

AAIB	Air Accidents Investigation Branch
AAS	Anti-icing Advisory System
AC	Advisory Circular; provides nonregulatory guidance to certificate holders for a means (but not necessarily the only means) to comply with Federal Aviation (FAA) Regulations
ACARS	Automatic Communications and Recording System
Accident	<p>An occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and until such time as all such persons have disembarked and in which:</p> <p>(a) a person is fatally or seriously injured as a result of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - being in the aircraft or - direct contact with any part of the aircraft, including parts which have become detached from the aircraft or - direct exposure to jet blast <p>Except when the injuries are from natural causes, self-inflicted or inflicted by other persons, or when the injuries are to stowaways hiding outside the areas normally available to the passengers and crew; or</p> <p>(b) in which the aircraft sustains damage or structural failure which:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - adversely affects the structural strength, performance or flight characteristics of the aircraft and - would normally require major repair or replacement of the affected component, except for engine failure or damage, when the damage is limited to the engine, its cowlings or accessories; or for damage limited to propellers, wingtips, antennas, tyres, brakes, fairings, small dents or puncture holes in the aircraft skin; or <p>(c) the aircraft is missing or completely inaccessible</p>
ACO	Aircraft Certification Office (FAA)
AD	Airworthiness Directive; FAA regulatory requirement for immediate mandatory inspection and/or modification
ADC	Air Data Computer
ADS	Air Data Sensor
AEG	Aircraft Evaluation Group (FAA)
AFFF	Aqueous Film-Forming Foam
AFM	Aircraft Flight Manual

AGL	Above ground Level
AHRS	Attitude and Heading Reference System
AIM	Aeronautical Information Manual; a primary FAA publication whose purpose is to instruct airmen about operating in the U. S. National Airspace System
AIRMET	Airman's Meteorological Information; such advisories to flightcrews include, but are not limited to, moderate icing and moderate turbulence
ALPA	Air Line Pilots Association
AMASS	Airport Movement Area Safety System
AMM	Aircraft Maintenance Manual
AOA	Angle-Of-Attack
AOM	Aircraft Operating Manual
APM	Aircrew Program Manager
APOI	Assistant Principal Operations Inspector (FAA)
ARAC	Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee
ARFF	Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting
ARSA	Airport Radar Service Area
ARTCC	Air Route Traffic Control Centre; A facility established to provide air traffic control service to aircraft operating on IFR flight plans within controlled airspace and principally during the en-route phase of flight.
ASDE	Airport Surface Detection Equipment
ASR	Airport Surveillance Radar
ASRS	Aviation Safety Reporting System (NASA)
ATC	Air Traffic Control
ATCS	Air Traffic Control Specialist
ATCSCC	Air Traffic Control System Command Centre
ATCT	Air Traffic Control Tower

ATIS	Automatic Terminal Information Service; The continuous broadcast of recorded noncontrol information in selected terminal areas. Automated, repetitive transmission of essential but routine information.
ATR	Avions de Transport Regional (Manufacturer)
ATSB	Australian Transportation Safety Board
BAA	Bilateral Airworthiness Agreement
BEA	Bureau Enquetes-Accidents (France)
BRITE	Bright Radar Indicator Tower Equipment
CAA	Civil Aviation Authority (UK)
CAB	Civil Aeronautics Board (now FAA)
CAM	Cockpit Area Microphone
CAMI	Civil Aeromedical Institute (FAA)
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority (Australia)
CASA	Construcciones Aeronauticas, S.A. (manufacturer)
CCP	Control Column Position
CDL	Configuration Deviation List
Ceiling	The heights above the earth's surface of the lowest layer of clouds or obscuring phenomena that is reported as "broken", "overcast" or "obscuration" and not classified as "thin" or "partial"
CFIT	Controlled Flight Into Terrain
CFM	Company Flight Manual
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CFR	Crash, Fire & Rescue
CG	Centre of Gravity
CRM	Cockpit Resource Management
CTA	Centro Tecnico Aeroespacial (Brazil)
CVR	Cockpit Voice Recorder

