Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary 1986-87

TENTH EDITION

Julie E. Towell and Helen E. Sheppard, Editors **VOLUME 1**

PART 3: P-Z

HQ ERA EFA

Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary

A Guide to More Than 340,000 Acronyms, Initialisms, Abbreviations, Contractions, Alphabetic Symbols, and Similar Condensed Appellations

Covering: Aerospace, Associations, Biochemistry, Business and Trade, Domestic and International Affairs, Education, Electronics, Genetics, Government, Labor, Medicine, Military, Pharmacy, Physiology, Politics, Religion, Science, Societies, Sports, Technical Drawings and Specifications, Transportation, and Other Fields

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The editors have speculated on the reasons for the tendency to use all capitals, without periods, and found no single answer. It seems significant, however, that the equipment that is widely being used today for records and/or for communication—such as Teletypes, computer printout units, punched cards, etc.—had, in its early days of development, only uppercase letters, and, except for the Teletype, a relatively limited capacity for characters, punctuation, and spacing.

The general rule of all-capital letters could not logically be applied to all entries, however. Unlike certain other types of terms that might be written in various ways, academic degrees, for example, often include both capital and lowercase letters. The degree of Bachelor of Science may be abbreviated BS, but it is also often expressed as B Sc, and it would not have been appropriate to apply the "all capital" rule to material of this type. "T" indicates "tablespoon" to a cook, and its lowercase form, "t," indicates "teaspoon"—the difference could be crucial in any recipe. Also, although conjunctions, prepositions, and articles are usually ignored in the formation of an initialism, they are occasionally found in such instances as C of C for Chamber of Commerce, which would rarely be written as COFC.

Another important exception is made with abbreviations of periodical titles. Those made up of a *series* of abbreviations are traditionally written in upper- and lowercase: Econ Comput Econ Cybern Stud Res (Economic Computation and Economic Cybernetics Studies and Research). The often extraordinary length of such "short" forms would be somewhat overwhelming if set in full capitals: ECON COMPUT ECON CYBERN STUD RES.

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Finally, the use of uppercase or lowercase letters in alphabetical *codes*, such as library symbols, MARC codes, and others, is frequently significant. These terms have therefore been picked up as given by the authoritative source.

Updating and Categorizing

As was indicated in the Preface, updating of entries is a continuing effort. Terms are updated as changes come to our attention, but obviously not all entries in the book can be kept constantly current.

Where possible, and if not already implied in the entry itself, a parenthetical category or identifier follows many terms. Examples are [World War II], [Library of Congress], [Air Force], and so forth. The purpose is to put as many entries as possible into some kind of context, since AIAD entries come from hundreds of different subject areas. These added identifiers may indicate that the entry is connected with or originated by the given category, or it may simply be an indication that the term is abbreviated in that particular way by the organization, group, or categorization used.

The identifier following an entry—such as [FAA] or [Veterans Administration]—is usually the one current when the term was picked up for AIAD. The agency or organization used as an identifier may since have been altered in structure or dissolved; and while the entry for the agency itself may indicate the change, the

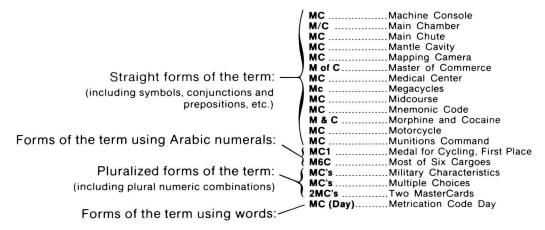
identifiers in other related terms will not necessarily be altered. For example, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) became the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 1979. The entry for HEW indicates this change:

There are, however, many other entries in the dictionary that are followed by the designation [HEW]. Some of these have been changed to indicate the term's ongoing connection with the new agency. Others retain their [HEW] category, since it cannot be presumed that all designations for departmental units, processes, etc., are currently used by the superseding agency.

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With respect to arrangement of terms and their meanings, it should be kept in mind that the point of reference for the user is the *abbreviation* rather than its meaning. Therefore, it is deliberate when there are two listings of, for example, the International Airline Stewards and Stewardesses Association under slightly different initialisms, both of which were encountered in one or another of the various sources used to compile this dictionary.

Acronyms, Initialisms & Abbreviations Dictionary

P-Z

Contents

Volume 1 Part 1 A-F

Acknowledgments	7
Preface to the Tenth Edition	9
Editorial Policies	15
Arrangement of Terms	17
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
A-F	21
Volume 1	
Part 2 G-O	
Editorial Policies	847
Arrangement of Terms	849
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
G-O	853
Volume 1	
Part 3 P-Z	
Editorial Policies	1599
Arrangement of Terms	1601
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
P-Z	1605

Contents

Volume 1 Part 1 A-F

Acknowledgments	7
Preface to the Tenth Edition	9
Editorial Policies	15
Arrangement of Terms	
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
A-F	21
Volume 1	
Part 2 G-O	
Editorial Policies	847
Arrangement of Terms	849
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
G-O	853
Volume 1	
Part 3 P-Z	
Editorial Policies	1599
Arrangement of Terms	1601
Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations	
P-Z	1605

