment
EARSEL	European Association of Remote Sensing Laboratories
EAS	electronic animation system
EASE	Experimental Assembly of Structures in EVA (NASA/with ACCESS)
EBB	equivalent black body
EBBT	equivalent blackbody temperature
EBCDIC	extended binary coded decimal Interchange code
ECAL	electronic calibration
ECC	Exercise Coordinating Committee
ECFC	Experimental Climate Forecast Centers
ECMRWF	European Center for Medium Range Weather Forecasts
ECN	engineering change notice
ECO	engineering change order
ECP	engineering change proposal
EDA	electronically despun antenna
EDC	EROS Data Center (USGS-Sioux Falls, SD)
EDO	Extended Duration Orbiter (NASA/Shuttle to 16-day mission)
EED	electro explosive device
EEE	electrical, electronic and electromechanical
EEVT	Electrophoresis Equipment Verification Test (NASA/0-gravity)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EEZSCAN	Exclusive Economic Zone scan
EGSE	electrical ground support equipment
EHIC	Energetic Heavy Ion Composition (NOAA-DoD/nonscanning, high energy, massive nuclei interplanetery, launch on NOAA-I, June 1991)
EIA	Electronic Industries Association
EIR	enhanced Infrared imagery
EIRP	effective irradiated power
EIRP	effective isotropic radiated power
ELNAR	El Niño in the ancient record
ELRAD	Earth-Limb Radiance Equipment (NASA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ELT	Emergency Locator Transmitter
ELV	Expendable Launch Vehicle (generic)
EM	electromagnetic (also E/M)
EM	engineering model
EMA	Electrodynamics of the Middle Atmosphere
EMC	electromagnetic compatability
EMI	electromagnetic Interference
EMR	electromagnetic radiation
EMU	Extravehicular Mobility Unit (NASA)
ENSO	El Nino/Southern Oscillation
EO	Escape Orbit (NASA)
EOC	edge of coverage
EOF	end-of-file
EOL	end-of-life
EOLE	French satellite system designed to collect data from free-floating balloons
Eos	Earth Observing System (NASA Polar Orbiting Platform payload for Earth sciences)
EosDIS	Eos Data and Information System
EOT	end of tape
EOT	end of transmission
EPIRB	Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon
EPOC	Eastern Pacific Oceanographic Conference
EPOCS	Eastern Pacific Ocean Climate Study
EPOCS	Eastern Pacific Oceanographic Study
EPOP	European Polar-Orbiting Platform
EPS	Energetic Particle Sensor
ERB	Earth Radiation Budget (radiometer on Nimbus-7 and TIROS-N)
ERBE	Earth Radiation Budget Experiment (NOAA-8)
ERBI	Earth Radiation Budget Instrument
ERBS	Earth Radiation Budget Satellite
ERICA	Experiment on Rapidly Intensifying Cyclones over the Atlantic (follow-on to GALE)
ERIM	Environmental Research Institute of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)
ERL	Environmental Research Laboratories (NOAA/OAR, Boulder, Colorado)
ERL	Environmental Resources Laboratory NASA, JSC/Houston, TX and SSC/Bay St Louis, MS)
EROS	Earth Resources Observation System
ERS-1	ESA Remote-sensing Satellite-1 (launch scheduled 1991)
ERTS	Earth Resources Technology Satellite (NASA program which became the Landsat system of satellites)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ES	Earth Sensor (also E/S)
ESA	Earth Sensor Assembly
ESA	European Space Agency
ESC	Earth Sensor Compensation (a.k.a. SSAA)
ESC	error status code (NASA)
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Agricultural Division of the U.N.)
ESD	electrostatic discharge
ESF	explosive sage facility
ESM	equipment-support module
ESMC	Eastern Space and Missile Center (AF-Patrick AFB, FL)
ESMR	Electrically Scanning Microwave Radiometer (NASA/Nimbus-5)
ESOC	European Space Operation Center
ESRO	European Space Research Organization
ESSA	Environmental Science Services Administration (a parent of NOAA)
ESSC	Earth System Science Committee (NASA)
ESTAR	Electronically Scanned Thinned Array Radiometer (NASA)
ESTEC	ESA Technical Establishment (Nordvyck, Netherlands)
ES-HCE	Earth Sensor-Heater Control Electronics
ET	ephemeris time
ETA	estimated time of arrival
ETA	explosive transfer assembly
ETC	Engineering Training Center (NASA STDN station, Greenbelt, MD)
ETC	ephemeris time clock
ETC	estimate to complete
ETG	Evaluation Task Group
ETO	estimated time outage
ETR	Eastern Test Range (AF)
EU	engineering unit
EUMETSAT	European Meteorological Satellite (Program)
EURECA	European Retrievable Carrier (EURECA-1L launch scheduled August 1991; through 3R launch scheduled December 1995)
EUS	ephemeris update servicing
EUV	extreme ultraviolet
EUVE	Extreme Ultraviolet Explorer (NASA; launch scheduled August, 1991)
EVA	Extra-Vehicular Activity (NASA)
EWSK	East-West stationkeeping
EXOSAT	ESA X-ray Satellite (launched May 26, 1983)
E-W	East-West
E/W	East/West

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FANAS	forecast for ascending node for automatic satellite message over GTS
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization (U.N.)
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
FAT	final acceptance test
FAX	facsimile (x implied)
FB4	Federal Building Number 4 (DoC/Navy Suitland, MD)
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FCCSET	Federal Coordinating Council on Science, Engineering, and Technology
FCIR	false color infrared system
FCP	flight computer program
FCS	frame check sequence
FD	full disk
FDDA	four-dimensional data assimilation (NMC)
FDE	Fluid Dynamics Experiment (NASA/liquid propellants in low-gravity)
FDF	Flight Dynamics Facility (NASA/GSFC)
FDM	frequency division multiplexing
FDO	Fee Determining Official
FDS	flight dynamics system
FEAD	First Estimate adjustment
FEE	French Echocardiograph Equipment
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FET	FAX Encoder/Transmitter
FF	free flyer (generic/most unmanned satellites)
FFP	firm fixed price
FFT	fast fourier transform
FGGE	First GARP Global Experiment
FIBEX	First International BIOMASS Experiment
FIFE	First ISLSCP Field Experiment
FIPS	Federal Information Processing Standard
FIRAS	Far IR Absolute Spectrophotometer (NASA)
FIRE	First ISCCP Regional Experiment
FIRMR	Federal Information Resources Management Regulations
FIRST	Far Infrared Space Telescope (ESA/Dornier)
flops	floating-point operations per second
FLP	flight load package
FLT	flight (NASA/sequence number for Shuttle Missions)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
FLTSATCOM	Fleet Satellite Communications (FLTSATCOM-F8 launch scheduled September 1989)
FM	flight model
FM	frequency modulation
FMCC	French Mission Control Centre (Toulouse, France)
FMDS	Flight Model Discharge System
FMEA	failure modes and effects analysis
FMECA	failure modes effects and criticality analysis
FMM	Financial Management Manual (NOAA)
FNOC	Fleet Numerical Oceanographic Center (Navy-Monterey, CA)
FOB	free on board
FOB-4	Federal Office Building No. 4 (Suitland, MD—also FB-4)
FOC	final operational capability
FOLO	first-on-last-out
FOR	flight operations review
FOT	Flight Operations Team (NASA)
FOV	field-of-view
FOY	FGGE Operational Year (December 1978 to November 1979)
FPA	floating point accelerator
FPAF	fixed price award fee
FPE	French Postural Experiment (sensory-motor adaptations)
FPI	fixed price Incentive
fps	frames per second
FR	foreign reimbursable
FRG	Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany)
FRP	Full-Resolution Processor
FRR	flight readiness review
FS	factors of safety
FSA	filter and switch assembly
FSC	Fleet Satellite Communications (same as FLTSATCOM)
FSE	flight support equipment
FSK	frequency shift keying
FSS	Flight Support System (NASA)
FSS	Fine Sun Sensor
FT	file transfer
FTS	Federal Telecommunications System
FTS	Fourier Transform Sounding
FTS-DTF	Flight Telerobotic Servicer-Demonstration Test Flight (NASA/FTS-DTF-01 launch August 1991))
FTT	flight timetable