CWA	Centre Weather Advisories
CWP	Control Wheel Position
CWSU	Centre Weather Service Unit
DER	Designated Engineering Representative
DFDR	Digital Flight Data Recorder
DGAC	Direction Generale de L'Aviation Civile (France)
DH	Decision Height; the height at which a decision must be made during an ILS, MLS or PAR instrument approach to either continue the approach or execute a missed approach.
DME	Distance Measuring Equipment
EADI	Electronic Attitude Display Indicator; indicating pitch and roll attitudes
EDCT	Expect Departure Clearance Time
EFC	Expect Further Clearance; from ATC
EFIS	Electronic Flight Information System
EHSI	Electronic Horizontal Situation Indicator
Emergency Evacuation	An emergency evacuation carried out under the control, or partial control, of the crew.
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FAR/JAR	Federal Aviation Regulations/Joint Airworthiness Requirements
Fatal Injury	An injury resulting in death within 30 days of the date of the accident
FCOM	Flightcrew Operating Manual
FDR	Flight Data Recorder
Ferry Flight	A flight for the purpose of returning an aircraft to base, delivering an aircraft from one location to another or moving an aircraft to and from a maintenance base.
FL	Flight Level; a level of constant atmospheric pressure related to a reference datum of 29.92 inches of mercury. Each is stated in 3 digits that represent hundreds of feet. E.g. FL250 = 25,000 ft.

FMRB	Flight Manual Review Board
FOQA	Flight Operations Quality Assurance
FPL	Full Performance Level
FSB	Flight Standards Bulletin
FSDO	Flight Standards District Office (FAA)
FSM	Flight Standards Manual
FSS	Flight Service Station; Air traffic facilities, which provide pilot briefing, en-route communication and VFR search and rescue services, assist lost aircraft and aircraft in emergency situations, relay ATC clearances, originate Notices to Airmen, broadcast aviation weather and NAS information, receive and process IFR plans and monitor NAVAIDs.
G	one G is equivalent to the acceleration due to Earth's gravity
GAO	General Accounting Office
GOES	Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time (see Zulu Time & UTC)
GPWS	Ground Proximity Warning System
HBAW	Handbook Bulletin for Airworthiness (FAA)
HIWAS	Hazardous In-Flight Weather Advisory Service; continuous recorded hazardous in-flight weather forecasts broadcast to airborne pilots over selected VOR outlets defined as an HIWAS Broadcast Area
HSI	Horizontal Situation Indicators
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
IFR	Instrument Flight Rules; a set of rules governing the conduct of flight under instrument meteorological conditions
IEP	Ice Evidence Probe
ILS	Instrument Landing System
IMC	Instrument Meteorological Conditions; meteorological conditions expressed in terms of visibility, distance from clouds and ceiling less than minima specified for visual meteorological conditions

Incident	An occurrence other than an accident associated with the operation of an aircraft, which affects or could affect the safety of operations.
Injury	The generic term including Non-Fatal Serious Injuries and Fatal Injuries.
IOE	Initial Operating Experience
JAAIC	Japan Aircraft Accident Investigation Commission
KIAS	Knots Indicated Airspeed
KTS	Knots (Nautical mile per hour)
LPC	Low Pressure Compressor
LWC	Liquid Water Content; the total mass of water in all the liquid cloud droplets within a unit volume of cloud; LWC/SLW refer to the amount of liquid water in a certain volume of air
LWD	Left Wing Down
MAC	Mean Aerodynamic Chord
McIDAS	Man-computer Interactive Data Access System
MDA	Minimum Descent Altitude
MED	Mean Effective Diameter; of water droplet
MEL	Minimum Equipment List
MFC	Multi-Function Computer
MLS	Microwave Landing System
MMEL	Master Minimum Equipment List
MSL	Mean Sea Level
MTOW	Maximum Take Off Weight
MVD	Median Volumetric Diameter; freezing drizzle is defined as supercooled water drops with MVDs between 50 and 300 microns and freezing rain as supercooled water drops with MVDs greater than 300 microns (a micron is 1/1,000 of a millimeter) ("supercooled" is the liquid state of a substance that is below the normal freezing temperature for that substance)
NACA	National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (now NASA)

