INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

ITU-T

TELECOMMUNICATION
STANDARDIZATION SECTOR
OF ITU

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SERIES B: MEANS OF EXPRESSION: DEFINITIONS, SYMBOLS, CLASSIFICATION

Abbreviations and initials used in telecommunications

ITU-T Recommendation B.19

(Previously CCITT Recommendation)

ITU-T B-SERIES RECOMMENDATIONS

MEANS OF EXPRESSION: DEFINITIONS, SYMBOLS, CLASSIFICATION

For further details, please refer to ITU-T List of Recommendations.

ITU-T RECOMMENDATION B.19

ABBREVIATIONS AND INITIALS USED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Source

Revised ITU-T Recommendation B.19 was approved by the WTSC (Geneva, 9-18 October 1996).

FOREWORD

ITU (International Telecommunication Union) is the United Nations Specialized Agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of the ITU. The ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Conference (WTSC), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T Study Groups which, in their turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of Recommendations by the Members of the ITU-T is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSC Resolution No. 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

The ITU draws attention to the possibility that the practice or implementation of this Recommendation may involve the use of a claimed Intellectual Property Right. The ITU takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of claimed Intellectual Property Rights, whether asserted by ITU members or others outside of the Recommendation development process.

As of the date of approval of this Recommendation, the ITU had/had not received notice of intellectual property, protected by patents, which may be required to implement this Recommendation. However, implementors are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information and are therefore strongly urged to consult the TSB patent database.

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Recommendation B.19

ABBREVIATIONS AND INITIALS USED IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS[1]

(revised in 1996)

The WTSC,

considering

a) the rapid increase in the number of abbreviations and initials used in ITU texts;

b) that it is sometimes difficult to find the precise meaning of an abbreviation or acronym appearing in ITU texts,

recommends

that, as far as the use of abbreviations in texts of the ITU is concerned, the following guidelines be taken into account:

1 Abbreviations should not be used in titles.

2 The use of abbreviations should be as far as possible limited to those in current use.

3 Within each technical area (corresponding to a study group or a working party) the meaning of the abbreviations currently in use, as well as the corresponding abbreviations in the other working languages, should be given in a Recommendation (or an annex to a Recommendation on terminology).

4 The use of abbreviations specific to a text (or a set of neighbouring texts) should be limited to cases when they make the text easier to read, i.e. when an abbreviation may be used a number of times in the same text, or is used in a table or a diagram.

5 In each text, the meaning of any abbreviation shall be given when this abbreviation is used for the first time; furthermore, the meaning of abbreviations used in a text should be recalled in an alphabetical list at the end of the text, or in the legend of tables or diagrams.

6 As far as possible, the same abbreviation should be used in the different working languages, in particular in the case of specific abbreviations quoted in item 4 above.

7 The use of abbreviations comprising less than three characters, which is the source of many confusions, should be avoided.

8 Appendix I gives a number of references to texts giving the meaning of abbreviations used in some particular areas.

NOTE – An alphabetical list of abbreviations used in the *Blue Book* fascicles is published in Fascicle I.3.

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[1] The text of this Recommendation is analogous to that of Recommendation ITU-R V.666.

APPENDIX I

References to lists of specific abbreviations

I.1 Frequency and wavelength bands

See Recommendation B.15.

I.2 ITU-T codes and routing codes

See the relevant ITU-T Recommendations, in particular:

– ITU-T Recommendation E.164 for ISDN telephone networks;

– ITU-T Recommendation F.69 for telex networks;

– ITU-T Recommendation X.121 for public data networks.

I.3 Codes contained in the Radio Regulations

I.3.1 Designation of emissions: Article 2 (Article S2, Section I).

I.3.2 Miscellaneous codes and abbreviations: Appendix 13 (ITU-R Recommendation to be established).

I.3.3 SINPO and SINPFEMO codes: Appendix 15 (Recommendation ITU-R SM.1135).

I.4 Abbreviations used by ITU for the names of countries

See the Preface to the International Frequency List, Table I. (Different abbreviations have been approved by ISO, see ISO Standard 3166.)

I.5 Acronyms of international organizations involved in telecommunications

See the ITU Global Directory, Section 2.

I.6 Symbols and names for units

I.6.1 Recommendation B.3 gives the sources to be used. This Recommendation refers to IEC Publication 27 and to ISO International Standards 31 and 1000.

I.6.2 Recommendation B.14: Terms and symbols for information quantities in telecommunications.

I.6.3 Recommendation B.12: Use of the decibel and the neper in telecommunications.

I.6.4 Recommendation B.18: Traffic intensity unit.

I.7 Letter symbols

Recommendation B.1: "Letter symbols for telecommunications" provides guidelines to be followed to simplify the reading of documents dealing with telecommunication techniques; it refers to IEC Publication 27 and to ISO International Standard 31 for letter symbols to represent physical quantities and mathematical operations.

I.8 Chemical symbols

See the table published by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC).

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