

# GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

## A

A	amplitude; augmentation; away (altitude intercept); Arctic/Antarctic (air mass).
a	semimajor axis.
a	altitude intercept (Ho~Hc); altitude factor (change of altitude in 1 minute of time from meridian transit); assumed.
ABAND	abandoned.
AC	alternating current; altocumulus.
ACC	Antarctic Circumpolar Current.
add'l	additional.
ADF	automatic direction finder.
ADIZ	air defense identification zone.
ADLL	Admiralty Digital List of Lights.
AEB	acquisition exclusion boundary.
AERO	aeronautical.
AF	audio frequency.
AFC	automatic frequency control.
AGC	automatic gain control.
AIS-SART	AIS Search And Rescue Transmitter.
AIS	Automatic Identification System.
AISM	Association Internationale de Signalisation Maritime (International Association of Lighthouse Authorities).
aL	assumed latitude.
Al., Alt,	alternating (light).
<i>A.L.R.S.</i>	<i>Admiralty List of Radio Signals.</i>
am	amber.
AM	amplitude modulation.
AM	ante meridian (before noon).
AMHS	Automated Message Handling System.
AMSL	Above Mean Sea Level.
Anch	anchorage.
antilog	antilogarithm.
AP	assumed position.
approx.	approximate, approximately.
ARCS.	Admiralty Raster Chart System.
ARPA	automatic radar plotting aid.
ASAM	anti-ship activity message.
ASF	Additional Secondary Phase Factor.
ASM	Application Specific Message.
ASP	Application Service Provider.
AT	atomic time.
ATON (AtoN)	Aid(s) To Navigation.
AUSREP	Australian Ships Reporting System.
al	assumed longitude.

## B

B	atmospheric pressure correction (altitude); bearing, bearing angle.
BC	Bathymetric Contour Chart.
Bdy Mon	boundary monument.
BFO	beat frequency oscillator.
BIH	Bureau Internationale de l'Heure.
BIPM	International Bureau of Weights and Measures.
bk	broken.
bkw	breakwater.
bl	blue.
BM	bench mark.
Bn	beacon.
BNPC	Bathymetric Navigation Planning Chart.
Bpgc	bearing per gyrocompass.
br	breakers.
Brg.	bearing (as distinguished from bearing angle).
bu	blue.

## C

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

CH	compass heading.
CIPM	International Committee of Weights and Measures.
Cl	clearance.
cm	centimeter(s).
CMG	course made good.
Cn	course (as distinguished from course angle).
CNO	Chief of Naval Operations, US Navy.
co	coral.
co-	the complement of (90° minus).
COA	course of advance.
COE	Committee on ECDIS (IHO).
COG	course over ground.
coL	colatitude.
colog	cologarithm.
corr.	correction.
cos	cosine.
cot	cotangent.
COTP	Captain of the Port.
cov	coversine.
CPA	closest point of approach.
CPE	circular probable error.
Cpgc	course per gyrocompass.
CPRNW	Commission on the Promulgation of Radio Navigational Warnings.
cps	cycles per second.
Cpsc	course per standard compass.
Cp stg c	course per steering compass.
CPU	central processing unit.
crs	course.
CRT	cathode-ray tube.
csc	cosecant.
CSP	Communications Service Provider.
CSTDMA	Carrier-sense Time Division Multiple Access.
cup	cupola.
Cus Ho	customs house.
CW	continuous wave.
CZn	compass azimuth.

**D**

D	deviation; dip (of horizon); distance; destroyed.
d	declination (astronomical); altitude difference.
d	declination change in 1 hour.
dA	difference of longitude (time units).
DAAS	Defense Automatic Addressing System.
DAC	Designated Area Code.
DC	direct current.
deg.	degree(s).
Dec.	declination.
Dec. Inc.	declination increment.
Dep.	departure.
destr	destroyed.
Dev.	deviation.
DG	degaussing.
DGIWG	Digital Geographic Information Working Group.