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
FW	filter wheel
FXTS	Facimile Transmission System (x implied)
FY	Fiscal Year
FY	first year (usually wrt sea ice)
FZ	fracture zone
F/D	fill/drain (valve)
F/P INT	Fabry-Perot Interferometer
G & A	general & administrative (usually overhead)
Ga	billion years (unit)
GAC	Global Area Coverage
GAGE	Global Atmospheric Gases Experiment
GALE	Genesis of Atlantic Lows Experiment
GALILEO	GALILEO (NASA/Jupiter's atmosphere and satellites; launch scheduled October 1989)
GAMP	Group Agromet Monitoring Project
GANTT	?
GAR	GOES Anomaly Report
GARP	Global Atmospheric Research Program
GARS	GOES Archive and Retrieval System
GAS Bridge	Get-away-special Bridge (NASA/Shuttle)
GATE	GARP Atlantic Tropical Experiment
GBL	government bill of lading
GCF	Ground Communication Facility (NASA)
GCM	Global Circulation Model
GDAS	Global Data Assimilation System
GDR	Geophysical Data Record
GDR	German Democratic Republic (East Germany)
GDS	Goldstone Deep Space (NASA Communications Complex, CA)
GED	Global Ecosystem Dynamics
GELD	gridding and Earth location determination
GELDS	Grid and Earth Location Data System
GEM	GSFC Earth Model (frequently followed by a number)
GEMS	Global Environment Monitoring System (UNEP)
GEO	geosynchronous (or geosynchronous equatorial orbit)
GOEDAT	geometric data software
GEOS	Geodynamic Experimental Ocean Satellite (NASA)
Geosat	Geodesy Satellite (Navy)
GEOSTAR	GEOSTAR (interactive radiodetermination satellite; -1 launch scheduled August 1991, -2 September 1992, -3 June 1993)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
GEOTAIL	GEOTAIL (NASA/explore geotail of the Earth Plasma; launch scheduled July 1992)
GEWEX	Global Energy and Water-cycle Experiment
GFDL	Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (NOAA, Princeton, NJ)
GFDM	CDA Station (NESDIS, Gilmore Creek, AK)
GFE	government furnished equipment
GFP	government furnished property
GGEM	Gravity Gradiometer Explorer Mission (NASA)
GIA	Government Inspection Agency
GIDEP	Government Interagency Data Exchange Program
GIMGSP	GOES I-M Ground System Project
GIMMS	Global Inventory, Monitoring, and Modeling Studies (NASA)
GIMTACS	GOES I-M Telemetry and Command System
GIS	geographic information system
GISP	Greenland Ice Sheet Program
GISS	Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GSFC, Greenbelt, MD)
GLAS	Goddard Laboratory for Atmospheric Studies
Glavcosmos	Soviet civilian space agency
GLERL	Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory (NOAA/OAR, Ann Arbor, MI)
GLOMR	Global Low-Orbit Message Relay (NASA)
GLOW	GLOW (NASA/atmospheric luminosities investigation)
GLRS	Geodynamic Laser Ranging System
GLS	GOMR Limb Sounder
GMACS	GOES Monitoring and Control System (current GIMTACS)
GMCC	Geophysical Monitoring for Climatic Change
GMDF	Global Meteorological Data Facility
GMI	GSFC Management Instruction
GMI	Gray-McCrary Index of Vegetation
GMS	Geostationary Meteorology Satellite (Japan)
GMSS	GMS System (Japan)
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time (Zulu)
GN	ground network (example, NASA GSTDN and DSN)
GN & C	guidance, navigation, & control
GNS	GOMR Nadir Sounder
GOASEX	Gulf of Alaska Seasat Experiment
GOC	global oceanic coverage

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION

GOES Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite (NOAA
operational geosynchronous satellites launched as follows:

GOES-4	(D) launched 09/09/80
GOES-5	(E) launched 05/22/81
GOES-6	(F) launched 04/28/83 (imaging failed 01/21/89)
GOES-7	(H) launched 02/26/87
GOES-I	scheduled for July 1990
GOES-J	scheduled for November 1991
GOES-K,-L,-M	launch upon imminent failure of operational satellite

GOESTAP	GOES sector distribution system
GOFS	Global Ocean Flux Study
GOMR	Global Ozone Monitoring Radiometer
GOMS	Geosynchronous Orbit for Meteorological Satellite System (USSR)
GOR	ground operations review
GOS	Global Observing System (of WWW)
GOSSTCOMP	
	Global Operational Sea Surface Temperature Computation (replaced by the MCSST product)
GOWG	Ground Operations Working Group
GP	Gravity Probe (NASA/probe to test Einstein's Theory of Relativity)
GPCP	Global Precipitation Climatology Project
GPI	GOES Precipitation Index
GPO	Government Printing Office
GPP	Gross Primary Productivity
GPS	Global Positioning System (DoD lead)
GREM	Geopotential Research Explorer Mission (NASA)
GRID	Global Resource Information Database (UNEP)
GRO	Gamma Ray Observatory (NASA/extraterrestrial gamma-ray sources)
GRT	GOES Real-Time (database)
GS	ground station
GSD	Ground Systems Division (NOAA/NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
GSE	ground support equipment
GSFC	Goddard Space Flight Center (NASA-Greenbelt, Maryland)
GSN	Global Seismic Network
GSO	geosynchronous orbit
GSS	GOES Simulation System
GSSS	ground support software system
GSST	ground segment system test
GSTDN	Ground Spacecraft Tracking and Data Network (NASA)
GSTS	Groupement Scientifique de Télédétection

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
GTCP	Global Tropospheric Chemistry Program
GTE	Global Troposheric Experiment
GTO	Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (not a Pontiac)
GTO	geosynchronous transfer orbit
GTS	Global Telecommunications Service (WMO/WWW)
GVAR	GOES Variable (GOES I-M retransmitted processed data format)
GVHRR	Geosynchronous Very-high Resolution Radiometer
GVI	Global Vegetation Index
GWE	Global Weather Experiment
GWM	Guam STDN Station (NASA)
G/T	antenna gain to system noise temperature (dB/K)
HA	heat-shield assembly
HALOE	Halogen Occultation Experiment
HAPEX	Hydrological Atmospheric Pilot Experiment
HAW	Hawaii STDN Station (NASA)
HCE	heat control electronics
HCMM	Heat Capacity Mapping Mission (NASA, launched April 26, 1978)
HE	high eccentricity orbit
HEAO	High Energy Astronomical Observatory (NASA/radiation from space)
HELIO	heliocentric
HEPAD	High-Energy Proton and Alpha Detector
Hex	hexidecimal
HF	High Frequency
HH	horizontal-horizontal polarization of electromagnetic radiation
HH	Hitchhiker (NASA/ with -G,GSFC;with -H,MSFC;Shuttle related)
HIF	historical instrument file
Himawari	(Sunflower) Japanese GMS
HIRIS	HIgh-Resolution Imaging Spectrometer
HIRS	High-Resolution Infrared Sounder (NOAA sensor)
HIS	High-resolution Interferometer Spectrometer
Hitchhiker	See HH (NASA)
HME	Handheld Microgravity Experiment (NASA)
HMMR	High-Resolution Multifrequency Microwave Radiometer
HPCG	Handheld Protein Crystal Growth Middeck Experiment (NASA)
HPE	Heat Pipe Experiment (foreign HH-G payload)
HPTE	High-Precision Tracking Experiment (NASA/laser in atmosphere)
HRDI	High-Resolution Doppler Imager
HRFAX	High-resolution FAX
HRIR	High-Resolution Infrared Radiometer
HRIS	High-Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (ESA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
HRPT	High-Resolution Picture Transmission (NOAA direct broadcast)
HRSO	High Resolution Solar Observatory
HRV	High-Resolution Visible Imager
HSD	high-speed data
HST	Hubble Space Telescope (NASA)
HST-R	Hubble Space Telescope Revisit (NASA/replacement of units)
HV	horizontal-vertical polarization of electromagnetic radiation
HV	high voltage
Hz	Hertz
H/W	hardware
I & T	Integration & test
IAB	Inventory and Archives Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
IACP	International Aerosol Climatology Project
IAG	International Association of Geodesy (IUGG)
IAGA	International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy (IUGG)
IAMAP	International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics (IUGG)
IAPSO	International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Ocean (IUGG)
IAU	International Astronomical Union
IBL	Inter-bus link
IBSE	Initial Blood Storage Equipment (NASA/changes in blood tissue)
IBSS	Infrared Background Signature Survey (NASA/Shuttle payload related)
ICA	ISCCP Central Archive
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICBC	IMAX Cargo Bay Camera (NASA)
ICC	Interim Control Center (NASA-MSOCC0)
ICD	Interface control document (NASA)
ICD	Interface control drawing
ICES	International Council for Exploration of the Seas
ICEX	Ice and Climate Experiment
ICL	Inter-Union Commission on the Lithosphere (ICSU)
ICMSSR	Interdepartmental Committee for Meteorological Services and Supporting Research (OFCM)
ICR	Instrument concept review
ICSU	International Council of Scientific Unions
IDCPS	International DCP System
IDUC	Interactive Data Utilization Center

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
IECM	Induced Environment Contamination Monitor (NASA/Shuttle contaminate study)
IEH	International Extreme-UV/Far-UV Hitchhiker (NASA/HH)
IERS	International Earth Rotation Service
IF	intermediate frequency
IFB	invitation for bid
IFD	in-flight disconnect
IFE	Isoelectric Focussing Experiment (NASA/electro-osmosis in space)
IFEOS	International Forum on Earth Observations Using Space-Station Elements
IFFA	Interactive Flash Flood Analyzer (NOAA/NESDIS/WWB)
IFOV	instantaneous field-of-view
IFPD	IF presence detector (CDA)
IFREMER	Institut Francais de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer
IG	Igloo
IGBP	International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (ICSU)
IGDR	interim geophysical data record
IGFOV	instantaneous geometric field-of-view
IGOSS	International Global Ocean Service System
IGY	International Geophysical Year (1957-58)
IHS	intensity hue saturation
IH/SR	Integrated Hardware/Software Review
IIST	initial integrated system test
IJWG	interagency joint working group
ILP	International Lithosphere Programme
IMA	injection motor assembly
IMAFS	Interactive Marine Analysis and Forecast System
IMAX	IMAX, Inc. of Toronto that produces high quality motion pictures
IMC	image motion compensation
IML	International Microgravity Laboratory (NASA/material and life sciences)
IMM	integrated memory modules
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IMP	instrument mounting platform
IMS	Institutional Management Support
IMU	inertial measurement unit
INCL	inclination (orbit inclination in degrees)
INMARSAT	International Maritime Satellite Organization (PAM-DII communications satellite)
INMARSAT	International Maritime Satellite (-01 launch November 1991)
INR	image navigation and registration

