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| A Spec | System Specification. |
| A&T | Acquisition and Technology. |
| A/BPI | Ascent/Boost-Phase Interceptor. |
| A/C | Aircraft |
| A/D | (1) Analog to Digital. (2) Arm/Disarm. |
| A/P | Active/Passive |
| AA | Attack Assessment. |
| AAA | (1) Antiaircraft Artillery. (2) Assign Alternate Area. (3) AEGIS Acquisition Agent. |
| AAAW | Air-launched Anti-Armour Weapon (UK RAF term) |
| AABCP | Advanced Airborne Command Post. |
| AABNCP | Advanced Airborne National Command Post. |
| AACC | Airborne Alternate Command Center. |
| AACT | Airborne Atmospheric Compensation and Tracking [Program] |
| AADC | Area Air Defense Commander. |
| AADCOM | Army Air Defense Commander. |
| AAE | Army Acquisition Executive. |
| AAED | Advanced Airborne Expendable Decoy |
| AAFCE | Allied Air Forces Central Europe. |
| AAM | Air-to-Air Missile |
| AAR | After Action Review (USA term) |
| AASERT | Augmentation Award for Science and Engineering Research Training. |
| AASP | Advanced Airborne Sensor Platform. |
| AAT | Architecture Analysis Tool. |
| AAT-PP | Architecture Analysis Tool – Post Processor. |
| AAW | Anti-Air Warfare. |
| AAWC | Anti-Air Warfare Commander. |
| AB | Air Base |
| Abacus | Distribute real-time multi-element test environment for HWIL. |
| ABCCC | Airborne Battlefield Command and Control Center. (US C-130 aircraft) |

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| ABCS | (1) Army Battlefield Command and Control Center. (US C-130 aircraft) (2) Airborne Communications Command and Control Platform (JFACC term) |
| ABCT | ASARC/BMDARC Coordination Team |
| ABE | Army Background Experiment (flew aboard the LACE spacecraft). |
| ABIS | Advanced Battlespace Information System |
| ABL | (1) Airborne Laser. (2) Aircraft Based Laser. (3) Armored Box Launcher. |
| Ablative Shield | A shield made of material that vaporizes when heated, absorbing thermal energy and protecting the shielded object from heat damage. |
| Ablative Shock | A mechanical shock wave at the surface of an object exposed to intense pulsed electromagnetic radiation. A thin layer of the object's surface violently and rapidly boils off; the resulting vapor suddenly exerts pressure against the surface, generating a pressure wave at the surface. This shock wave then propagates through the material and can cause melting, vaporization, spallation, and structural failure of the object. |
| ABM | Anti-Ballistic Missile. |
| ABMDA | OBSOLETE. Advanced Ballistic Missile Defense Agency. |
| ABM Treaty | Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty of 1972, signed and ratified by the (former) Soviet Union and the United States, limiting deployment on each side to one site comprising 100 interceptors, 100 launchers, and several ground-based radars. The Treaty also regulates development and testing. In December, 2001, President George W. Bush announced that the United States would withdraw from the treaty, which the U.S. did in June 2002 |
| ABM-X-3 | A terminal Soviet anti-ballistic missile (ABM) defense system using transportable phased-array radars and both long and short-range, high acceleration interceptors similar to the U.S. Sprint. This system was developed and tested in the 1970's and early 1980's. |
| ABNCP | Airborne National Command Post. |
| ABO | Agent of Biological Origin (NBC term). |
| ABT | Air-Breathing Threat. |
| ACA | (1) Airspace Control Authority. (2) Associate Contracting Agreement (Contracting term). |
| ACAP | Advanced Capabilities. |
| ACAT | Acquisition Category (DD 5000 term). |
| ACAT I | Acquisition Category One |
| ACBA | Airborne Communications Bus Architecture (USAF term). |
| ACC | (1) Air Combat Command (USAF), Langley AFB, VA. (2) Air Component Commander. (3) Area Coordination Center. |