DGNSS	Differential Global Navigation Satellite Service.
DGPS	differential global positioning system.
DHQ	mean diurnal high water inequality.
DHS	Department of Homeland Security.
Dia	diaphone.
diff.	difference.
Dist.	distance.
DLA.	Defense Logistics Agency.
D. Lat.	difference of latitude.
DLo	difference of longitude (arc units).
DLQ	mean diurnal low water inequality.
dm	decimeters.
DNC	digital navigation chart.
dol	dolphin.
DOT	Department of Transportation.
DR	dead reckoning; dead reckoning position.
DRE	dead reckoning equipment.
DRM	direction of relative movement.
DRT	dead reckoning tracer.
Ds	dip short of horizon.
DSC	digital selective calling.
DSD	double second difference.
DSVL	doppler sonar velocity log.
dur.	duration.
DW	Deep Water Route.
DZ	danger zone.

**E**

E	east.
e	base of Napierian logarithms; origin of own ship's true vector.
e	eccentricity.
EBL	electronic bearing line.
ECD	envelope to cycle difference; envelope to cycle discrepancy.
EC	electronic chart.
ECC	electronic chart correction.
ECDB	electronic chart data base.
ECDIS	electronic chart display and information system.
ECS	electronic chart system.
ED	existence doubtful.
EDD	estimated date of departure.
EEZ	exclusive economic zone.
EGC	enhanced group calling.
EHF	extremely high frequency.
E. Int.	equal interval; isophase.
EM	electromagnetic (underwater log).
em	other ship's true vector.
ENC	electronic navigation chart.
ENCDB	electronic navigation chart data base.
EP	estimated position.
EPFS	Electronic Position Fixing System.
EPIRB	Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon.
EPIRB-AIS	Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon - AIS enabled.
ePODS	electronic Product On Demand.

EPROM erasable programmable read only memory.  
 Eq.T equation of time.  
 er own ship's true vector.  
 ET Ephemeris Time.  
 ETA estimated time of arrival.  
 ETD estimated time of departure.  
 Exting extinguished.

**F**

F Fahrenheit; fast; longitude factor; phase correction (altitude); fixed (light)  
 f latitude factor.  
 f flattening or ellipticity.  
 FATDMA Fixed Access Time Division Multiple Access.  
 F.Fl. fixed and flashing.  
 FI Function Identifier.  
 Fl. flashing (light).  
 Fl. (2) group flashing (light).  
 Fl. (2+1) composite group flashing (light).  
 FLO Fleet Liaison Officer - a civilian NGA analyst of Navy Quartermaster (QM).  
 fm(s) fathom(s).  
 FM frequency modulation.  
 Fog Det. fog detector.  
 Fog Sig. fog signal.  
 ft. foot, feet.  
 FTC fast time constant.

**G**

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

**H**

h altitude (astronomical); height above sea level; hours.  
 ha apparent altitude.  
 Hc computed altitude.  
 Hdg. heading.  
 HE heeling error; height of eye.  
 HF high frequency.  
 hf height above sea level in feet.  
 HFL Hydrographic Feature Layer.  
 HHW higher high water.  
 HHWI higher high water interval.  
 Hk hulk.  
 HLW higher low water.  
 HLWI higher low water interval.  
 hm height above sea level in meters.  
 Ho observed altitude.  
 Hor horizontal.  
 Hor Cl horizontal clearance.  
 HP horizontal parallax.  
 Hp precomputed altitude.  
 Hpgc heading per gyrocompass.  
 Hpse heading per standard compass.  
 Hp stg c heading per steering compass.  
 hr rectified (apparent) altitude.  
 hr. hour, hrs., hours.  
 hs sextant altitude.  
 HSD high speed data.  
 ht tabulated altitude.  
 HW high water.  
 H.W.F.&C. high water full and change.  
 HWI high water interval, mean high water lunitidal interval.  
 HWQ tropic high water inequality.  
 Hz hertz.