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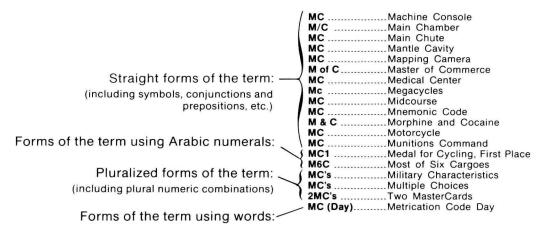
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P Armour Pharmaceutical Co. [Research code symbol]	P Pattern
P Assistant in Private Practice [Chiropody] [British]	P Pavilion
P Asta Werke AG [Germany] [Research code symbol]	P Pawn [Chess]
P Bristol Laboratories [Research code symbol]	P Pax [Peace] [Latin]
P Dainippon Pharmaceutical Co. [Japan] [Research code symbol]	P Pay
P Departure	P Paymaster [Military]
P Farbenfabriken Bayer [Germany] [Research code symbol]	P Pazmaveb [A publication]
P Farmitalia [Italy] [Research code symbol]	P Peak
P Faulty Punctuation [Used in correcting manuscripts, etc.]	P Peat
P Force of Concentrated Load	P Pebbles [Quality of the bottom] [Nautical charts]
PGames [or Matches] Played [Sports statistics]	PPectoral [Anatomy]
P Hole P-Type Semiconductor Material	pPeculiar [Astronomy]
	PPen [Sports]
P Lepetit [Italy] [Research code symbol] p Momentum [Symbol] [IUPAC]	
	p Pence [Monetary unit in Great Britain]
P Office of Personnel [Coast Guard]	P Pencil Tube
pOn Probation [Navy] [British]	P Pengo [Monetary unit in Hungary until 1946]
P Orbital Period [of a comet] [In years]	PPenicillin
PP-Register [Data processing]	PPennia [Monetary unit in Finland]
P Pacer	P Pennsylvania State Library, Harrisburg, PA [Library symbol]
P Pacific Coast Stock Exchange [Later, PSE]	P Penny
p Pacific Ocean [MARC geographic area code] [Library of	P People
Congress]	P Per
P Pacific Standard Time	P Percentile
P Packed Lunches [School meals] [British]	P Perceptual
P Paddington Railway Station	P Perch
P Page	P Perchloroethylene [Also, TCE] [Dry cleaning]
P Pain [Medicine]	P Percussion
P Paired [for or against] [Votes in Congress]	P Pere [Father] [French]
P Paise [Monetary unit in India]	P Perforation
P Palace	P Performer
P Palacio [A publication]	PPerianth
P Palaestra [A publication]	P Pericardium [Medicine]
P	PPerimeter
PPamphlet	PPeriod
	PPerishable
PPancuronium [A muscle relaxant]	
PPapa [Phonetic alphabet]	PPermanent Stay [in hospital] [British]
PPapa [Pope] [Latin]	PPerpetuus [Uninterrupted] [Latin]
P Paper	pPerseverate [Psychology]
P Papilla [Optic] [Medicine]	P Persimmon
pPara [Chemistry]	P Persistence [Medicine]
P Para [Monetary unit in Yugoslavia]	P Person
P Paralegal Program [Association of Independent Colleges and	P Personnel
Schools specialization code]	P Perspectives [A publication]
P Parallax	P Perstetur [Continue] [Pharmacy]
P Parallel	P Persuasion [Novel by Jane Austen]
P Paramecin [A protozoan toxin]	P Peseta [Monetary unit in Spain and Latin America]
P Parashah [Biblical and Judaic Acronyms]	P Pesewa [Monetary unit in Ghana]
P Parental	P Pesher [Biblical and Judaic Acronyms]
P Parish	P Peshitta [Biblical and Judaic Acronyms]
P Parity [Atomic physics]	P Peso [Monetary unit in Spain and Latin America]
P Park	P Peta [A prefix meaning multiplied by 1015] [SI symbol]
P Parking Place [Traffic sign] [British]	P Peter [Phonetic alphabet] [World War II]
P Parson	P Petrol [British Waterways Board sign]
P Part	P Peyote
PParticiple [Grammar]	P Pfizer, Inc. [Research code symbol]
P Partim [<i>In Part</i>]	PPharmacopoeia
PParty	PPhencyclidine [An anesthetic]
P Parve [or Pareve] [In food labeling, indicates food is kosher and	PPhenolphthalein [Chemical indicator]
can be used with either meat or dairy products]	PPhiladelphia [Pennsylvania] [Mint mark, when appearing on US
P Passed [Examination]	Coins] Phillips Petroleum Co. [NVSE symbol]
P Passing Showers [Meteorology]	P
P Past	P Philologus. Zeitschrift fuer Klassische Altertum [A publication]
PPaste	P Philosophy [A publication]
P Pasteurella [Genus of bacteria]	P Phoenician [Biblical and Judaic Acronyms]
P Pastor	PPhon [Unit of loudness level]
P Patchy [Decelerometer readings] [Aviation]	p Phosphate [One-letter symbol] [Biochemistry]
P Patent	p Phosphoric Residue [As substituent on nucleoside]
P Pater [Father] [Latin]	[Biochemistry]
P Patient	P Phosphorus [Chemical element]
P Patrol [Designation for all US military aircraft]	