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
INRA	Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique
INS	Inertial Navigation System
INSAT	Indian National Satellite (India/communications for ITSO)
IOC	initial orbital configuration
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO)
IOP	input/output processor
IOP	intensive observation period
IOS	Indian Ocean Station (USAF)
IP	image processor
IPAR	Intercepted Photosynthetically Active Radiation
IPB	Interactive Processing Branch (NESDIS-Camp Springs, MD)
IPB	International Programs Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPCE	interface power and control equipment
IPD	IF presence detector (CDA)
IPD	Information Processing Division (NOAA/NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
IPOMS	International Polar-Orbiting Meteorological Satellites group
ips	inches per second
IPS	Information Processing System
IR	Infrared
IRAS	Infrared Astronomical Satellite
IRCFE	Infrared Communications Flight Experiment (NASA/STS crew communications)
IRD	Interface Requirements Document
IRI	Interagency Research Internet
IRIG-B	Inter-range Instrumentation Group Subcarrier Channel-B(GOES I-M)
IRIS	Italian Research Interim Stage (Italian upper stage for Shuttle)
IRIS	Infrared Interferometer Spectrometer
IRLS	Interrogation, Recording, and Location System (NASA/Nimbus)
IRS A	Indian Remote-sensing Satellite (first satellite)
IRT	Integrated-Rendezvous Radar Target (NASA/Shuttle rendezvous instrument)
IR-IE	Infrared Imaging Equipment (NASA/video camera to measure temperature)
IRVA	Image Rectifying Video Analyzer
ISAGE	imager/sounder analysis ground-support equipment
ISAMS	Improved Stratospheric and Mesospheric Sounder
ISB	Ingest Systems Branch (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
ISCCP	International Satellite Cloud Climatology Project
ISD	Information Services Division (NESDIS/NGDC, Boulder, CO)
ISD	Information Services Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ISD	Information Services Division (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
ISF	Industrial Space Facility (NASA/commercially-owned, man-tended)
ISLSCP	International Satellite Land-Surface Climatology Project
ISMRM	*Integrated Soil Moisture Retrieval Models*
ISPM	International Solar Polar Mission (now ULYSSES)
ISS	integrated spacecraft system
ISTC	integrated system test complex
ISTO	International Telecommunications Satellite Organization
ISTP	International Solar-Terrestrial Program
ISY	International Space Year (1992)
ITCWG	Interagency Training Coordination Working Group
ITCZ	Intertropical Convergence Zone
ITIR	Imaging Thermal Infrared
ITIR	Intermediate Thermal Infrared Radiometer
ITOS	Improved TIROS Operational Satellite (old NOAA-series)
ITPR	Infrared Temperature Profile Radiometer
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
ITV	Instrumented Test Vehicle (AF/target for anti-satellite)
IUGG	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics (ICSU)
IUGS	International Union of Geological Sciences (ICSU)
IUS	Inertial Upper Stage (NASA, frequently followed by a number)
IVT	interface verification test
IWGDMGC	Interagency Working Group on Data Management for Global Change
IWGMFS	International Working Group on Magnetic Field Satellites
I/F	interface
I/O	input/output
I/S	imager and sounder

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AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
JANUS	Initial program to develop concept for rocket launched satellite
JASIN	Joint Air-Sea Interaction Experiment (European-led experiment)
JCL	Job control language
JERS	Japanese Earth Remote-Sensing Satellite (1st launch 1993)
JHU	The Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD)
JIC	Joint Ice Center (Navy and NOAA, Suitland, MD)
JISAO	Joint Institute for Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean (University of Washington, Seattle, WA)
JJA	June-July-August
JMA	Japan Meteorological Agency
JOFOC	Justification for other than full and open competition
JOMP	Joint Mission Program (NOAA/CNES)
JONSWAP	Joint North Sea Wave Analysis Project
JPIP	Joint Project Implementation Plan
JPL	Jet Propulsion Laboratory (NASA, Pasadena, California)
JSC	Johnson Space Center (NASA, Houston, TX also L.B. JSC)
JTWC	Joint Typhoon Warning Center (Guam)
KAPP	Kansas Pilot Project (ASOS)
KISS	keep It simple stupid (frequently with an !)
KSC	Kennedy Space Center (NASA, Cape Kennedy, FL)
Kosmos	USSR polar orbiting satellites (also Cosmos/Meteor)
LAC	local area coverage
LACIE	Large Area Crop Inventory Experiment (begun by NASA)
LAGEOS	Laser Geodynamics Satellite (U.S./Italy, LAGEOS - 2 launch scheduled for August 1991)
LAI	leaf area Index
LAN	local area network
Landsat	Land Satellite (government developed--now private industry)
LAPB	link access procedure B (GOES I-M)
LARAR	Large Antenna Real Aperture Radar
LaRC	Langley Research Center (NASA, Hampton, VA)
LASA	Lidar Atmospheric Sounder and Altimeter
Laser	Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation
LaserFAX	Laser Facsimile (x implied)
LAT/LONG	latitude/longitude
LAWS	Laser Atmospheric Wind Sounder
LBF	level of best fit
LBR	Low-Bit-Rate(usually associated with ERS-1)
LCM	line conditioning module
LCP	lefthand circular polarization

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
LCR	Launch Control Room (NASA)
LD	level discrete (command type)
LDEF	Long-Duration Exposure Facility (NASA/free flying for exposure)
LDR	Large Deployable Reflector (NASA)
LDS	Launch Display System (part of GSS)
LDSFD	Laser Docking Sensor Flight Demonstration (NASA/laser positioning)
LDW	LORAN-C Drop Windsonde
LE	landmark extraction
LE	latent energy (evapotranspiration)
LED	light emitting diode
LEFI	Local Electric Field Instrument
LEO	launch and early orbit (NASA)
LEO	Low Earth Orbit (NOAA polar orbiting satellites)
LeRC	Lewis Research Center (NASA, Cleveland, OH)
LERTS	Laboratoire d'Etudes et de Recherches en Télédétection Spatiale
LF	light fine (high-resolution DMSP visible image)
LFC	Large Format Camera (NASA)
LFM	Limited-area, Fine-mesh Model
LFMR	Low-Frequency Microwave Radiometer
LIDAR	Light Detection And Ranging
LIFESAT	Life Sciences Satellite (NASA/life sciences in μ-g environment)
LIMS	Limb Infrared Monitor of the Stratosphere (Nimbus-7)
LISD	Library and Information Services Division (NOAA, Washington, DC)
LISS	Linear/Imaging Self-scanner Sensor
LITE	Lidar In-Space Technology Experiment (NASA/solid state demonstration)
LL	long-lead
LM	Long Module (NASA/Spacelab Crew Module)
LMST	local mean solar time
LNA	low-noise amplifier
LO	liason officer
LO	local oscillator
LOD	Landsat Operations Division (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
LOFO	last-on-first-off
LORAN	Long Range Navigation
LOS	Land Observation Satellite (Japan--usually linked with MOS)
LOS	loss-of-signal
LOTREX	Longitudinal land-surface Traverse Experiment
lpm	lines per minute
LRFAX	low resolution FAX
LRIR	Limb Radiance Inversion Radiometer

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
LS	light smooth (smoothed DMSP visible image)
LSA	launch services agreement
LSB	Land Sciences Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
LSB	least significant bit
LSI	large-scale integration
LSS	large space structure (NASA)
LSSP	launch site safety plan
LSST	launch site support team
LST	local solar time
LST	local standard time
LTE	local thermodynamic equilibrium
LUT	look-up table
LUT	local user terminal
LVCU	Latch Valve Control Unit
LVS	launch-vehicle system
LW	long wave
L/V	launch vehicle
M & DOD	mission & data operations directorate
M & T	Monitor & Test (VIP)
MA	multiple access
MAC	Middle Atmospheric Cooperation
MACH	Mensuration and Assessment of Coastal Habitat
MACSAT	Multi-Access Communications Satellite (DoD communications satellite, launch scheduled for July 1989)
MACSAT	Macintosh™ Satellite (not really, see other MACSAT)
MAD	Madrid Spain STDN Station (NASA)
MAD	magnetic anomaly detector
MAFP	major frame pulse
MAG	magnetospheric currents and fields
MAG	magnetometer
MAGE	mechanical (or mobile) aerospace ground equipment
Magellan	Magellan (NASA/spacecraft to globally map the surface of Venus, launch scheduled for April 1989)
MAGIC	Mode-A GOES Image Converter
Magsat	Magnetic field Satellite (NASA/Earth's magnetic field)
MAM	mirror attenuator mosaic
MAM	March-April-May
MANICE	Manual of Sea Ice Reporting
MAPS	Measurement of Air Pollution from Shuttle
MARD	Modernization and Restructuring Demonstration (NWS)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
MAREPS	marine reports
MASS	Mesoscale Atmospheric Simulation System
MAT	mission allowable temperature
MAXIE	Magnetospheric Atmospheric X-ray Image Experiment
mB	millibar (a unit of pressure);Pascal is now the preferred unit
MB	Alphabetical designation given to an image enhancement curve
MCC	Mission Control Center (NASA)
MCC	mesoscale convective complex
MCF	Master Control Facility
McIDAS	Man-computer Interactive Data Analysis System
MCO	mostly covered (cloud field)
MCR	mission control room
MCSST	Multichannel Sea Surface Temperature
MDD	meteorological data dissemination
MDL	multi-purpose data link
MDM	multiplexer/demultiplexer
MDR	mission dress rehearsal
MDS	mechanical drawing system
MDUC	Meteorological Data Utilization Center (New Delhi, India)
MDUS	Medium-scale Data Utilization Station
MECO	main engine cut-off
MEOP	maximum expected operating pressure
MEPED	Medium Energy Proton and Electron Detector
MERIS	Medium-Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (ESA/EPOP-A1)
MESSR	Multispectral Electronic Self-Scanning Radiometer
Meteor	Meteorological Satellite (USSR)
Meteosat	European geostationary Meteorological Satellite (ESRO)
METROMEX	Metropolitan Meteorological Experiment (St Louis, MO)
METSAT	Meteorological Satellite Project (NASA/GSFC)
METSAT	meteorological satellite (generic)
MFE/Magnolia	
	Magnetic Field Explorer/Magnolia (US/France)
MFID	main frame identification
MFR	malfunction receiver (typically a person with impaired hearing)
MGCS	Meteosat Ground Computer System
MGGD	Marine Geology & Geophysics Division (NESDIS/NGDC, Boulder, CO)
MGSE	mechanical ground support equipment
MI	modulation index
MID	modem interface device
MIEC	Meteorological Information Extraction Centre
MIL	Merritt Island STDN Station (NASA, FL)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
mil-spec	military specification (usually the same as MIL-STD)
MIL-STD	military standard
mips	millions of Instructions per second
MIPS	Mission and Information Planning System
MIRP	manipulated Information rate processor
MIS	management Information system (a MIS is as good as a kilometer!)
MIZ	marginal Ice zone
MIZEX	Marginal Ice Zone Experiment
MLA	multispectral linear array
MLE	Mesoscale Lightning Experiment (NASA/map using onboard TV)
MLE	maximum likelihood estimate
MLI	multi-layer Insulation
MLP	mobile launch platform
MLR	Monodisperse Latex Reactor (NASA/latex particles 2 to 40 μm)
MLS	Microwave Limb Sounder
MMC	mirror motion compensation
MMCA	magnetic moment compensation assembly
MMI	man-machine Interface
MMIPS	Man-machine Interactive Processing System
MMS	multimission modular spacecraft
MMU	magnetic moment unloading
MMUS	magnetic moment unloading software
MO	Mars Observer (NASA)
MO	Missouri Ozarks (designation of a monitored forested area)
MO & DSD	Mission Operations & Data Systems Directorate (NASA/GSFC)
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOBILHY	Modele de Bilan Hydrique (French Stream 2/PNEDC)
MOCC	Meteosat Operations Control Centre
MOCR	mission operations control room
MODE	Mid-Ocean Dynamics Experiment
MODE	Mode Control Software (CPU)
Modem	modulation-demodulation (communications interface)
MODIS	Moderate-Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (NASA/NPOP-1)
MODIS-N	MODIS Nadir (NASA/NPOP-1)
MODIS-T	MODIS-Tilt (NASA/NPOP-1)
MODLAN	Mission Operations Division Local Area Network (NASA/MSOCC)
MOI	moment of Inertia
Molniya	USSR communications satellite(s)
MOM	milk of magnesia
MOM	Mission Operations Manager (NASA)
MONEX	Monsoon Experiment