**I**

I instrument correction.  
 i inclination (of satellite orbit).  
 IALA International Association of Lighthouse Authorities.  
 IAU International Astronomical Union.  
 IC index correction.  
 ICC Intelligence Coordination Center.  
 ICW Intracoastal Waterway.  
 IDC International Data Center.  
 IEC International Electrotechnical Commission.  
 IDE International Data Exchange.  
 IGLD International Great Lakes Datum.  
 IHB International Hydrographic Bureau.  
 IHO International Hydrographic Organization.  
 IIP International Ice Patrol.  
 IMO International Maritime Organization.  
 in. inch, inches.  
 INM International Nautical Mile.

INMARSAT	International Maritime Satellite Organization.
INS	inertial navigation system.
int.	interval.
Int. Qk.	Interrupted quick flashing.
ION	Institute of Navigation.
I.Q.	interrupted quick flashing.
IR	interference rejection.
IRP	image-retaining panel.
ISLW	Indian spring low water.
ISO	International Order of Standardization, International Organization for Standards; isophase (light).
ITDMA	Incremental Time Division Multiple Access.
ITU	International Telecommunications Union.
IUGG	International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics.
I.U.Q.	interrupted ultra quick flashing.
I.V.Q.	interrupted very quick flashing.
IWW	Intracoastal Waterway.

### J – K – L

J	irradiation correction (altitude).
JRCC	Joint Rescue Coordination Center.
K	Kelvin (temperature).
kHz	kilohertz.
km	kilometer, kilometers.
KML	Keyhole Markup Language
KMZ	Keyhole Markup Language Zipped
kn	knot, knots.
L	latitude; lower limb correction for moon.
l	difference of latitude; logarithm, logarithmic.
LAN	local apparent noon.
LANBY	large automatic navigational buoy.
LASH	lighter aboard ship.
LAT	local apparent time.
lat.	latitude.
LF	low frequency.
L.Fl.	long flashing.
LHA	local hour angle.
LHW	lower high water.
LHWI	lower high water interval.
LL	Light List.
LL	lower limb.
LLW	lower low water.
LLWD	lower low water datum.
LLWI	lower low water interval.
Lm	middle latitude; mean latitude.
LMT	local mean time.
LNB	large navigational buoy.
LNG	liquified natural gas.
LPC	Littoral Planning Chart.
LPG	liquified petroleum gas.
Log	logarithm, logarithmic.
Loge	natural logarithm (to the base e).
Log10	common logarithm (to the base 10).
LoL	List of Lights.

Long.	longitude.
LOP	line of position.
LRIT	Long-Range Identification and Tracking.
LSS	Logical AIS Shore Station.
LST	local sidereal time.
Lt.	light.
Lt Ho	light house.
Lt V	light vessel.
LW	low water.
LWD	low water datum.
LWI	low water interval; mean low water lunitidal interval.
LWQ	tropic low water inequality.

### M

M	celestial body; meridian (upper branch); magnetic (direction); meridional parts; nautical mile, miles; other ship.
m	meridian (lower branch); meridional difference; meter,(s); U.S. survey mile, miles; end of other ship's true vector; minutes.
MA.	Marine Analyst.
mag.	magnetic; magnitude.
MARAD	United States Maritime Administration.
MB	magnetic bearing.
mb	millibar(s).
MC	magnetic course.
mc	megacycle, megacycles; megacycles per second.
MC&G	mapping, charting and geodesy.
MCPA	minutes to closest point of approach.
MDA	Maritime Domain Awareness.
Mer. Pass.	meridian passage.
MF	medium frequency.
MGRS	military grid reference system.
MH	magnetic heading.
MHHW	mean higher high water.
MHHWL	mean higher high water line.
MHW	mean high water.
MHWI	mean high water lunitidal interval.
MHWL	mean high water line.
MHWN	neap high water or high water neaps.
MHWS	mean high water springs.
MHz	megahertz.
mi.	mile, miles.
MID	Maritime Identification Digit.
mid	middle.
min.	minute(s).
MISLE	Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement.
MLLW	mean lower low water.
MLLWL	mean lower low water line.
MLW	mean low water.
MLWI	mean low water lunitidal interval.
MLWL	mean low water line.
MLWN	neap low water or low water neaps.
MLWS	mean low water springs.
mm	millimeters.