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| ACCS | Air Command and Control System. |
| Accidental Launch | An unintended launch which occurs without deliberate national design as a direct result of a random event, such as mechanical failure, a simple human error, or an unauthorized action by a subordinate. (USSPACECOM) |
| ACCS | Automated Command and Control System (USN AN/TSQ-73) |
| ACCT | Application of Common Characteristics and Testability (ISA CECOM term). |
| ACDA | Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (US). |
| ACDS | Advanced Combat Direction System (USN term) |
| ACDT | Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration. |
| ACE | (1) Anti-Radiation Missile (ARM) Countermeasure Evaluator. (2) Aviation Combat Element. (3) Airborne Command Element (USAF). (4) Allied Command Europe. |
| ACEC | Ada Compiler Evaluation Capability. |
| ACEIT | Automated Cost Estimating Integrated tool. |
| ACES | Arrow Continuation Experiments. |
| ACETEF | Air Combat Environment Test and Evaluation Facility (USAF). |
| ACM | Air Combat Maneuvering. |
| ACO | (1) Administrative Contracting Officer. (1) Airspace Control Order (JFACC term) |
| ACOM | Atlantic Command. |
| AcoS | Army Chief of Staff |
| ACP | (1) Airspace Control Plan (JFACC term). (2) Army Cost Position. |
| ACQ | Acquisition. |
| Acquire | (1) When applied to acquisition radars, to detect the presence and location of a target in sufficient detail to permit identification. (2) When applied to tracking radars, to position radar beam so that a target is in that beam to permit the effective employment of weapons. (Target Acquisition.) |
| Acquisition (ACQ) | (1) (Sensor) The results of processing sensor measurements to produce object reports of interest to the system. (2) (Material) The conceptualization, initiation, design, development, testing, contracting, production, deployment, logistic support, modification, and disposal of weapons and other systems, supplies or services to satisfy DoD needs in support of military missions. |

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| Acquisition Categories | <p>Categories established to facilitate decentralized decision making and execution and compliance with statutorily imposed requirements. The categories determine the level of review, decision authority, and applicable procedures.</p> <p><u>Acquisition Category I.</u> These are “major defense acquisition programs.” They have unique statutorily imposed acquisition strategy, execution, and reporting requirements. Milestone decision authority for these programs is: (a) the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology – acquisition category ID; (b) if delegated by the Under Secretary, the Cognizant DoD Component Head – acquisition category IC; (c) if delegated by the Component Head, the Component Acquisition Executive.</p> <p><u>Acquisition Category II.</u> Milestone decision authority for these programs is delegated no lower than the DoD Component Acquisition Executive. They have unique statutorily imposed requirements in the test and evaluation area</p> <p><u>Acquisition Category III and IV.</u> The additional distinction of acquisition categories III and IV allow DoD Component Heads to delegate milestone decision authority for these programs to the lowest level deemed appropriate within their respective organizations.</p> |
| Acquisition Decision Memorandum (ADM) | <p>A memorandum signed by the milestone decision authority that documents decisions made and the exit criteria established as the result of a milestone decision review or in-process review.</p> |
| Acquisition Field of View (FOV) | <p>The instantaneous volume viewed by the interceptor’s sensor during the process of searching its assigned volume.</p> |
| Acquisition Life Cycle | <p>Five phases, each preceded by a milestone or other decision point, during which a system goes through research, development, test and evaluation, and production. The phases are Concept Exploration and Definition, Demonstration and Validation, Engineering and Manufacturing Development, Production and Deployment, Operations and Support.</p> |
| Acquisition Logistics | <p>Process of systematically identifying and assessing logistics alternatives, analyzing and resolving logistics deficiencies, and managing integrated logistics support throughout the acquisition process.</p> |
| Acquisition Management | <p>Management of all or any of the activities within the broad spectrum of “acquisition.” Also includes management of the training of the defense acquisition workforce, and management activities in support of PPBS for defense acquisition systems/programs.</p> |
| Acquisition Plan | <p>A formal written document reflecting the specific actions necessary to execute the approach established in the approved acquisition strategy and guiding contractual implementation. (Federal Acquisition Regulation Subpart 7.1 and Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement Subpart 207.1.)</p> |
| Acquisition Planning | <p>The process by which the efforts of all personnel responsible for an acquisition are coordinated and integrated through a comprehensive plan for fulfilling the need in a timely manner and at a reasonable cost. It is performed throughout the life cycle and includes developing an overall acquisition strategy for managing the acquisition and a written acquisition plan.</p> |