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
MOP	minimum operational performance (standards)
MOP	Meteosat Operational Program
MOR	mission operations review
MOR	mission operations room
MORELOS	MORELOS (Mexican communications satellite system; - A launched June 1985, - B November 1985)
MORFLOT	Soviet Ministry of Merchant Marine
MOS	Marine Observation Satellite (Japan)
MOSP	mission operations support plan
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
MPC	multiple peripheral controller
MPCI	multipurpose custom interface
MPD	Magnetospheric Particle Detector (NASA/NPOP-1, currents/fields)
MPESS	Mission Peculiar Equipment Support Structure (NASA/carrier)
MPS	Multi-Processor System (NASA)
MPSE	Mexican Payload Specialist Experiment (PS for MORELOS)
MR	malfunction report
MRIR	Medium-Resolution Infrared Radiometer
MRB	material review board
MRS	main ranging station
MS	Mission Specialist (NASA/Shuttle crew member for specific mission)
MS	margin of safety
MSAT	Mobile Satellite (NASA/satellite for advanced ground technologies)
MSB	most significant bit
MSC	Manned Space Center (NASA/now JSC)
MSC	Meteorological Satellite Center (Japan)
MSC	mission satellite center
MSFC	Marshall Space Flight Center (NASA, Huntsville, AL)
MSFE	mechanisms of soil formation and evolution
MSGP	Microwave Sounder for Geostationary Platform (NASA)
MSI	multispectral image (also GOES 4-7 VAS operating mode)
MSL	Materials Science Laboratory (NASA/Shuttle payload for low-g's)
MSOCC	Multi-Satellite Operations Control Center (NASA/GSFC)
MSP	micrometeorological sensor processor
MSR	Meteosat Scanning Radiometer
MSR	Microwave Scanning Radiometer (Japan/MOS)
MSR	monthly status review
MSS	Message Switching System (NASA)
MSS	Multi-Spectral Scanner (Landsat)
MST	main satellite thruster

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
MST	missile service tower
MST	Moscow Standard Time
MSU	Microwave Sounding Unit (TIROS - N)
MTBF	mean time between failure
MTF	modulation transfer function
MTP	master test plan
MTR	materials technology report
MTS	Marine Technology Society
MTS	microwave temperature sounder
MTTR	mean time to repair
MU	microwave unit
MVP	mutual visibility period
MW	momentum wheel
mw	microwave (also µwave, but"m" can be confused with the standard meaning "milli")
MWA	momentum wheel assembly
MY	Multiyear (sea ice)
N	nadir
N-ROSS	Navy-Remote Ocean Sensing System (cancelled)
N SCATT	NASA Scatterometer (now scheduled for ADEOS in 1995)
NAC	NASA Advisory Council (see for example SESAC)
NAE	National Aeronautical Establishment (UK)
NAS	National Academy of Science
NAS9070	Mainfram computer (NOAA)
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASCOM	NASA Communications Network
NASCOP	NASA Communications Operating Procedure
NASDA	National Space Development Agency (Japan)
NASTRAN	NASA Structural Analysis (Program)
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NBS	National Bureau of Standards (DoC, now NIST)
NC	normally closed
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research (Boulder, CO)
NCASC	National Capital Administrative Support Center (NOAA, Washington, DC)
NCC	Network Control Center (NASA-NASCOM)
NCCC	NOAA Central Computer Complex (NESDIS, FB4, Camp Springs, MD)
NCCF	NOAA Central Computer Facility (NESDIS, FB4, Camp Springs, MD)
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center (NESDIS, Asheville, NC)
NCIS	Nadir Climate Interferometer Spectrometer

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
NCP	Network Consolidated Plan (NASA)
NCPS	Network Command Processing System (NASA)
NDBC	NOAA Data Buoy Center (NOS)
NDBO	National Data Buoy Office (NOS, Bay St Louis, MS)
NDC	national data center
NDEC	NESDIS-NWS-NOS Data Exchange Committee
NDL	NASCOM Data Link (NASA)
NDPR	NASA/Defense Purchase Request
NDVI	normalized difference vegetation index
NED	Network Encoder/Decoder (NASA)
NEDN	Naval Environmental Data Network
NEFC	Northeast Fisheries Center
NEMS	Nimbus Experiment Microwave Spectrometer
NEP	noise equivalent power
NEOC	Naval Eastern Oceanography Center
NEPRF	Naval Environmental Prediction Research Facility (Monterey, CA)
NESC	National Environmental Satellite Center (prior to NESS)
NESDIS	National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NOAA, Suitland, MD)
NESS	National Environmental Satellite Service (now NESDIS)
NET	Nimbus Experiment Team (NASA/usually associated with a sensor)
NET	noise equivalent temperature
NEXRAD	Next Radar (next generation NWS weather radar system)
NEΔN	noise equivalent differential radiance
NEΔT	noise equivalent differential temperature
NFOV	narrow field-of-view
NGDC	National Geophysical Data Center (NESDIS, Boulder, CO)
NGM	Nested Grid Model (NMC model description)
NHC	National Hurricane Center (NOAA, Miami, FL)
NHL	National Hockey League
NHRL	National Hurricane Research Laboratory (AOML, Miami, FL)
Nimbus	A series of NASA satellites primary focused on meteorology
NIO	National Institute of Oceanography (Dona Paula, India)
NIR	near infrared
NIS	NOAA Information Services (call 1-800-648-6209 for referral service or call Karen Swanson-Woolf at 377-3862 for more information)
NISDDT	NASCOM Interface Standard for Digital Data Transmission (NASA)
NISS	NOAA Information Service Staff (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology (formerly NBS)
NLUT	normalized look-up table

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
NMAS	NOAA Marine Advisory Service (OAR/Sea Grant)
NMC	National Meteorological Center (NWS, Camp Springs, MD)
NMCC	Norwegian Mission Control Center
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA, Washington, DC)
NMI	NASA Management Instruction
NNBIS	National Narcotics Border Interdiction System
NNMI	nonlinear normal mode Initialization (NMC)
NNPRB	NOAA/NASA Program Review Board
NO	Nitric Oxide
NO	normally open
NOA	new obligation authority
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (DoC, Washington, DC)
NOAA-#	NOAA Polar Orbiting Satellites: Environmental satellites of NOAA, primarily for meteorological services, letter used before launch; number after successful launch as follows:

NOAA-6	(A) launched 06/27/79	morning
NOAA-7	(C) launched 06/23/81	afternoon
NOAA-8	(E) launched 03/28/83	morning
NOAA-9	(F) launched 12/12/84	afternoon
NOAA-10	(G) launched 09/24/86	morning
NOAA-11	(H) launched 09/24/88	afternoon
NOAA-D	Scheduled January 1990	morning
NOAA-I	Scheduled May 1991	afternoon
NOAA-J	Scheduled July 1992	morning
NOAA-K	Scheduled November 1993	afternoon
NOAA-L	Scheduled September 1994	morning
NOAA-M	Scheduled September 1996	afternoon
NOAA-FF	NOAA Free Flyer: NOAA series to follow NOAA-M during the POP timeframe(details not yet defined)	