MMSI	Maritime Mobile Service Identity.
Mn	mean range of tide.
mo(s)	month(s).
MOB-AIS	Man Overboard AIS device.
MODU	mobile offshore drilling unit.
Mon	monument.
Mo.(U)	Morse Uniform (light).
mph	miles per hour.
MPP	most probable position.
MRCC	Maritime Rescue Coordination Center.
MRI	mean rise interval.
MRM	miles of relative movement.
ms	millisecond(s).
MSC	IMO Maritime Safety Committee.
MSC	Military Sealift Command.
MSI	maritime safety information.
MSIWG	Maritime Safety Information Working Group.
MSL	mean sea level.
MSO	Maritime Safety Office (NGA).
MTI	moving target indication.
MTL	mean tide level.
MWL	mean water level.
MWLL	mean water level line.
MZn	magnetic azimuth.

**N**

N	north; nun.
n	natural (trigonometric function).
Na	nadir.
NAD	North American Datum.
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration.
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization.
NAUTO	nautophone.
NAVAREA	Navigation Area.
NAVEX	Naval Exercise Chart.
NAVSAT	Navy Navigation Satellite System.
NAVSSI	navigation sensor system interface.
NAVO	Naval Oceanographic Office.
NBDP	narrow band direct printing.
NBS	National Bureau of Standards.
NCS	network coordination station.
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act.
NESS	National Earth Satellite Service.
NGA	National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.
NGVD	National Geodetic Vertical Datum.
NLT	not less than (used with danger bearing).
n. mi.	nautical mile(s).
NM	nautical mile, miles; notice to mariners.
NMEA	National Marine Electronics Association.
NMT	not more than (used with danger bearing).
NNSS	Navy Navigation Satellite System.
NOA	Notice of Arrival.
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

NOS	National Ocean Service.
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rule Making.
NRML	new relative movement line.
NtM	notice to mariners.
NTTAA	National Technology Transfer and Advancement Act.
NVMC	National Vessel Movement Center.
NWS	National Weather Service.

**O**

Obsc	obscured.
Obs Spot	Observation spot.
Obstr	obstruction.
Oc.	occulting.
Oc.(2)	group occulting.
Oc.(2+1)	composite group occulting.
Occas	occasional.
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf.
ODAS	oceanographic data acquisition systems.
OMB	Office of Management and Budget.
ONI	Office of Naval Intelligence.
OPAREA	US Navy Operating Area Chart.
Or	orange.
OTC	officer in tactical command.
OTSR	Optimum Track Ship Routing.

**P**

P	atmospheric pressure; parallax; planet; pole; pillar.
p	departure; polar distance.
PA	position approximate.
PC	personal correction; personal computer.
PD	position doubtful.
PCA	polar cap absorption.
PCD	polar cap disturbance.
PCP	potential point of collision.
pgc	per gyrocompass.
PI	Presentation Interface.
P in A	parallax in altitude.
PM	pulse modulation.
PM	post meridian (after noon).
PMP	parallel motion protractor.
Pn	north pole; north celestial pole.
PPC	predicted propagation correction.
PPDB	point positioning data base.
PPI	plan position indicator.
PRF	pulse repetition frequency.
Priv	private; privately.
PROHIB	prohibited.
PRR	pulse repetition rate.
Ps	south pole; south celestial pole.
psc (p stg c)	per standard compass.
PSS	Physical AIS Shore Station.
Pub.	publication.
PV	prime vertical.
Pyl	pylon.