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| Acquisition Program | A directed, funded effort that is designed to provide a new or improved materiel capability in response to a validated need. |
| Acquisition Program Baseline (APB) | <p>Acquisition program baselines embody the cost, schedule, and performance objectives for the program. The APB is approved by the milestone decision authority milestone reviews as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept Baseline, approved at Milestone I, applied to the effort in Phase I, Demonstration and Validation. • Development Baseline, approved at Milestone II, is applied to the effort in Phase II, Engineering and Manufacturing Development. • Production Baseline, approved at Milestone III, is applied to the effort in Phase III, Production and Deployment. <p>Each baseline must contain objectives for key cost, schedule, and performance parameters. Objectives are accompanied by minimum requirements called thresholds. Once signed by the milestone decision authority, APBs may only be changed at subsequent milestone or program reviews, or with the approval of the milestone decision authority as a response to an unrecoverable baseline deviation.</p> |
| Acquisition Radar | Radar that searches a spatial volume and identifies potential targets from the background and non-hostile objects. |
| Acquisition Risk | The chance that some element of an acquisition program produces an unintended result with an adverse effect on system effectiveness, suitability, cost, or availability for deployment. |
| Acquisition/Reacquisition Time | The time required to establish or reestablish lock on the received signal. This includes carrier, symbol, frame, code, and crypto synchronization. |
| Acquisition Strategy | A business and technical management approach designed to achieve program objectives within the resource constraints imposed. It is the framework for planning, directing, and managing a program. It provides a master schedule for research, development, test, production, fielding, and other activities essential for program success, and, is the basis for formulating functional plans and strategies (e.g., Test and Evaluation Master Plan, Acquisition Plan, competition, prototyping, etc.). |
| Acquisition Strategy Report | Describes the acquisition approach to include streamlining, sources, competition, and contract types throughout the period from the beginning of Phase I, Demonstration and Validation, through the end of production. |
| Acquisition Streamlining | Any effort that results in more efficient and effective use of resources to develop or produce quality systems. This includes ensuring that only necessary and cost-effective requirements are included, at the most appropriate time in the acquisition cycle, in solicitations and resulting contracts for the design, development, and production of new systems, or for modifications to existing systems that involve redesign of systems or subsystems. |
| Acquisition, Tracking and Pointing (ATP) | The process of acquiring within a given field of view a target (or targets) and maintaining a precision track of the same while enabling the pointing of a sensor or weapon at the target so that it may be destroyed. |
| ACS | (1) Airspace Control System. (2) Attitude Control System. (3) AEGIS Combat System. (4) Assistant Chief of Staff. |

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| AC SIS | AEGIS Combat System Interface Simulation. |
| AC SN | Advance Change/Study Notice |
| ACT D | Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration. |
| ACT E | Analytical Communications Test Environment ATD. |
| ACT EX | Advanced Controls Technology Experiment. |
| Active | In surveillance, an adjective applied to actions or equipment, which emit energy capable of being detected, e.g., radar is an active sensor. |
| Active Air Defense | Direct defensive actions taken to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of hostile air action. It includes such measures as the use of aircraft, air defense weapons, weapons not used primarily in an air defense role and electronic warfare. |
| Active Communications Security Threat | Threats to an electronic system posed by a capability to disrupt communications or to seize control or deny positive control of electronic systems to intended users, e.g., jamming and imitative deception. |
| Active Defense | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The employment of limited offensive action and counterattacks to deny a contested area or position to the enemy. Also Passive Defense. (2) In-flight intercept and destruction of ballistic missiles and negation of their warheads. |
| Active Defense (TBMD) | Active defense protects against theater missiles by destroying them in flight. Engagement capability is required throughout all phases of the missile's trajectory (boost, post-boost, mid-course, and terminal) to prevent saturation of point defense, to negate warhead effects, and to ensure minimal leakage in defending critical assets. Therefore, active defenses must consist of defense in depth to provide multiple engagement opportunities with differing technologies, increasing the probability of kill, and countering the enemy's counter-measure efforts. Active defenses could consist of space-, air-, ground-, and sea-based systems. If a strategic ballistic missile defense system is deployed, the active TMD should be supported by, but not limited by, those systems to increase the defense in the theater of operations. Active defense is considered one of the four pillars of TMD capability. (JCS J-38 CONOPS) |
| Active Homing Guidance | Guidance system in which both the source for illuminating the target, and the receiver for detecting the illuminating energy reflected from the target is carried within the missile. |
| Active Sensor | One that illuminates a target, producing return secondary radiation, which is then detected to track and/or identify the target. An example is radar. |
| ACT S | AEGIS Combat Training System. |
| AC US | Army Common User System. |
| AC VC | Ada Compiler Validation Capability |
| AC W | Anti-Carrier Warfare |
| AC WP | Actual Cost of Work Performed. |
| AD | (1) Air Defense. (2) Active Defense. (3) Aerospace Defense |