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
NOC	Naval Oceanography Command
NOCC	Network Operations Control Center
NODC	National Oceanographic Data Center (NESDIS, Washington, DC)
NODDS	Navy/NOAA Ocean Data Distribution System
NOESS	National Operational Environmental Satellite System
NOGAPS	Naval Oceanography Global Analysis and Prediction System
NOMP	Navy Ocean Modeling and Prediction Program (ONR, Oceanav)
NOMSS	National Operational Meteorological Satellite System
NORAD	North American Air Defense Command (USAF)
NORDA	Naval Ocean Research and Development Activity (Navy, Bay St Louis, MI)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
NOS	National Ocean Service (NOAA, Washington, DC)
NOSS	National Oceanic Satellite System (indefinitely deferred Navy, NASA, NOAA oceanic satellite)
NOVA	NOVA (Advanced Navy navigation satellite/OSCAR-type)
NPOP	NASA Polar-Orbiting Platform (NPOP-1 fourth quarter 1996 launch; NPOP-2 fourth quarter 1998)
NPP	net primary productivity
NPRM	Notice of Public Rule Making
NRA	NASA Research Announcement
NRAO	National Radio Astronomy Observatory (Socorro, NM)
NRC	National Research Council (U.S.)
NRCS	normalized radar backscattering cross section
NRE	non-recurring engineering
NRL	Naval Research Laboratory (Navy, Washington, DC)
NRZ	non-return to zero
NRZ-L	non-return zero level
NSDS	NESDIS (four letter identifier to make a long name short)
NSERBE	Non-scanning Earth Radiation Budget Experiment
NSESCC	NASA Space & Earth Science Computing Center (GSFC, Greenbelt, MD)
NSF	National Science Foundation (U.S.)
NSI	NASA Standard Initiator
NSP	NASA Support Plan
NSPAR	Non-Standard Parts Approval Request
NSSDC	National Space Science Data Center (GSFC, Greenbelt, MD)
NSSFC	National Severe Storms Forecast Center (NWS, Kansas City, MO)
NSSK	North-South Stationkeeping
NSSL	National Severe Storms Laboratory (ERL, Norman, OK)
NTE	not to exceed
NVI	normalized vegetation Index
NWP	numerical weather prediction
NWS	National Weather Service (NOAA-Silver Spring, MD)
N-S	North-South
N/A	not applicable
N/A	not available
N/S	North/South
O & A	orbit & attitude
O & C	operations & checkout
O & M	operations & maintenance
OAD	orbit and attitude determination
OAO	Office of Aircraft Operations (NOAA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
OAPS	orbit adjust propulsion system
OAR	Oceanic and Atmospheric Research (NOAA, Rockville, MD)
OAST	Office of Aeronautics and Space Technology (NASA)
OATS	Orbit and Attitude Tracking System
OBC	onboard computer
OCC	OGE Control Computer (part of MSOCC-ICC)
OCI	Ocean Color Imager (proposed follow-on to CZCS; see SeaWiFS)
OD	outside diameter
ODAPS	OGE Data Acquisition and Patching System
ODAS	Ocean Data Acquisition System (NASA/GSFC aircraft system)
ODB	operations data base
ODN	Operations Device Network (NASA/MSOCC)
ODW	Omega Drop Windsonde
OEM	original equipment manufacturer
OEX	Orbiter Experiments (NASA/engineering experiments on Shuttle)
OFCM	Office of the Federal Coordinator for Meteorology
OFT	optical fourier transform
OGE	operational (operations) ground equipment
OHA	operations hazards analysis
OIM	Oxygen Interaction (NASA/Shuttle oxygen rates with materials)
OIS	OGE Input Simulator (GOES I-M)
OJT	on-the job training
OLR	outgoing long-wave radiation
OLS	Operational Linescan System (DMSP)
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
OMB	Operations and Maintenance Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
OMI	operations maintenance Instruction
OMV	Orbital Maneuvering Vehicle (NASA/deployable-retrievable vehicle)
OMV	Orbital Maneuvering Vehicle (NASA)
ONDCP	Office of National Drug Control Policy (new in January 1989)
ONR	Office of Naval Research (DoD)
OOS	Office of Ocean Services (NOS) a.k.a. Paul Friday "Wizard of OOS"
OPDIB	Ocean Pollution Data and Information Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
OPF	Official Personnel Folder (SF 66)
OPF	Orbiter Processing Facility (NASA)
OPM	Office of Personnel Management
OPSCATT	Operational scatterometer
OPSU	oxidizer and pressurant service unit
ORA	Office of Research and Applications (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
ORBTR	Orbiter (name of the Shuttle Orbiter, also OV-#)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ORFEUS	Orbiting and Retrievable Far and Extreme Ultraviolet Spectrometer (German developed payload)
ORS	Orbiter Refueling System (NASA/STS's on-orbit satellite refueling)
ORSTOM	Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique Outre-Mer (France)
OSB	Oceanic Sciences Branch (NESDIS/ORA, Suitland, MD)
OSCAR	OSCAR (U.S. Navy Navigational Satellite)
OSD	Office of Systems Development (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
OSDPD	Office of Satellite Data Processing and Distribution (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
OSL	Orbiting Solar Laboratory (NASA/star and sun study)
OSO	Office of Satellite Operations (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
OSS	Office of Space Science (NASA)
OSSA	Office of Space Science and Applications (NASA)
OSTA	Office of Space and Terrestrial Applications (NASA)
OSTA-1	OSTA payload for Shuttle attached payload using SIR-A
OSTA-2	OSTA payload for μgravity experiments
OSTA-3	OSTA payload for photography and radar images of the Earth's surface
OTS	orbital tracking system
OV 102	NASA "Orbital Vehicle" 102 (Columbia Shuttle)
OV 103	NASA "Orbital Vehicle" 103 (Discovery Shuttle)
OV 104	NASA "Orbital Vehicle" 104 (Atlantis Shuttle)
OV 105	NASA "Orbital Vehicle" 105 replacement for Shuttle fleet
OWG	operations working group (generic)
P	Pilot (NASA/member of the Shuttle crew who pilots the OV)
PA	power amplifier
PA	product assurance
PAB	Programming and Analysis Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
PACS	?
PAL	Pallet (NASA/Spacelab pallet)
PALAPA	Indonesian Communications Satellite (Synchronous satellite)
PAM	Payload Assist Module (NASA/upper stage Shuttle and Delta ELV)
PAR	photosynthetically active radiation
PAT	preliminary acceptance test
PB	Physics Branch (NESDIS/ORA, Camp Springs, MD)
PBL	planetary boundary layer
PB1	Parallel Binary 1 Time Code (NASA)
PB4	Parallel Binary 4 Time Code (NASA)
PC	personal computer
PCG-II	Protein Crystal Growth (NASA)
PCM	phase code modulation

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
PCM	pulse code modulation
PCU	payload control unit
PCU	processor control unit
PD	position description
PDB	Primary Data Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
PDB	Product Development Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
PDF	Programmable Data Formatter (NASA)
PDL	Processor Data Load (GOES 4-7 VAS instrument command)
PDM	pulse duration modulation
PDR	Preliminary Design Review
PDR	Processed Data Relay (GVAR RF link)
PDRS	Payload Deployment and Retrieval System (NASA/used with PFTA)
PDUS	Primary Data User Station
PE	primitive equation (NMC model from 1966)
PEC	Particulate Elemental Carbon
PEM	Particle Environmental Monitor
PEP	Polynomial Error Protection (NASA)
PER	pre-environmental review
PERT	Performance Evaluation and Record Tracking
PFD	power flux density
PFEG	Pacific Fisheries Environmental Group (NMFS, Monterey, CA)
PFTA	Payload Flight Test Article (NASA used with PDRS)
PG & D	Product Generation & Distribution (GIMGSP section)
PGHM	payload ground handling mechanism
PGP	Perfect GOES Projection
PGT	procedure generation task
PGT	procedure generation team
PI	principal Investigator
PI	photo Interpretation
PI	position Indicator
PIA	payload Interface adaptor
PIA	preliminary Initiation agreement
PIA	project Initiation agreement
PIB	parallel Input buffer
PID	parameter Identification (ID)
PID	processed Instrument data
PIES	Post-Installation Engineering Support
PIONEER of	NASA PIONEER Venus Series (remote sensing and direct measurement Venus; -2 launched August 1978
PIP	payload Integration plan
PIPOR	Program for International Polar Ocean Research

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
pixel	picture element (x implied)
PKM	perigee kick motor
PLB	pulse load bus
PLDS	Pilot Land Data System (NASA)
PLL	phase locked loop
PM	phase modulation
PM	product monitor
PM	project manager
PMC	pressure modulated cell
PMD	propellant management device
PMEL	Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory (ERL, Seattle, WA)
PMF	product master file
PMG	Plasma Motor Generator (NASA)
PMR	Pressure Modulated Radiometer
PMT	photomultiplier tube
PN	pseudo-random noise
PNEDC	?
PO	Planetary Observer (NASA/spacecraft to study Martian atmosphere)
POCC	Payload Operations Control Center (NASA)
POCC	Project Operations Control Center (NASA)
PODS	Pilot Ocean Data System (JPL)
PODS	Precise Orbit Determination System (frequently with PPS)
POES	Polar-orbiting Operational Environmental Satellites
POLAR	POLAR (NASA/polar auroral plasma physics)
POLEX	Polar Experiment (Soviet led 1975-80)
POOMSCOB	Polar Orbiting Meteorological Satellite Coordinating Board (AF & NOAA)
POP	Polar-Orbiting Platform (Usually designated as NASA or ESA platform)
PPE	Phase Partitioning Experiment (NASA experiment)
PPI	Plan Position Indicator (usually radar)
PPL	preferred parts list
ppm	parts per million
PPS	Precise Position System (NASA/NPOP-1 & 2, frequently with PODS)
pps	pulses per second
PRL	Polar Research Laboratories
PRM	protoflight model
PROFS	Prototype Regional Observing and Forecasting Service (ERL)
PROM	programmable read only memory
PRT	portable radiation thermometer
PRT	platinum resistance thermometer

