Technical Abbreviations

Term	*Abbreviation*
acre-foot	acre-ft
actual cubic feet per second	acfs
alternating current	ac or AC
air mass	AM
air mass 1.0	AM1
ampere	A
Angstrom unit	Å
ante meridiem (morning)	a.m.
antireflective	AR
atmosphere	atm
atomic percent	at. %
atomic weight.	at. wt
atto	a
bar	b
millibar	mb
barrel	bbl
base (genetics)	b
thousand bases	kb
base pairs	bp
Baume	Be
becquerel	Bq
biological oxygen demand	BOD
boiling point	bp
British thermal unit	Btu
bushel	bu
calorie	cal
candela	cd
cent	**4**
centi	c
centigram	cg
centiliter	cL
centimeter	cm
Chapter (not used in text)	Chap.
chemical vapor deposition	CVD
circa (about)	ca.
coefficient of lift	CL
coefficient of performance	COP
concentrated (tables only)	conc.
confer (compare)	cf.
cosine	cos
coulomb	C
counts per minute	cpm
cubic centimeter	cm^3

Term	*Abbreviation*
cubic feet per minute	cfm or ft^3/min
cubic feet per second	cfs or ft^3/s
cubic foot	ft^3
cubic inch	$in.^3$
cubic meter	m^3
cubic millimeter	mm^3
cubic yard	cu yd or yd^3
current-voltage	IV
cycles per second (hertz)	Hz
day	d
deci	d
decibel	dB
degree (angular)	E, deg
degree Celsius	EC
degree Fahrenheit	EF
degree Rankine	ER
deka	da
diameter (tables only)	diam.
direct current	dc or DC
dissolved oxygen	DO
dollar	$
thousands of dollars	$K
millions of dollars (tables only)	$M
year of dollars	year $ (1992 $)
domestic hot water	DHW
electromagnetic interference	ENU
electromagnetic unit	EMU
electromotive force	emf
electron volt	eV
electrostatic unit	ESU
equation(s)	Eq(s)
equivalent weight	equiv. wt
et ali(i,ae) (and others)	et al.
exempli gratia (for example)	e.g.
et cetera	etc.
exponential	exp
experiment (tables only)	expt.
farad	F
feet per minute	ft/min
feet per second	ft/s
femto	f

Term	*Abbreviation*
fill factor	FF
foot	ft
foot-pound	ft-lb
foot-second	ft-s
freezing point	fp
fiscal year	fy
fiscal year 1993	FY 1993
gallon	gal
gallons per day	gal/d (or gpd)
gallons per minute	gal/min (or gpm)
gallons per second	gal/s (or gps)
gallons per year	gal/yr (or gpy)
gas (in chemical formula)	g
giga	G
grains per second	gr/s
gram	g
gram-atom	g-atom
gravity (force of)	g
gray	Gy
gross national product	GNP
hectare	ha
hecto	h
henry	H
hertz	Hz
horsepower	hp
hour	h
hundred	C
id est (that is)	i.e.
inch	in.
inch-pound	in.-lb
inches per second	in./s
industrial process heat	IPH
infrared	ir or IR
inside diameter (use abbreviation only in such phrases as 3-cm-ID tube)	ID
international unit	IU
joule	J
kelvin	K
kilo	k
kilocalorie	kcal
kilocycles per second (kilohertz)	kHz
kilogram	kg

Term	*Abbreviation*
kilograms per cubic meter	kg/m^3
kilograms per second	kg/s
kilometer	km
kilometers per second	km/s
kilopascal	kPa
kilovolt	kV
kilovolt-ampere	kVA
kilowatt	kW
kilowatt-hour	kWh
langley	no abbreviation
liquid (in chemical formula)	R
liter	L
local area network	LAN
logarithm (common)	log
logarithm (natural)	ln
lumen	lm
lux	lx
maximum (tables only)	max
mean sea level	msl
mega (million)	M
megacycles per second (megahertz)	Mhz
megavolt	MV
megawatt	MW
megawatt electric	MW_e
megawatt thermal	MW_t
melting point	mp
metal-organic chemical vapor deposition	MOCVD
meter	m
meter-kilogram	m-kg
micro	µ
microampere	µA
microliter	µL
micrometer	µm
microvolt	µV
microwatt	µW
mile	mi
miles per hour	mph
miles per hour per second	mph/s
milli	m
milliampere	mA
milligram	mg
milligram percent	mg %
milliliter	mL
millimeter	mm
million (mega)	M

Term	*Abbreviation*
million Btu	Mbtu*
milliradian	mrad
millivolt	mV
milliwatt	MW
minimum (tables only)	min.
minute	min
mole	mol
mole percent	mol %
molecular weight	mol wt
moles per liter (molar)	M
month (tables only)	mo
municipal solid waste	MSW
nano	n
nanogram	ng
nanometer	nm
nanosecond	ns
newton	Ns
normal pressure and temperature	NPT
nuclear magnetic resonance	nmr or NMR
number	no.
oersted	oe
ohm	Ω
open-circuit voltage	V_{OC}
ounce	oz
ounce-foot	oz-ft
ounce-inch	oz-in.
outside diameter (see inside diameter)	OD
page(s)	p(p).
parts per billion	ppb
parts per millions	ppm
pascal	Pa
peak watt	W_p
per	/
percent	%
peta	P
peta	P
photovoltaics	PV
pico	p
post meridiem (after noon)	p.m.
pound	lb
pound-foot	lb-ft
pound-inc	lb-in

*10^6 Btu is preferred. Never use MMBtu.

Term	*Abbreviation*
pounds per square foot	lb/ft^2
pounds per square inch	psi
pounds per square inch absolute	psia
pounds per square inch gauge	psig
public law	P.L.
radian	rad
reference(s)	Ref(s).
request for proposals	RFP
research and development	R&D
research, development and demonstration	RD&D
revolutions per minute	rpm
revolutions per second	rps
root-mean-square	rms
safe operating procedure	SOP
second (time)	s
Section (reports)	Sec.
Section (laws)	'
short-circuit current	L_{sc}
siemens	S
sievert	Sv
simultaneous saccharification and fermentation	SSF
sine	sin
solid (in chemical formula)	s
species (sing.)	sp.
species (pl.)	spp.
specific heat	C_p
square centimeter	cm^2
square foot	ft^2
square inch	$in.^2$
square kilometer	km^2
square meter	m^2
square millimeter	mm^2
standard (tables only)	std.
standard cubic feet	scf
standard temperature and pressure	STP
steradian	sr
synthetic natural gas	SNG
tangent	tan
temperature (tables only)	temp.
tera	T
tesla	T
thousand (used with money only)	K
thousand (kilo)	k

Term	*Abbreviation*
ton (metric)(10^3 kg)*	t
torr	torr
ultraviolet	uv or UV
unit	U
variety	var.
versus (tables only)	vs.
videlicet (namely)	viz.
volt	V
volume percent	vol %
volume per volume	v/v

Term	*Abbreviation*
watt	W
(peak) w	W_p
watt electric	W_e
watt-hour	Wh
watt thermal	W_t
weber	Wb
weight	wt
weight percent	wt %
weight per weight	w/w
yard	yd
year	yr

*Clarify whether a ton is English or metric.
Avoid using the abbreviation.