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| Ad Int | Advanced Interceptor (MDA/POC term). |
| AD TOC | Air Defense Tactical Operations Center. |
| AD/C3I | Air Defense/Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence. |
| ADA | Air Defense Artillery. (US Army term). |
| Ada | Name of a higher order computer programming code. |
| AdaMAT | Ada Automated, static code, analysis tool. |
| ADAPT | Advanced DEW Active Precision Tracker. |
| Adaptive Defense | (Also Adaptive Preferential Defense) Adaptive defense is defense that is responsive to an actual attack in that it takes advantage of the structure or weakness of the attack to maximize a priority defense objective. |
| Adaptive Flexible Defense (AFD) | The ability to select and prioritize in near-real time what critical civilian and military assets and functions to defend and to efficiently employ defense in response to the characteristics of the attack while effectively enforcing defense priorities. (JOSDEPS) |
| Adaptive Optics (ADOPT) | Optical systems, which can be modified (e.g., by controlling the shape of a mirror) to compensate for distortions. An example is the use of information from a beam of light passing through the atmosphere to compensate for the distortion suffered by another beam of light on its passage through the atmosphere. Used to eliminate the "twinkling" of stars in observational astronomy and to reduce the dispersive effect of the atmosphere on laser beam weapons. |
| Adaptive Preferential Defense | Adaptive Defense. |
| ADATOC | Air Defense Artillery Tactical Operations Center (US Army brigade). |
| ADC | Analog-to-Digital Converter. |
| ADCATT | Air Defense CATT (US Army term). |
| ADCC | Air Defense Control Center. |
| ADCOM | OBSOLETE. (U.S.) Aerospace Defense Command, Peterson AFB, CO. |
| ADCP | (1) Air Defense Communications Platform. (2) Air Defense Command Post. |
| ADD | Air Defense District |
| ADDA | Air Defense Decision Aid. |
| ADDS | Air Defense Demonstration System. Army Data Distribution System = ELPIRS + JTIDS. |
| ADI | Air Defense Initiative. |
| ADIZ | Air Defense Identification Zone. |

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| ADLT | Advanced Discriminating LADAR Technology. |
| ADM | (1) Also see Acquisition Decision Memorandum (2) Advanced Development Model. |
| Administrative Contracting Officer (ACO) | The government contracting officer located at a contract administrative office that is assigned the responsibility for administration of Government contracts. (Defense Systems Management College Glossary) |
| ADMS | Air Defense Missile System (USMC term). |
| ADOC | Aerospace Defense Operations Center. |
| ADOCC | Air Defense Operations Control Center. |
| ADOP | Advanced Distributed Onboard Processor. |
| ADOPT | See Adaptive Optics. |
| ADP | (1) Automated Data Processing. (2) Arrow Deployability Project |
| ADPE | Automated Data Processing Equipment. |
| ADR. | Advanced Data Recording. |
| ADRG | ARC Digital Raster Graphics. |
| ADS | Advanced Distribution System |
| ADSAM | Air-Directed Surface-to-Air Missile. |
| ADSG | Air Defense Sub Group. |
| ADSI | Air Force Defense Systems Integrator. |
| ADT | Architecture Development Team (DoD Space Architect term). |
| ADTOC | Air Defense Tactical Operations Center. |
| ADUSD | Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. |
| Advance Funding | Budget authority provided in an appropriation act that allows funds to be committed to a specific purpose (obligated) and spent during this fiscal year even though the appropriation actually is for the next fiscal year. Advance funding generally is used to avoid requests for supplemental appropriations for entitlement programs late in a fiscal year when the appropriations for the current fiscal year are too low. |
| Advance Procurement | Authority provided in an appropriations act to obligate and disburse from the succeeding year's appropriation. The funds are added to the budget authority for the fiscal year and deducted from the budget authority of the succeeding fiscal year. Used in major acquisition programs for advance procurement of components whose long-lead time require purchasing early in order to reduce the overall procurement lead-time. Advance procurement of long lead components is an exception to the DoD "full funding" policy. |

