

# Jargon Buster

This page is based on the original MERG glossary.

[Guide to adding entries](#) How to do it for MERG Members wishing to add items.

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## A

[AC](#) - Alternating Current

[Accessory decoders](#)

[Accessory encoder](#)

[Address](#)

[Agile](#)

[Amplifier](#)

[AM](#) - Amplitude Modulation

[Amp](#) The measure of electrical current flow

[Analogue](#)

[AND](#)

[API](#) - Application Program Interface

[ASCII](#) - American Standard Code for Information Interchange

[Aspect](#)

[At-Bus](#) - (Layout) Control Bus

[Auto reverse](#)

[AWG](#) - American Wire Gauge

## B

[Back EMF](#)

[Baud](#)

[BC3](#)

[Bell signals](#)

[BGA](#)

[Bipolar](#)

[Bistable](#)

[Bit](#)

[Bite](#)

[BJT](#) - Bipolar Junction Transistor

[Block Control](#)

[Block occupancy](#)

[BloNg](#)

[Boolean](#)

[Booster](#)

[Bps](#) - Byte per second

Bridge rectifier

Buffer

Bus

Byte

## C

C/MRI - Computer/Model Railroad Interface

Cab Control

Cabling

CAN - Controller Area Network

CAN... CBUS Modules

Capacitor

Carlos

CBUS - (Layout) Control Bus

CDC - Communications Device Class

CDU - Capacitor Discharge Unit

CE - Conformité Européenne

Ceramic

Channel

Charlieplexing

Circuit

Cleaning Tracks

Clearing point

Clock

Closed loop

CMOS - Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor

Coil

Colour light

Com port - Communication Port

Command station

Common

Common Return Wiring

Computer Control Software

Conductor

Consist

Control Systems

Crystal

CSA

Current

Current shunt

CVs - Configuration Variable

## D

D type connector

Darlington

DC - Direct Current  
DC Control  
DCC - Digital Command Control  
Debounce  
DecoderPro  
Decoupling capacitor  
Digital  
Digitrax  
DIL - Dual In-Line  
Diode  
Dirty PSU  
DPDT - Double Pole Double Throw  
DPR - Double Pole Relay  
DPST - Double Pole Single Throw  
Driver

## E

EDG  
EEPROM  
Electro frog  
Electro magnet  
ESD - Electro Static Discharge  
ESR - Equivalent Series Resistance

## F

Faller  
Fast clock  
FCU - FLiM Configuration Utility  
Feathers  
FET- Field Effect Transistor  
FIFO  
Firmware  
Flag  
FLiM - Full Layout implementation Model  
Flip flop  
Frequency  
FM - Frequency Modulation  
Fuse

## G

Gerber image  
GIT repository

## GPP software

GPIO General Purpose Input and Output  
Ground

## H

Hall effect  
Handset  
Handshaking  
HASL  
Header plug or socket  
Heat sink  
Hector  
High  
HYPOTRAC  
Hysteresis loop

## I

ICs - Integrated Circuits  
ICSP - In Circuit Serial Programming  
Incandescent lamps  
Inductor  
Infra red emitter  
Infra red receiver/detector  
Insulfrog  
Interlocking

## J

Java  
JMRI - Java Model Railroad Interface

## K

Kits

## L

Latching  
Layout Command Control  
Lead free

[LED](#) - Light Emitting Diode

[LENZ](#)

[Lighting decoder](#)

[Logic](#)

## M

[Magnet](#)

[Matrix](#)

[Memory Wire](#)

[Microprocessor](#)

[Mobile decoder](#)

[Modulation](#)

[MOMS](#) - MERG Online Membership System

[Monostable](#)

[MOSFET](#) - Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor Field-Effect Transistor

[Multiplexor](#)

## N

[NAND](#) - Not AND

[Negative](#)

[NMRA](#) - National Model Railroad Association

[NMRA.net](#)

[NOR](#) - Not OR

[NPN](#)

## O

[Octal Darlington Arrays](#)

[Ohms](#)

[OP](#) Original Post(er)

[Op amp](#)

[Open collector](#)

[OpenLCB](#) - Open Layout Control Bus

[Optical detector](#)

[Opto-isolator](#)

[OR](#)

[Oscillation](#)

[Oscilloscope](#)

## P

[Parallel](#)

[PCB](#) - Printed Circuit Board

[PCB software](#)

[Peco motor](#)

[PEI](#) - Polyetherimide

[Phase](#)

[PM](#) - Phase Modulation

[PM](#) - Pulse Modulation

[PIC](#) - Peripheral Interface Controller

[PICKit](#)

[PiSo](#) - Parallel in Serial out

[PLA](#)

[PMD1](#)

[PMD2](#)

[PMP](#) - Pocket Money Project

[PMR1](#)

[PNP](#)

[Point Motors](#)

[Points](#)

[Polarity](#)

[Positive](#)

[Pot](#)

[Potentiometer](#)

[Power district](#)

[Power pack](#)

[Programming](#)

[Progressive cab control](#)

[PSU](#) - Power Supply Unit

[PTP](#) - Point to Point

[PTP-Lite](#)

[Pulse](#)

[Pulse Width Modulation](#)

[Pulsed output](#)

## **Q**

[QFN](#) - Quad Flat No Leads - a surface mount IC package

[QFP](#) - Quad Flat Pack - a surface mount IC package

[QTU](#) - Quad Throttle Unit

## **R**

[RailCom](#)

[RC filter](#) - Resistance and Capacitor Filter

[Rectification](#)

[Reed Switch](#)

[Regulated power supply](#)

Relays  
Resistor  
Resistor network  
Resonator  
Reverse polarity  
RFID - Radio Frequency IDentification  
Risk assessment  
RMS - Root Mean Square  
Road Vehicle Control  
Route setting  
RPC - Remote Panel Control  
RPI - Remote Panel Interface  
RPi - Raspberry Pi  
RS232  
RS485  
RSA  
RSE- Remote Stack Extension  
RTC

## S

SD4  
Seep motor  
Semaphore  
Series  
Servo  
Shift register  
Signalling  
SiPo - Serial in Parallel out  
SLIM - Simple/Small Layout implementation Model  
Smoothing  
SMPS  
SoC - System on Chip  
SoD - Start of Day  
Solid conductor  
Sound decoder  
Soundtrax  
SPDT- Single Pole Double Throw  
Sprog  
SPST - Single Pole Single Throw  
SRI4  
SRO4  
SSI  
Star network  
Start of Day - SoD  
Stationary decoder  
Stay Alive  
Steady state  
SToC - Searchable Table of Contents

Stranded conductor

Super Bloc

Surface Mounted Components

SWG - Standard Wire Gauge

Switch

Switch machine

Switch mode

## T

Tag strip

TB - Technical Bulletin

TCC - Train Control Centre/Center

Technical Data

Throttle/handset

Timers

Toggle

Tortoise motor

Toti - Train-on-Track Indicator

Track circuit

Track cleaner

Train detection

Transducer

Transformer

Transistor

Tri-State or Three State output pin - can be a 0, a 1 or open circuit

Turnout actuator

TVS

Twinkling

## U

Unregulated power supply

USB - Universal Serial Bus

## V

VCP Virtual Communications Port.

Volt The measure of electrical potential difference

Voltage regulator

## W

Watt  
Welding simulator  
Wiki

## X

XAND - eXclusive AND  
XLR Connector  
XOR - eXclusive OR

## Z

Zener diode  
Zero 1  
ZIF socket  
ZIMO  
ZTC

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