

Glossary

CABLE CLAMP ADAPTER — A mechanical adapter that attaches to the rear of a plug or receptacle to allow the attachment of a cable clamp.

CABLE CORE — The portion of an insulated cable lying under a protective covering.

CABLE CORE BINDER — A wrapping of tapes or cords around the conductors of a multiple-conductor cable used to hold them together.

CABLE FILLER — The material used in multiple-conductor cables to occupy the interstices formed by the assembly of the insulated conductors, thus forming a cable core.

CABLE JOINT — A complete insulated splice, or group of insulated splices, contained within a single protective covering or housing. In some designs, the insulating material may also serve as the protective covering.

CABLE LOSS — The amount of RF (radio frequency) signal attenuated by coaxial cable transmission. The cable attenuation is a function of frequency, media type, and cable length. For coaxial cable, higher frequencies have greater loss than lower frequencies and follow a logarithmic function. Cable losses are usually calculated for the highest frequency carried on the cable.

CABLE, PRESSURIZED — A cable having a pressurized fluid (gas or oil) as part of the insulation; nitrogen and oil are the most common fluids.

CABLE SHEATH — The protective covering applied to cables.

CABLE, SPACER — An aerial distribution cable made of covered conductors held in place by insulated spacers; designed for wooded areas.

CABLE SUPPORT — A device to mount a cable on a supporting member.

CABLE, TRAY — A multiconductor cable having a nonmetallic jacket, designed for use in cable trays per the National Electrical Code.

CABLING — The method by which a group of insulated conductors is mechanically assembled (or twisted together).

CAD — Computer-Aided Design.

CAM — Computer-Aided Manufacture.

CAPACITANCE — Capacitance is that property of a system of conductors and dielectrics which permits the storage of electricity when potential differences exist between the conductors.

CAPACITANCE COUPLING — Electrical interaction between two conductors caused by the potential difference between them.

CAPACITANCE, DIRECT — The capacitance measured from one conductor to another conductor through a single insulating layer.

CAPACITANCE, MUTUAL — The capacitance between two conductors (typically of a pair) with all other conductors, including shield, short circuited to ground.

CAPACITANCE, UNBALANCE — An inequality of capacitance between the wires of two or more pairs which result in a transfer of unwanted signal from one pair to others.

CAPACITANCE, UNBALANCE-TO-GROUND — An inequality of capacitance between the ground capacitance of the conductors of a pair which results in a pickup of external noise energy, usually from power transmission lines.

CAPACITIVE REACTANCE — The opposition to alternating current due to the capacitance of a capacitor, cable or circuit. It is measured in ohms and is equal to $1/(6.28 fC)$ where f is the frequency in Hz and C is the capacitance in farads.

CAPACITOR — Two conducting surfaces separated by a dielectric material. The capacitance is determined by the area of the surface, type of dielectric, and spacing between the conducting surfaces.

CAPILLARY ACTION — The travelling of liquid along a small interstice due to surface tension.

CARRIER — (1) An AC electrical signal that is used to carry information, (2) The woven element of a braid consisting of one or more ends (strands) which creates the interlaced effect. Also, a spindle, spool, tube, or bobbin (on a braiding machine) containing yarn or wire, employed as a braid.

CATHODE — (1) The negative electrode through which current leaves a nonmetallic conductor, such as an electrolytic cell, (2) the positive pole of a storage battery.

CATHODIC PROTECTION — Reduction or prevention of corrosion by making the metal to be protected the cathode in a direct current circuit.

CATV — Community antenna television. Refers to the use of a coaxial or fiber cable to transmit television or other signals to subscribers from a single head-end location.

CATV CABLE — General term for all cables used for community antenna TV service and feeders, distribution and house drops.

CAVASITE CORD — 2 conductors, stranded copper, rubber insulation and braid twisted together and finished with weather proof braid.

CB — Citizens band. One type of two-way radio communication.

C CONDITIONING — A type of line conditioning that controls attenuation, distortion, and delay distortion so they lie within specific limits.

C CONNECTOR — A bayonet-locking connector for coax; C is named after Carl Concelman.

CCTV — Closed-circuit television. One of the many services often found on broadband networks.

CCW — Continuously corrugated and welded. A type of cable sheath.

CD — Carrier Detect. An RS-232 control signal (on Pin 8) which indicates that the local modem is receiving a signal from the remote modem. Also called Received Line Signal Detector (RLSD) and Data Carrier Detect (DCD).

CELLULAR POLYETHYLENE — Expanded or "foam" polyethylene, consisting of individual closed cells of inert gas suspended in a polyethylene medium, resulting in a desirable reduction of dielectric constant.

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE — A written statement; normally generated by a Quality Control Department, which states that the product being shipped meets customer's specifications.

CERTIFIED TEST REPORT (CTR) — A report reflecting actual test data on the cable shipped. Tests are normally conducted by the Quality Control Department, and shows that the product being shipped meets the required test specifications.