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| Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (ACTD) | An integrating effort to assemble and demonstrate a significant new military capability, based upon maturing advanced technology(s) in a real-time operation at a scale size adequate to clearly establish operational utility and system integrity. |
| Advanced Launch System (ALS) | OBSOLETE. This proposed system was to be a heavy launch vehicle and appropriate ground support facilities, which may have supported SDIO, USAF, Navy and NASA space launch missions into the next century. |
| Advanced Technology Demonstration | The actual demonstration of an advanced state-of-the-art system under conditions likely to exist when in operation. |
| Adversary Capability Document | Describes estimated current and future adversary ballistic missile characteristics, and characterizes threat with selected engineering concepts, parameters, and bounds. |
| ADWC | Air Defense Warfare Center. |
| ADX | Air Defense Exercise. |
| AE | (1) Acquisition Executive. (2) Antenna Equipment. |
| AEC | Atomic Energy Commission (US) |
| AEDC | Arnold Engineering Development Center, Arnold AFB, TN. |
| AEG | General Electric Corporation of Germany. |
| AEGIS | The Navy's advanced, fast reaction, high firepower, shipboard anti-air warfare area defense system (Note: Aegis is the Greek word for "shield"). |
| AEGIS BMD | Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense (Aegis BMD) Project is an element of the Ballistic Missile Defense System, and is being developed to provide a rapidly deployable, highly mobile defensive system capability against short-to-intermediate range ballistic missile attacks on population centers, debarkation ports, coastal airports, amphibious objective areas, expeditionary forces, troops, friends, and allies. Forward positioning of the ship makes possible a missile defense that will protect vast areas, often-entire countries. The Aegis BMD element of the BMDS builds on the proven Mark 7 Aegis Weapon System including modifications to the Standard Missile, and the Mark 41 Guided Missile Launch System. |
| AEGIS C&D | AEGIS Command and Decision. |
| AEGIS CRC | AEGIS Control and Reporting Center. |
| Aerospace Defense (AD) | (1) All defensive measures designed to destroy attacking enemy aircraft, missiles, and space vehicles after they leave the Earth's surface, or to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attacks. (2) An inclusive term encompassing air defense and space defense. |
| Aerospace Defense Operations Center (ADOC) | Existing center in Cheyenne Mountain AFB (CMAFB), which controls the Air Defense of North America mission. |

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| Aerostats | Ship- or ground-moored balloon supporting a radar antenna. |
| Aerothermal Kill | A kill in which the thermal shielding of the target RV is damaged by the defensive system. The RV is subsequently destroyed during reentry. |
| AES AEW | Army [Tactical Command and Control System] Ex Airborne Early Warning. |
| AEWR | Airborne Early Warning Radar |
| AF | (1) Air Force (2) Award Fee. |
| AF SATCOM | Air Force Satellite Communications [System]. |
| AF/IN | Air Force Intelligence |
| AF/SC | Deputy Chief of Staff for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, United States Air Force. |
| AF/TAA | Air Force Executive Agent for Theater Air Defense |
| AFAC | Air Force Advisory Committee. |
| AFAE | Air Force Acquisition Executive. |
| AFAM | Air Force Acquisition Model |
| AFAS | Advanced Field Artillery System. |
| AFATDS | (1) Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System. (2) Army Field Artillery Target Direction System |
| AFC2S | Air Force Command and Control System |
| AFCC | Air Force Component Commander. |
| AFCCC | Air Force Component Command Center. |
| AFCS | Automatic Flight Control System. |
| AFCSC | Air Force Cryptological Support Center |
| AFD | Adaptive Flexible Defense. |
| AFDSOC | Air Force Defense System Operations Center. |
| AFF | Arming, Fusing and Firing. |
| AFFTC | Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards AFB, CA. |
| AFGWC | Air Force Ground/Global Weather Center. |
| AFID | Anti-Fratricide Identification Device. |
| AFIWC | Air Force Information Warfare Center. |
| AFM | Award Fee Monitor. |

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| AFMC | Air Force Material Command, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. |
| AFNORTH | Allied Forces Northern Europe (NATO). |
| AFOSH | Air Force Occupational Safety and Health. |
| AFOTEC | Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center. |
| AFPEO/SP | Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space |
| AFRB | Award Fee Review Board |
| AFSARC | Air Force System Acquisition Review Council. |
| AFSATCOM | Air Force Satellite Communications System. |
| AFSB | Air Force Science Board. |
| AF/SC | Deputy Chief of Staff for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, United States Air Force. |
| AFSCN | Air Force Satellite Control Network. |
| AFSD | OBSOLETE. Air Force Space Division. (Replaced by USAF/SMC.) |
| AFSMC | Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center |
| AFSOUTH | Allied Forces, Southern Region (NATO) |
| AFSPACECOM | Air Force Space Command, Patterson AFB, CO. |
| AFSPC | Air Force Space Command, Patterson AFB, CO |
| AFSPOC | Air Force Space Operations Center. |
| AFSSI | Air Force System Security Instruction. |
| AFSTC | (1) Air Force Space Test Center, Sunnyvale, CA. (2) Air Force Space Technology Center, Kirtland AFB, NM. |
| AFSWC | Air Force Space Warfare Center. |
| AFTAC | Air Force Technical Applications Center, Patrick AFB, FL |
| AFTADS | Army Field Artillery Target Data System. |
| AFWAN | Air Force WWMCCS ADP Modernization |
| AFWL | Air Force Weapons Laboratory (Phillips Lab). |
| AGARD | Advisory Group for Aerospace Research and Development. |
| AGC | Automatic Gain Control. |
| AGCCS | (1) Air Force Global Command and Control System (USAF term). (2) Army Global Command and Control System (US Army term). |