NAS	Navigational Avoidance System
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration (formerly NACA)
NASIP	National Aviation Safety Inspection Program
NCAR	National Centre for Atmospheric Research
NDB	Non-Directional Beacon
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOTAM	Notice to Airman
NPRM	Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
NRS	National Resource Specialist
NTAP	National Track Analysis Program
NWS	National Weather Service
NAWAU	National Aviation Weather Advisory Unit; renamed Aviation Weather Centre
OAT	Outside Air Temperature
OB	Operational Bulletin
OIM	Operators Information Message
PA	Public Address; system
PAI	Principal Avionics Inspector
PAPI	Precision Approach Path Indicator
PAR	Precision Approach Radar
PF	Pilot Flying
PIC	Pilot in Command
PIO	Pilot Induced Oscillation
PIREP	Pilot Report
PMR	Performance Maintenance Recorder

PNF	Pilot Not Flying
POI	Principal Operations Inspector (FAA)
QNH	Corrected mean sea level pressure
RAPCON	Radar Approach Control
RIV	Rapid Intervention Vehicle
RTF	Radiotelephony
Runway Incursion	Any occurrence at an airport involving an aircraft, vehicle, person, or object on the ground that creates a collision hazard or results in loss of separation with an aircraft taking off, intending to take off, landing or intending to land.
Runway Vicinity	An accident is considered to have occurred within the Runway Vicinity if egress or injury took place within the area under the control of the airport authorities or within easy reach of the airport firefighting services.
RWD	Right Wing Down
SAT	Static Air Temperature (synonymous with OAT)
SB	Service Bulletin; supplied by manufacturer
SDR	Service Difficulty Report
Serious Injury	An injury which is sustained by a person in an accident and which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) requires hospitalisation for more than 48 hours, commencing within 7 days from the date the injury was received; or (b) results in a fracture of any bone (except simple fractures of fingers, toes or nose); or (c) involves lacerations which cause severe haemorrhage, nerve, muscle or tendon damage; or (d) involves injury to any internal organ; or (e) involves second or third degree burns, or any burns affecting more than 5% of the body surface; or (f) involves verified exposure to infectious substances or injurious radiation.
SIGMET	Significant Meteorological Information; such advisories to flightcrews include, but are not limited to, severe and extreme turbulence and severe icing

SLD	Supercooled large droplet
SLW	Supercooled liquid water
SN	Serial Number
SPS	Stall Protection System
STC	Supplemental Type Certificate
Survivable Accident	An accident is considered to be survivable if at least one occupant survived, or there was potential for occupant survival.
TAIC	Transport Accident Investigation Commission (New Zealand)
TAT	Total Air Temperature
TC	Type Certificate
TCAS	Traffic Alert And Collision Avoidance System
TN	Technical Note
TRACON	Terminal Radar Approach Control
TLU	Travel Limiter Unit; which limits rudder travel
UAE	United Arab Emirates
UTC	Co-ordinated universal time (see Zulu Time & GMT)
VMC	Visual Meteorological Conditions; expressed in terms of visibility, distance from clouds and ceiling equal to or better than specified minima
VFR	Visual Flight Rules; rules that govern the procedures for conducting flight under visual conditions (VMC)
VOR	Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Radio; range navigation aid
WSR	Weather Surveillance Radar
Zulu Time	Co-ordinated universal time (UTC), time at the O' longitude line that passes through Greenwich, England, and is based on the 24-hour clock