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
PS	Payload Specialist (NASA/Shuttle)
PS	power supply
PS	pressure sounding
PSB	Physical Science Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
PSB	Product Systems Branch (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
PSF	point spread function
PSG	polar stereographic
PSK	phase shift keying
PSN	Piano Spaziale Nazionale (Italian National Space Plan)
PSP	polar stereographic projection
PSP	payload support plan
PSR	pre-ship review
PTT	Platform Transmitter Terminal
PUF	product user file
PUR	Payload Under Review (NASA)
PVA	perigee velocity augmentation
PVTOS	Physical Vapor Transport of Organic Solids (NASA)
PWM	pulse-width modulation
PWS	performance work statement
P/DU	Processing Distribution Unit (with VIP the current SPS)
P/L-EX	Payload Executive
P/N	pseudo noise
P/SEC	pulses per second
QA	quality assurance
QC	quality control
QI	Quality Increase (also QSI)
QI	quartz-iodide
QKR	Qualified Kibitzer Room
QM	qualification model
QM	quality monitor
QPSK	quadrature PSK
QSI	quality step increase
QT	quality test
r	correlation coefficient
R & D	research & development
R & QA	reliability & quality assurance
RAB	radio beacon
RACE	Research and Applications Cooperative Experiment
radar	radio detection and ranging
Radarsat	Radar Satellite (Canadian free-flyer with U.S. and U.K., launch

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
	scheduled June1994)
RADID	dial-up radar
RAFS	Regional Analysis and Forecast System (NMC)
RAIDS	Remote Atmospheric and Ionospheric Detection System
RAM	random access memory
RAMM	Regional and Mesoscale Meteorology Branch (NESDIS, Ft.Collins, CO)
RAMS	Remote Attitude Measurement System (NASA)
raob	radiosonde observation
RASS	Radio Acoustic Sounding System
RAWARC	Radar Warning and Coordination
RBV	Return Beam Videcon (ERTS/early Landsat sensor)
RCC	Rescue Coordination Center
RCS	reaction control subsystem
RCS	radar backscattering cross section
RECCO	Reconnaissance Code
RF	radio frequency
RFI	radio frequency interference
RFM	Radio Frequency Management (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Quote
RGB	red/green/blue
RGON	Remote Geophysical Observing Network
RH	mean relative humidity
RHI	Range Height Indicator
RHS	right hand side (notation used by non-sailors)
RID	raw instrument data
RID	review item description
RISOP	Rapid Image Scanning Operation
RITS	radiatively important trace species
RJE	remote job entry
RME	Radiation Monitoring Equipment (NASA/Shuttle gamma radiation levels)
RMMB	Regional & Mesoscale Meteorology Branch (NESDIS, Ft. Collins, CO; a.k.a. RAMM)
rms	root mean square
rmsd	root mean square differences
ROI	Regional Optimum Interpolation (NMC)
ROM	read only memory
ROM	rough order of Magnitude (a budgetary WAG)
ROS	Research Optical Sensor

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
ROSAT	Roentgen Satellite (NASA/FRG satellite for X-ray study, launch scheduled February 1990)
RPG	Research Planning Group (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
rpm	revolutions per minute
RPOCC	Remote Payload Operations Control Center
rss	root sum square
RSTCS	Redundant SOCC Telemetry and Command System (part of GIMTACS)
RSWG	Response Strategies Working Group (IPCC)
RT	radiative transmissivity
RTA	Research and Technology Application (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
RTCM	Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services
RTE	radiative transfer equation
RTNEPH	Real-Time NEPH Analysis Model
RTU	Remote Telemetry Unit
RUPS	Recorder/Utility Processor System (NASA-MSOCC)
R/V	Research Vessel (NOAA ship notation)
S	Scout (NASA/small class ELV)
SAB	Synoptic Analysis Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
SAD	sounder/auxiliary data
SADA	Solar Array Drive Assembly
SADE	Solar Array Drive Electronics
SAGE	Stratospheric Aerosol and Gas Experiment (NASA/mapping vertical profiler)
SAL	Satellite Applications Laboratory (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
SALT	Special Altimeter (proposed inexpensive DoD satellite)
SAM	sensing with active microwaves
SAM	station acquisition maneuver
SAM II	Stratospheric Aerosol Measurement II (Nimbus-7)
SAMS	Stratospheric and Mesospheric Sounder
SAMSO	Space and Missile Systems Organizaton (AF)
SAMTEC	Space and Missile Test Center
SAN MARCO-DL	
	SAN MARCO-DL (NASA/Italian Earth physics satellite; launched March 25, 1988)
SAPB	Satellite Activities Progress Briefing (NESDIS)
SAPIE	Solar Array Plasma Interaction Experiment (ESA study)
SAR	Search and Rescue (also S & R)
SAR	Subcommittee on Atmospheric Research (Federal)
SAR	synthetic aperture radar
SAREX	Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (NASA/Shuttle)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
SARM	Search and Rescue Memory
SARNET	Search and Rescue Network
SARR	Search and Rescue Repeater
SARSAT	Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking
SAS	Small Astronomy Satellite (NASA/X-ray sources from space)
SAS	Space Adaptation Syndrome (NASA/space motion sickness, etc.)
SAS	solar array support
SASS	Seasat-A Scatterometer System
SAT	select at test
SATCOM	Satellite Communications (commercial satellite)
SATCOM	satellite communications (generic)
SATCU	solar array telemetry commutator unit
SATEMP	Satellite Temperatures (WMO distributed messages)
SATOB	Satellite Observation Synopsis (WMO distributed bulletin)
SAU	signal analyzer unit
SAV	submerged aquatic vegetation
SAW	surface acoustic wave
SB	Support Branch (NESDIS/SOCC, Suitland, MD)
SBA	Small Business Administration
SBA	S-band antenna
SBS	Satellite Business Systems (all-digital domestic satellite communication for business)
SBUV	Solar Backscatter Ultraviolet Spectrometer (TIROS - N)
SBV/TOMS	Solar and Backscatter Ultra-Violet/Total Ozone Mapping System (Nimbus-7)
SCAMS	Scanning Microwave Spectrometer
SCAR	Scientific Committee for Antarctic Research (ICSU)
ScaRaB	Scanner for Radiation Budget
SCATT	Scatterometer
SCB	Statistical Climatology Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
SCD	source control drawing
SCE	Spacecraft Command Encoder (NASA)
SCE/SCVM	S/C Command Encoder/Shuttle Command Voice Multiplexer
SCM	Solar Constant Monitor
SCM	successive correction method
SCM	synchronous communication multiplexer
SCMR	Surface Composition Mapping Radiometer
SCO	subcarrier oscillator
SCOPE	Scientific Committee on Problems of the Environment (ICSU)
SCOR	Scientific Committee for Oceanographic Research (ICSU)
SCR	Software Change Request

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
SCR	strip chart recorder
SCR	system concept review
SCR	surface contour radar
SCR	selective chopper radiometer
SCU	signal conditioning unit
SC/No	subcarrier-to-noise density ratio
SD	sensor data
SD	stored data
SDAB	Systems Design & Applications Branch (NESDIS, Madison, WI)
SDAIP	System Description, Analysis, and Implementation Plan
SDAIP	System Development and Integration Plan
SDHS	Satellite Data Handling System (AFGWC)
SDI	Sensor Data Interface (SPS)
SDI	Sensor Downlink Interface (SPS)
SDLC	Standard Data Link Communications
SDM	structural dynamic model
SDPD	Office of Satellite Data Processing and Distribution (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SDR	sensor data record
SDR	system design report
SDS	Solar Disk Sextant (NASA/solar pulsations, oblateness, size)
SDSD	Satellite Data Services Division (NESDIS/NCDC, Camp Springs, MD)
SDSR	system definition study report
SDUS	Secondary Data User Station
SDUS	Small-scale Data Utilization Station
SE	Student Experiment (NASA/experiments for Shuttle by students)
SE	support equipment
SEAC	(National Bureau of) Standards Eastern Automatic Computer (now NIST)
SEAMAP	Southeast Assessment, Monitoring, and Prediction
SEAS	Shipboard Environmental Data Acquisition System
SeaWiFS	Sea-viewing, Wide-Field-of View Sensor
SEB	Source Evaluation Board
SECO	sustainer engine cutoff
SEDS	Small Expendable Deployment System (NASA/light-weight tether/ Shuttle)
SEE TOVS	Sounding Error Evaluation for TOVS
SEFC	Southeast Fisheries Center
SEGD	Solid Earth Geophysics Division (NESDIS/NGDC, Boulder, CO)
SEL	Satellite Experiment Laboratory (NESDIS, now defunct)
SEL	Space Environmental Laboratory (OAR, Boulder, CO)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
SEM	Space Environmental Monitor (TIROS-N)
SEM	Solar Environmental Monitor
SEMS	Severe Extratropical Massive Storms
SEP	NWS office identifier for Stephenville, TX
SEPET	satellite electrical performance evaluation test
SESAC	Space and Earth Science Advisory Committee (a committee of NAC)
SESC	Space Environment Services Center (SEL, Boulder, CO)
SET	spacecraft evaluation team
SF	standard form
sfc	surface
SFDF	Satellite Field Distribution Facility
SFDU	Standard Formatted Data Unit
SFH	Super Fluid Helium (NASA/on orbit transfer of helium)
SFID	subframe identification
SFP	Space Flight Participant (NASA)
SFSS	Satellite Field Services Station (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
SFU-RET	Space Flyer Unit-Retrieval (Japanese launched free flyer by Shuttle)
SGDB	Satellite Global Data Base
SGLS	space-to-ground link subsystem
SGP	structure ground point
SHARE	Space Station Heat-Pipe Advanced Radiator Element (NASA)
SHEAL	Shuttle High Energy Astrophysics Laboratory (NASA)
SHIT	so happy its Thursday (usually said with more emphasis than if it's Tuesday)
SHOOT	Superfluid Helium On-Orbit Transfer (NASA)
SHTL	So how's this list?
SIB	serial input buffer
SIB	Sounding Implementation Branch (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SIC	Spacecraft Identification Code (NASA)
SIC	system integration contractor
SIG	Senior Interagency Group (Secretary Level--specific, i.e., SIG-Space)
SIGRID	sea ice grid
SIMBAD	Set of Identifications, Measurements, and Bibliography for Astronomical Data
SIO	Scripps Institution of Oceanography (UCSD)
SIP	Sounding Improvement Progect (NESDIS)
SIPO	Systems Integration and Planning Officer (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
SIR	Spaceborne Imaging Radar
SIR	Shuttle Imaging Radar
SIRD	Support Instrumentation Requirements Document (NASA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION