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| AGM-65 | Maverick Air-to-Surface Missile. |
| AGMC | Air Force Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center, Newark AFB, OH. |
| AGRE | Active Geophysical Rocket Experiment |
| AGT | Above Ground Test. |
| AHIS | Agile Homing Interceptor Simulator. |
| AHSG | Ad Hoc Study Group. |
| AHWG | Ad Hoc Working Group |
| AI | (1) Artificial Intelligence. (2) Action Item. (3) Air Interdiction. |
| AIA | Air Intelligence Agency |
| AIAA | American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics |
| AIC | (1) Atlantic Intelligence Command. (2) Account Identifier Code. |
| AID | Agile Interceptor Development. |
| AIDA | Artificial Intelligence Discrimination Architecture (UKMOD). |
| AIDPN | Architecture Investment and Deployment Planning Notebook. |
| AIM | Air Intercept Missile |
| Aimpoint | The specific point at which a weapon is aimed. The point may be on the earth's surface, in the atmosphere, or in space. In some cases, the specific lethal point on a target to which a weapon is aimed. |
| AIP | Advanced Interceptor Program (formerly Brilliant Pebbles). |
| Airborne Optional Adjunct (AOA) | A test program to place an infrared (IR) sensor in an aircraft. (Superseded by Airborne Surveillance Testbed (AST).) |
| Airborne Surveillance Testbed (AST) | A Boeing 767 aircraft with a large infrared sensor designed to address optical sensor issues. |
| Air-breathing | A flying vehicle that uses the oxygen in the atmosphere as the oxidizer in its propulsion system. Examples are jet aircraft and cruise missiles. This category does not include ballistic missiles. |
| Air Defense | All measures designed to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of hostile air action. |
| Air Defense Action Area | An area and the airspace above it within which friendly aircraft or surface-to-air weapons is normally given precedence in operations except under specific conditions. See also air defense operations area. |
| Air Defense Artillery | Weapons and equipment for actively combating air targets from the ground. |

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| Air Defense Identification Zone | Airspace of defined dimensions within which the ready identification, location, and control of airborne vehicles are required. Commonly referred to as ADIZ. See also air defense operations area. |
| Air Defense Operations Area | A geographic area defining the boundaries within which procedures are established to minimize interference between air defense and other operations. May include designation of one or more of the following: Air defense action area; Air defense area; Air defense identification; Firepower umbrella. |
| Air Force Component Command Center (AFCCC) | A segment of the Command and Control Element, which replicates capabilities of the CCC (BMD) segment and provides administrative and logistics support to Air Force Component Forces with the Strategic Defense System. The AFCCC was eliminated from the CCE (now C ² E) architecture during the last SAS system architecture definition update. |
| Air Force Ground/Global Weather Center (AFGWC) | AFGWC provides Air Force and Army with global information and products relating to past, present, and future states of the aerospace environment. Weather data is provided to the Weather Support Unit (WSU) for use by the SDS. Also provides space environmental data such as sunspots, electromagnetic storms, etc. Located at Offutt AFB, NE. |
| Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) | Responsible for the operational test and evaluation of systems being developed for use by the Air Force (Located at Kirtland AFB, NM). |
| Air Force Satellite Communications System (AFSATCOM) | A collection of transponders on host satellites used by U.S. Strategic Command to pass emergency action messages (EAM) and damage assessment reports. AFSATCOM is also used to pass sensor data between sites and CMAFB. |
| Air Force Satellite Control Network (AFSCN) | A global, multi-command configuration of space vehicle command, control, and communications resources operating in concert to support DoD and other assigned space missions. |
| Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) | A major Air Force command and the Air Force component of United States Space Command responsible for the training, equipping, manning, administering, and funding of assigned systems. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| Air Force Space Operations Center (AFSPOC) | An AFSPACECOM center responsible for the daily tracking of events at remote operational sites. It may be updated and assigned responsibility for logistics and administrative control of assigned SDS elements. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| Air Force CRC | Air Force Control and Reporting Center. |
| Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (AFOTEC) | Responsible for the operational test and evaluation of systems being developed for use by the Air Force (Located at Kirtland AFB, NM). |
| Air Force Space Command (AFSPC) | A major Air Force command and the Air Force component of United States Space Command responsible for the training, equipping, manning, administering, and funding of assigned systems. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |

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| Air Force Space Operations Center (AFSPOC) Air Surveillance | An AFSPACECOM center located in Colorado Springs, CO. The systematic observation of airspace by electronic, visual, or other means, primarily for the purpose of identifying and determining the movements of aircraft and missiles, friendly and enemy, in the air space under observation. |
| Air-breathing | A flying vehicle that uses the oxygen in the atmosphere as the oxidizer in its propulsion system. Examples are jet aircraft and cruise missiles. This category does not include ballistic missiles. |
| Airborne Surveillance Testbed (AST) | A Boeing 767 aircraft with a large infrared sensor designed to address optical sensor issues. It's expected that this program will be retired in 2003 with its missions to be taken over by HALO II and WASP. |
| AIRMS | Airborne Infrared Measurement System |
| AIRREQSUP | Air Request Support (JFACC term). |
| AIRS | Atmospheric Infrared Sounder |
| Airspace Control in the Combat Zone | A process used to increase combat effectiveness by promoting safe, efficient and flexible use of airspace. Airspace control is provided in order to prevent fratricide, enhance air defense operations, and permit greater flexibility of operations. Airspace control does not infringe on the authority vested in commanders to approve, disapprove, or deny combat operations. |
| Airspace Control Plan | The document approved by the joint force commander that provides specific planning guidance and procedures for the airspace control system for the joint force area of responsibility. |
| AIRSUPREQ | Air Support Request (JFACC term). |
| AIS | (1) Automated Information System. (2) Architecture Integration Study. (3) Airborne Intercept System. |
| AIST | Advanced Interceptor and Systems Technology. |
| AIT | Advanced Interceptor Technologies. |
| AJ | Antijam. |
| AJPO | Ada Joint Program Office. |
| AJTBP | Augmented Joint Theater Battle Picture. |
| AL | Acquisition Logistician. |
| ALARM | Alert, Locate, and Report Missiles. |
| ALAS | Advanced Liquid Axial Stage. |
| ALBCS | Airborne Laser Beam Control System. |
| ALC | Air Logistics Center (AF). |
| ALCC | Airlift Coordination Center (JFACC term). |

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| ALCE | Airlift Coordination Element (JFACC term). |
| ALCM | Air Launched Cruise Missile. |
| ALCOR | ARPA/Lincoln C-band observable radar. (USAKA KREMS) |
| ALDT | Average Logistics Delay Time. |
| ALE | Airborne Laser Experiment. |
| ALERT | Attack and Launch Early Reporting to Theater. |
| ALG | Algorithm |
| ALI | (1) Alpha/LAMP Integration. (2) AEGIS Leap Intercept |
| ALIRT | Advanced Large-area Infrared Transducer |
| ALL | Airborne Laser Laboratory. |
| Allocated Availability Requirement | The requirement probability that an element is available to perform its function as allocated by the SDS. |
| Allocation | (1) An authorization by a designated official of a DoD component making funds available within a prescribed amount to an operating agency for the purpose of making allotments (i.e., the first subdivision of an apportionment). (2) The translation of the apportionment into total numbers of sorties by aircraft type available for each operation/task. |
| Allotment | The temporary change of assignment of tactical air forces between subordinate commands. The authority to allot is vested in the commander having operational command. |
| ALO | Alpha Laser Optimization. |
| ALOD | Adaptive Locally Optimum Detector (Navy term). |
| Alpha Particle | A particle emitted spontaneously from the nuclei of some radioactive elements. It is identical to a helium nucleus, having a mass of four units and a charge of positive two. |
| ALPS | Accidental Launch Protection System. |
| ALS | Advanced Launch System. |
| ALSP | Aggregate Level Simulation Protocol. |
| ALT | Airborne Laser Technology. |
| ALTAIR | UHF test radar at USAKA. |
| AltAir | Project name for the feasibility demonstration of a short range, air drop, ballistic missile target, dropped from a C-130 cargo aircraft. |