**Q**

Q	quick flashing.
Q(3)	group quick flashing (3 flashes).
Q(6)+L.Fl.	group quick flashing (6 flashes) plus a long flash.
Q	Polaris correction.
QM	US Navy Quartermaster.
QQ'	celestial equator.

**R**

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

**S**

s	second(s).
S	sea-air temperature difference correction; slow; south; set; speed; sand.
SAIS	Synthetic AIS.
SALM	single anchor leg mooring.
SAM	system area monitor.
SAR	search and rescue.
SART	search and rescue radar transponder.
SBM	single buoy mooring.
SCP	SafetyNET Coordinating Panel.
SD	semidiameter; sounding doubtful.
sec	secant.

sec.	second, seconds.
semidur.	semiduration.
SENC	system electronic navigation chart.
SERS	Sea Floor Earth Data System.
SES	ship earth station.
SF	Secondary Phase Factor.
SH	ship's head (heading).
SHA	sidereal hour angle.
SHF	super high frequency.
SI	International System of Units.
SID	sudden ionospheric disturbance.
sin	sine.
SINS	Ships Inertial Navigation System.
SLD	sea level datum.
SME	Subject Matter Expert.
SMG	speed made good.
SNC	Standard Nautical Chart.
SNR	signal-to-noise ratio.
SOA	speed of advance.
SOG	speed over ground.
SoN	Safety of Navigation.
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea Convention.
SOTDMA	Self-Organizing Time Division Multiple Access.
SP	spire; spherical.
SPA	sudden phase anomaly.
SPM	single point mooring.
SRM	speed of relative movement.
SS	signal station.
SSAS	Ship Security Alert System.
sub, subm	submerged.
SVC	Sound Velocity Correction.

**T**

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

TG	time difference of groundwaves from master and secondary (slave) stations (Loran).	VDE	VHF Data Exchange.
TGS	time difference of groundwave from master and skywave from secondary (slave) station (Loran).	VDES	VHF Data Exchange System.
TH	true heading.	VDU	Vector Product Format Database Update.
TMG	track made good.	VDL	VHF Data Link.
TOD	time of day (clock), Tactical Ocean Data	vel	velocity.
Tk	tank.	Ver	vertical.
TR	track.	VHF	very high frequency.
Tr	transit; tower.	VHSD	very high speed data.
TRANSCOM	U.S. Transportation Command.	Vi	violet.
Ts	time difference of skywaves from master and secondary (slave) stations (Loran).	VLCC	very large crude carrier.
TSG	time difference of skywave from master and groundwave from secondary (slave) station (Loran).	VLF	very low frequency.
TSS	traffic separation scheme.	VMS	Voyage Management System.
TZn	true azimuth.	VPF	vector product format.
		vol	volcano; volcanic.
		VPF	vector product format.
		V.Q.	very quick flashing.
		V.Q.(3)	group very quick flashing.
		VRM	variable range marker.
		VTs	vessel traffic service.

## U

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

## V

V	variation; vertex.
v	excess of GHA change from adopted value for 1 hour.
VAIS.	Virtual AIS.
var.	variation.

## W

W	west; white.
WARC	World Administrative Radio Council.
WE	watch error.
WG	Working Group.
WGS	World Geodetic System.
Wk	wreck.
WMO	World Meteorological Organization.
WPI	World Port Index.
WT	watch time.
WTS	Worldwide Threat to Shipping.
WWNWS	World Wide Navigational Warning Service.

## X – Y – Z

X	parallactic angle.
XMTR	transmitter.
y.	yellow.
yd(s).	yard(s).
yr(s).	year(s).
z	zenith distance.
Z	azimuth angle; zenith; Zulu.
ZD	zone description.
Z Diff.	azimuth angle difference.
Zn	azimuth.
Znpgc	azimuth per gyrocompass.
ZOC	Zones of Confidence.