SIRS	Satellite Infrared Spectrometer
SIRTF	Space Infrared Telescope Facility (NASA)
SISEX	Shuttle Imaging Spectrometer Experiment
SISP	Surface Imaging and Sounding Package
SIT	Software Integration and Test
SK	stationkeeping
SKIRT	Spacecraft Kinetic Infrared Test(NASA/IR emissions from spacecraft)
SKYLAB	U.S. Manned Space Station in the early 1970's
SKYNET	SKYNET (U.K. military communication satellite)
SLA	SARR L-band Antenna
SLAR	side-looking aperture radar
SLAR	side-looking airborne radar
SLE	signal level estimate
SLP	sea level pressure
SLR	Satellite Laser Ranging
SLS	Space Life Sciences Laboratory (NASA/weightlessness studies)
SMA	State Meteorological Administration (China)
SMALL EXPL	
	Small Explorer (NASA/payloads to fly on small ELV; -1 launch scheduled December 1991 up to -10 scheduled June 1996)
SME	Solar Mesosphere Explorer
SMM	Solar Maximum Mission
SMMR	Scanning Multichannel Microwave Radiometer (Seasat & Nimbus-7)
SMO	surface meteorological observation
SMP	Software Management Plan
SMR	San Marco Range
SMRM	Solar Maximum Repair Mission (NASA/STS technology demonstration)
SMRWG	Science and Mission Requirements Working Group
SMS	Synchronous Meteorological Satellite (NASA predecessor to GOES)
SN	serial number
SN	signal-to-noise (also S/N, and SNR)
SN	Space Network (i.e., NASA TDRSS)
SNR	signal-to-noise ratio (also S/N and SN)
SOA	State Oceanographic Administration (China)
SOA	S-band omnidirectional antenna
SOAR	spacecraft orbital anomaly report
SOB	Senate Office Building
SOB	serial output buffer
SOCC	Satellite Operations Control Center (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
SOFIA	Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (NASA)
SOH	Satellite Operations Handbook
SOHO	Solar Heliospheric Observatory (NASA)
SOHO	Solar and Heliophysical Observatory
SOI	Simulator Output Interface
SOI	Southern Oscillation Index (NOAA, CAC)
SOLTICE	Solar/Stellar Irradiance Comparison Experiment
SOOS	Stacked OSCAR On Scout (Navy)
SOP	special observing period
SORD	Systems Operations Requirement Document
SOW	statement of work
SP	Shared Processing
SP	special publication
SP STA	Space Station (NASA/series of flights to complete a Phase One Space Station)
SPACEHAB	SPACEHAB (commercially-owned pressurized module)
Spacelab Ig	In-Flight Contamination Experiment (ESA Mast contaminates study also denoted by S/L, S/L-D, and S/L-J)
SPAN	Space Physics Analysis Network (NASA)
SPAR	STS Payload Assurance Requirements
SPARRSO	Space Research and Remote Sensing Organization
SPARTAN	Shuttle Pointed Autonomous Research Tool for Astronomy (NASA)
SPAS	Shuttle Pallet Satellite (payload carrier developed by FRG)
SPCZ	South Pacific Convergence Zone
SPD	Special Projects Division (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SPDF	Shared Processing Data Frame
SPDS	Systems Planning & Development Staff (OSO)
SPDT	single pole double throw (switch)
SPD(S)	systems planning and development (staff)
SPE	static phase error
SPECMAP	Spectral Mapping (of climate parameters)
SPI	System Planning & Integration (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
SPIE	The International Society for Optical Engineering
SPIF	Shuttle POCC Interface Facility (NASA)
SPN	Shared Processing Network
SPM	Solar Proton Monitor
SPO	Special Project Office (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SPOT	Systeme Probatoire d'Observation de la Terre (France)
SPP	Sun-Pointing Platform
SPRB	Satellite Product Review Board (NESDIS)
SPS	sensor processing system

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
SQA	software quality assurance
SR	Scanning Radiometer (NOAA sensor replaced by AVHRR)
SRAD	Shuttle Radiator Assembly Demonstration (NASA)
SRB	Specification Review Board
SRL	Space Radar Laboratory (NASA/a series of flights for radar imaging)
SRL	Satellite Research Laboratory (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
SRP	Search and Rescue Project (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SR(VI)	simple ratio (vegetation Index)
SS	Sun synchronous
SSA	S-band signal access
SSAA	Short Span Attitude Adjustment (a.k.a. ESC)
SSAB	Source Selection Advisory Board
SSB	Space Sciences Board (of the NAS)
SSB	Systems Support Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
SSBUV	Shuttle SBUV
SSC	John C. Stennis Space Center (formerly NSTL, Bay St. Louis, MS)
SSCC	Spin-Scan Cloudcover Camera
SSD	Satellite Services Division (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
SSD	Space Systems Division (NESDIS, Suitland, MD)
SSEC	Space Science and Engineering Center (University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI)
SSH	sea surface height
SSIP	Shuttle Student Involvement Projects (NASA)
SSM/I	Special Sensor Microwave/Imager
SSM/T	Special Sensor Microwave/Temperature
SSM/T2	Special Sensor Microwave/Temperature-Moisture
SSS	Satellite Servicer System (NASA/Shuttle bay fluid resupply)
SSS	Spacecraft Support Systems (GIMGSP)
SSSAAS	Space Station Science and Applications Advisory Subcommittee
SSSCE	Space Station Science Characterization Experiment
SSSUMC	Space Station Science Users' Management Committee
SSSUWG	Space Station Science Users' Working Group
SST	sea surface temperature
SST	Super Sonic Transport
SSU	Stratospheric Sounding Unit (TIROS - N)
STAC	Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (CBPIC)
STACS	Subtropical Atlantic Climate Studies
STARLAB	Starlab (DoD Spacelab Experiments)
STCS	SOCC Telemetry and Command System (part of GIMTACS)
STD	standard
STDN	Spaceflight Tracking Data Network (NASA)

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
STI	science and technology initiative
STIP	Software Test and Integration Plan
STIRS	System Technical Information Request/Status
STIWG	Satellite Telemetry Interagency Working Group (subgroup to DCSWG)
STM	structural test model
STO	spacecraft test operator
STOL	systems test and operations language
STORM	Stormscale Operational and Research Meteorology (a NOAA initiative since 1982 led by OAR)
STP	Space Test Program (AF)
STPD	Solar-Terrestrial Physics Division (NESDIS/NGDC, Boulder, CO)
STP-SPARTAN	
	Space Test Program-Spartan (USAF deployment and retrieval)
STREX	Storm Transfer Response Experiment
STS	satellite tracking station
STS	Space Transportation System (NASA/shuttle system)
STSI	Space Telescope Science Institute (Baltimore, MD)
STTP	Space Technology Training Program (NASA/Life Sciences)
STX	S-band transmitter (x implied)
SUB-MM	Submillimeter spectrometer
SUE	System Utilization Enhancement (NASA)
SUE LAN	System Utilization Enhancement Local Area Network (NASA)
SUG	Software Users Group
SURFER	Stanford University Radio Frequency Emissions Receiver (HH-G)
SURSAT	Surveillance Satellite (Canadian experiment)
SUSIM	Solar Ultraviolet Spectral Irradiance Monitor
SVAS	Stretched VAS (GOES 4-7 AA/AAA data)
SW	shortwave
SWAG	scientific wild-ass guess
SWG	scientific working group
SWH	significant wave height
SWICS	shortwave internal calibration source
SWIS	Satellite Weather Information System
SWOP	Stereo Wave Observation Project
SXI	Solar X-ray Imager
SYN	abbreviation of synchronous (also SYNC)
SYNCOM	Synchronous Communications Satellite (commercial)
Syncom	synchronous communications satellite (generic)
SZA	Solar or Satellite Zenith Angle
S&R	search & rescue
S/A	Safe and Arm

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
S/A	solar array
S/C	spacecraft
S/C GLOW	Spacecraft **Glow** (NASA/effects on glow characteristics of material)
S/DB	Synchronizer/Data Buffer (old SPS)
S/L-D	Spacelab (German Spacelab missions)
S/L-J	Spacelab (Japan/NASA Spacelab mission)
S/N	signal-to-noise (ratio)
S/No	signal-to-noise density ratio
S/R	signal-to-noise ratio (also denoted as SNR)
S/W	software
T	tilt
T & C	telemetry & command
T & C	Telemetry & Command subsystem (GMACS)
T & DA	tracking & data acquisition
TAC	technical advisory committee
TACC	Tracking and Control Center
TACS	Tracking and Control Station
TACTS	Telemetry, Acquisition, and Command Transmission System
TAM	three-axis magnetometer
TAPS	Two-Axis Pointing System
TARS	Turn Around Ranging Station
TBD	to be determined
TBM	terabit memory
TBS	Terabit Memory System (NOAA data system, now replaced)
TBS	to be specified
TCA	time of closest approach
TCB	thermal-control blanket
TCE	thermal-control electronics
TCH	thermal-control heaters
TCL	thermal-control louvers
TCLBS	Tropical Constant-level Balloon System
TCNTRL	thruster control software
TCOPS	trajectory computation & orbital products system
TCR	thermal-control radiators
TCS	Telemetry and Command Simulator (part of GSS)
TCS	thermal-control subsystem
TCSM	Tropospheric Chemistry Systems Model
TCXO	temperature-compensated crystal oscillator (x implied)
TDA	Task Description Agreement

