

Glossary

FIELD MOLDED SPLICE — A joint in which the solid dielectric joint insulation is fused and cured thermally at the job site.

FIELD TESTS — Tests which may be made on a cable system after installation as an acceptance or proof test.

FIGURE 8 CABLE — An aerial cable configuration in which the conductors and the steel strand which supports the cable are integrally jacketed. A cross section of the finished cable approximates the figure "eight".

FILLED CABLE — A cable construction in which the cable core is filled with a material that will prevent moisture from entering or passing through the cable.

FILLER — Fillers are used in multiconductor cables which occupy the interstices formed by the assembled conductors. This is done so that the finished cable will be round.

FILLING COMPOUND — A dielectric material poured or injected into a splice housing or cable to prevent the entry of water. Filling compounds may require heating or mixing prior to filling. Some filling compounds may also serve as the insulation.

FILM — A thin plastic sheet.

FINE STRANDED WIRE — Stranded wire with component strands of 36 AWG or smaller.

FLAME RESISTANCE — The ability of a material to not propagate flame once the heat source is removed.

FLAMMABILITY — The measure of a material's ability to support combustion.

FLASHOVER — A disruptive discharge around or over the surface of a solid or liquid insulator.

FLAT BRAID — A woven braid of tinned copper strands rolled flat at the time of manufacture to a specified width.

FLAT CABLE — A cable with two essentially flat surfaces.

FLAT CONDUCTOR — A wire having a rectangular cross section as opposed to a round or square conductor.

FLEX-LIFE — The measurement of the ability of a conductor or cable to withstand repeated bending.

FLEXIBILITY — The ease with which a cable may be bent.

FLEXIBLE — That quality of a cable or cable component which allows for bending under the influence of an outside force, as opposed to limpness which is bending due to the cable's own weight.

FLOATING — Refers to a circuit which has no electrical connection to ground.

FLUOROPOLYMER — A class of polymers used as insulating and jacketing materials. Common ones include Teflon, Tefzel, Kynar, and Halar.

FLUX — (1) The lines of force which make up an electrostatic field. (2) The rate of flow of energy across or through a surface. (3) A substance used to promote or facilitate fusion.

FM — Frequency Modulation. A modulation technique in which the carrier frequency is shifted by an amount proportional to the value of the modulating signal. The deviation of the carrier frequency determines the signal content of the message.

FOAMED INSULATION — Insulations having a cellular structure.

FOIL — A thin, continuous sheet of metal.

FREQUENCY — The number of cycles per second at which an analog signal occurs, expressed in Hertz (Hz). One Hertz is one cycle per second.

FREQUENCY ANALYZER — An instrument to measure the intensity of various component frequencies from a transmitting source.

FREQUENCY COUNTER — An electronic measuring instrument that counts the number of cycles of a periodic electrical signal during a given time interval.

FREQUENCY MODULATION (FM) — Method of encoding a carrier wave by varying the frequency of the transmitted signal.

FREQUENCY PLAN — Specification of how the various frequencies of a broadband cable system are allocated for use.

"F" TYPE CONNECTOR — A low cost connector used by the TV industry to connect coaxial cable to equipment.

FULL DUPLEX — Two-way communications in which each modem simultaneously sends and receives data at the same rate.

FUSE WIRE — Wire made from an alloy that melts at a relatively low temperature.

FUSED COATING — A metallic coating which has been melted and solidified, forming a metallurgical bond to the base material.

FUSED CONDUCTORS — Individual strands of heavily tinned copper wire stranded together and then bonded together by induction heating.

FUSED SPIRAL TAPE — A PTFE insulation often used on hookup wire. The spiral wrapped tape is passed through a sintering oven where the overlaps are fused together.

G

G — A UL cable type. Rubber insulated, neoprene, Hypalon or CPE jacketed portable power cable with two to five #8 AWG or larger conductors with ground wires.

GALVANIZED STEEL WIRE — Steel wire coated with zinc.

GANG STRIP — Stripping all or several conductors simultaneously.

GAS FILLED CABLE — A self-contained pressurized cable in which the pressure medium is an inert gas having access to the insulation.

GAUGE — A term used to denote the physical size of a wire.

GAUSS — A unit of magnetic induction (flux density) equal to 1 maxwell per square centimeter.

GENERAL PURPOSE INSTRUMENTATION BUS — (GPIB) A protocol standard defined by the IEEE.

GFI — Ground Fault Interrupter. A protective device that detects abnormal current flowing to ground and then interrupts the circuit.

G-GC — A UL cable type. A portable power cable similar to Type G, but also having a ground check conductor to monitor the continuity of the grounding circuit.

GHZ — Gigahertz; 1,000,000,000 cycles per second.

GIGA — A numerical prefix denoting one billion (10⁹).

GND — Ground.

GROUND — A voltage reference point that is the same as earth or chassis ground.