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
TDC	Telemetry Data Controller (NASA)
TDM	time division multiplexing
TDPS	tracking and data processing system
TDR	test discrepancy report
TDRS	Tracking and Data Relay Satellite
TDRSS	Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System
TE	technical evaluation
TE	test equipment
TE	trailing edge
TED	Total Energy Detector
TELESAT	Telecommunications Satellite (Canadian)
TELSTAR	Commercial Communications Satellite
TF	thermal fine (high-resolution DMSP infrared image)
TFS	Thermal and Fluid Systems (NASA/test in zero-gravity of Space Station)
TGIF	thank goodness it's Friday
THIR	Temperature-Humidity Infrared Radiometer (Nimbus-7)
TIFF	tagged image file format
TIMS	Thermal Infrared Multispectral Scanner
TIP	TIROS Information Processor (NOAA)
TIR	thermal infrared
TIRES	TIROS Executive Software
TIREX	TIROS Ice Experiment (NASA/Navy experiment in the 1960's)
TIROS	Television and Infrared Operational Satellite (1st NOAA meteorological satellite)
TIS	Teacher in Space (NASA)
TISB	Training and Information Services Branch (NESDIS, Camp Springs, MD)
TITOS	?
TLD	Thermoluminescent Dosimeter
TLM	telemetry
TLP	test load package (flight software)
TM	Technical Memorandum (NOAA report usually followed by a number)
TM	Thematic Mapper
TMIS	Technical and Management Information System (NASA)
TML	total mass loss
TMMCA	TITOS Magnetic Moment Compensation Assembly
TMU	Test/Monitor Unit (part of GSS)
TN	TDRSS Network
TO	technical officer
TO	transfer orbit

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
TOA	top-of-the-atmosphere
TOAR	TIROS Orbital Anomaly Report
TOGA	Tropical Oceans and Global Atmosphere Programme
TOMS	Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer
TOPEX	Oceanic Topography Experiment (US/France; Poseidon experiment within France)
TOS	Transfer Orbit Stage (NASA)
TOS	TIROS Operational System
TOTO	Tongue-of-the-Ocean (also Dorothy's dog)
TOVS	TIROS Operational Vertical Sounder
TOY	time of year
TPG	test pattern generator
TPOCC	Transportable POCC
TPT	television picture terminal
TR	test report
TR	tape recorder
TR	Technical Report (a NOAA report usually followed by a number)
TRANET	Tracking Network (DoD)
TRANS	transfer orbit
TRANSIT	TRANSIT (U.S. Navy navigation satellite)
TRASYS	Thermal Radiation Analysis System
TRB	test review board
TREM	Tropical Rainfall Explorer Mission (NASA)
TRIFAR	Tri-frequency airborne radar
TRMM	Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (NASA)
TS	temperature sounding
TS	thermal smooth (smoothed DMSP infrared image)
TSC	test support contractor
TSC	Transportation Systems Center (DoT)
TSO	time sharing option
TSS	Tethered Satellite System (NASA/deploy and retrieval by Shuttle)
TT & C	tracking, telemetry, & command
TTL	transistor-transistor logic
TTM	thermal test module
TTY	teletype (message)
TUT	telemetry users table
TWG	technical working group
t.p.	tropical platform
TV	television
T/V	thermal-vacuum

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
T-Number	Typical long-term growth rate of tropical cyclones (related to intensity)
UAQPSK	unbalanced asynchronous quadra-phase shiftkeyed
UARS	Upper Atmosphere Research Satellite (NASA/atmospheric physical processes;launch scheduled October 1991)
UCSD	University of California San Diego
UDA	ultra-high frequency data collection system antenna
UER	unsatisfactory engineering report
UFO	Ultra-high Frequency Follow-On (U.S. Navy communications satellite; -2 launch scheduled October 1993, -3 launch scheduled April 1994)
UHF	ultra-high frequency
UIIS	unique instrument interface specification
UK	United Kingdom (U.K. preferred as a modifier)
UKMCC	U.K. Mission Control Centre (Plymouth, England)
ULA	STDN Station (NASA-Fairbanks, AK)
ULCC	up-link carrier control
ULI	up-link interface
ULP	unified load package
ULYSSES	Formerly ISPM (NASA/investigations of the heliosphere, Shuttle launch scheduled October 1990)
UNEP	U.N. Environment Programme
UNESCO	U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
UNIDATA	UCAR-Based Data Exchange System
UNIDATA	Universal Data format
UNIFAX	a commercial weather map facsimile service
UPN	unique project number
US	United States (U.S. preferred as a modifier)
USAF	United States Air Force
USAF-01	USAF Satellite (small ELV class spacecraft—specifics TBD)
USAF/SD	United States Air Force/Space Division
USAPC	United States Argos Processing Center
USARP	United States Antarctic Research Program
USB	User Services Branch (NESDIS/NCDC, Asheville, NC)
USB	User Services Branch (NESDIS/NODC, Washington, DC)
USB	Unified S-band Receiver
USCG	United States Coast Guard
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USGS	United States Geological Survey (DoI)
USMCC	United States Mission Control Center

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
USML	United States Microgravity Laboratory (NASA/Shuttle µgravity)
USMP	United States Microgravity Payload (NASA/Shuttle materials processing)
USNO	United States Naval Observatory (Washington, DC)
USO	ultra stable oscillator
USS	unique support structures
USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
UT	Universal Time
UTC	Universal Time Convention (same as GMT, Zulu)
UTH	upper tropospheric humidity
UV	ultraviolet
UV Dial	Ultraviolet DIfferential Absorption Lidar
UVLIM	Ultraviolet Limb Imaging Experiment (NASA/110-300nm range)
U.K.	United Kingdom
U.N.	United Nations
U.S.	United States (only abbreviated when used as a modifier)
U/S	upper stage
VAB	vehicle assembly building
VAB	vertical assembly building
VAS	VISSR Atmospheric Sounder (GOES 4-7 instrument)
VCC	Vehicle Command Count
VCC	valid command count
VCC	variable command count (sometimes improperly designated)
VCDA	valve coil drive assembly
VCM	volatile condensable material
VCO	voltage controlled oscillator
VDB	VISSR Data Base
VDM	video display monitor
VDM	VISSR Digital Multiplexer
VDUC	VAS Data Utilization Computer
VGP	vehicle ground point
VHF	very high frequency
VHRGS	very high resolution ground station
VHRR	Very High Resolution Radiometer
VHS	video home system
VHSC	video home system cassette
VI	vegetation Index
VIE	VAS Interface Electronics
VIP	VAS Image Processor (with P/DU current SPS)
VIP	video Image processor

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
VIRGS	VISSR Image Registration and Gridding System (current OATS)
VIRR	Visible and Infrared Radiometer (Seasat, but like SR)
VIS	visible (part of the electromagnetic spectrum)
VIS NIR	Visible and Near Infrared
VISSR	Visible and Infrared Spin-Scan Radiometer (GOES series)
VIS-UV	Visible/Ultraviolet Spectrometer
VLA	Very Large Array (NRAO)
VLBI	Very Long Baseline Interferometry
VLF	very low frequency
VPF	Vertical Processing Facility (NASA/KSC)
VRA	VHF real-time antenna
VS	vibration sensor
VSWR	voltage standing wave ratio
VTIR	Visible and Thermal Infrared Radiometer
VTPR	Vertical Temperature Profile Radiometer
VTX	VHF real-time transmitter (antenna; x implied)
V-SCI	VDUC Science and Applications Group
WACK	wait before transmit
WAD	Work Authorization Document
WAG	wild ass guess
WAMDII	Wide Angle Michelson Doppler Imaging Interferometer (NASA/Shuttle; launch scheduled November 1991)
WBDCS	Wide-band data Collection System
WBS	work breakdown structure
WCA	worst case analysis
WCDA	Wallops Command and Data Acquisition (NESDIS, Wallops Island, VA)
WCIP	World Climate Impact Studies Programme
WCP	World Climate Programme
WCRP	World Climate Research Programme (ICSU and WMO)
WDU	Wallops Distribution Unit (P/DU - DM)
WEFAX	Weather Encoded Facsimile Transmission (x implied)
WEPOLEX	Weddell Polynya Experiment
WESTAR	Commercial Satellite
WFF	Wallops Flight Facility (NASA, Wallops Island, VA)
WFOV	wide field-of-view
WGD	Working Group on Data (as in CEOS WGD)
WIND	WIND (NASA/satellite to measure solar wind input to magnetosphere; launch scheduled December 1992)
WISP	Waves in Space Plasmas (NASA/attached payload)
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

AAAA	MEANING/INTERPRETATION
WOCE	World Ocean Circulation Experiment
WORM	Write Once, Read Many (times)
WPL	Wave Propagation Laboratory (NOAA, Boulder, CO)
wpm	words per minute
WPS	Wallops Tracking Station (NASA, Wallops Island, VA)
WRI	World Resources Institute (policy research)
wrt	with respect to
WS	winter solstice
WSFO	Weather Service Forecast Office (NWS/multiple locations)
WSMC	Western Space and Missile Center (USAF; Vandenberg Air Force Base)
WTR	Western Test Range
WV	water vapor
WWB	World Weather Building (heaven located in Camp Springs, MD)
WWW	World Weather Watch (sponsored by WMO)
WX	Weather (x implied)
W/E	West/East
XBT	expendable bathythermograph
XCS	communications subsystem (x implied)
XLD	CXU level discrete command type
XPD	CXU pulse discrete command type
XPOPS	extended power-on power software
XRI	(Solar) X-ray Imager (see SXI, located on GOES system)
XRP	X-ray Positioner
XRPE	X-ray positioner electronics
XRS	X-ray Sensor
XSU	cross strap unit (x implied)
XTE	X-ray Timing Explorer (NASA/Shuttle launch)
YGC	yaw gyrocompass
YJC	cure for LDS
YRW	yaw reaction wheel
Y-MP	the world's fastest computer located at ARC (NASA)
Z	Zulu time the same as GMT, UTC
ZA	Alphabetical designator given to an image enhancement curve
ZTS	Zoom Transfer Scope