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| Alternate National Military Command Center (ANMCC) | An element of the National Military Command System (NMCS), which serves as an alternate to the NMCC. Located at Ft. Ritchie, MD. |
| Alternate Processing and Correlation Center (APCC) | NORAD capability in USSTRATCOM Command Post that receives, processes, and analyzes TW/AA information. |
| Alternate Space Defense Operations Center (ASPADOC) | The backup to the SPADOC, maintained by the Naval Space Command, at Dahlgren, VA, collocated with the NAVSPOC and NAVSPASUR. |
| ALU | Arithmetic Logic Unit. |
| AM | Amplitude Modulation. |
| AMC | (1) Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL. (2) Army Materiel Command. (3) Midpoint Compromise Search Area. (4) Acquisition Method Code. (5) Advisory Management Committee. |
| AMCOM | Army Aviation and Missile Command (Oct. 1996). |
| AMD | Air and Missile Defense |
| AMDF | Army Master Data File |
| AMDS | Active Missile Defense System. |
| AMDTF | Air and Missile Defense Task Force (US Army term) |
| AMEMB | American Embassy. |
| AMFB | Acquisition Management Functional Board. |
| AMG | Antenna mast group. |
| AMOR | Army Missile Optical Range. |
| AMOS | Air Force Maui Optical Station. |
| amp | ampere |
| AMP | Angular Measurement Precision. |
| AMRAAM | Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile. |
| AMS | Aerodynamic Maneuvering System |
| AMSAA | Army Materiel Systems Analysis Agency. |
| AMSDL | Acquisition Management System Data Requirements Control List. |
| AMT | ATCS Mobile Terminal. |

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| AMTB | Attack Management Test Bed |
| AMTL | Army Materials Technology Laboratory. |
| A/N | Army/Navy |
| AN/TPS-59 | USMC Firefinder radar. |
| ANALYZE | Static Code Analyzer. |
| ANIK E1 | Canadian telecommunications satellite's name. |
| ANL | Argonne National Laboratory |
| ANMCC | Alternate National Military Command Center. |
| ANMD | Army National Missile Defense. |
| ANN | Artificial Neural Networks. |
| ANSI | American National Standards Institute. |
| Antenna Area | The ratio of the power available at the terminals of an antenna to the incident power density of a plane wave from the direction polarized. |
| Antiair Warfare | Action required to destroy or reduce to an acceptable level the enemy air and missile threat. It includes such measures as the use of interceptors, bombers, anti-aircraft guns, surface-to-air and air-to-air missiles, electronic countermeasures, and destruction of the air or missile threat both before and after it is launched. Other measures taken to minimize the effects of hostile air action are cover, concealment, dispersion, deception, and mobility (Navy/USMC). |
| Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) | The term used for Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) weapons developed to negate the ballistic missile threat in the late 60s and early 70s. |
| Anti-Ballistic Missile System | A system designed to counter strategic ballistic missiles or their elements in flight. |
| Anti-Radiation Missile (ARM) | A missile that homes passively on a radiation source. |
| Antisatellite Weapon (ASAT) | A weapon designed to destroy satellites in space. The weapon may be launched from the ground, from an aircraft, or be based in space. Either a nuclear or conventional explosion may destroy the target, by collision at high speed, or by a directed energy beam. |
| Anti-Simulation | The process of introducing random variations to the signature characteristics of an object in order to cause misidentification of the object by the sensors. The disguising of an RV to resemble a non-threatening object such as a piece of debris, a balloon, or a decoy. |
| Ao | Operational Availability |
| AO | (1) Associated Object. (2) Action Officer. (3) Area of Operations (4) Acousto-Optical. (5) Attack Operations. |
| AOA | OBSOLETE. Airborne Optical Adjunct (now called AST). |

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| AOC | Air Operations Center. |
| AOCC | Air Operations Control Center. |
| AOEC | Aero-Optic Evaluation Center, Buffalo, NY. |
| AOI | Active Optical Imager. |
| AOP | Airborne Optics Platform. |
| AOR | Area of Responsibility. |
| AOS | OBSOLETE. Airborne Optical Sensor. |
| AOSP | Advanced On-Board Signal Processor. |
| AOTF | Acousto-Optic Tunable Filter. |
| AP | Acquisition Plan. |
| APB | Acquisition Program Baseline. |
| APBI | Advanced Planning Briefing to Industry (MDA). |
| APCC | Alternate Processing and Correlation Center. |
| APDP | Acquisition Professional Development Program. |
| APEX | Active Plasma Experiment |
| API | Ascent-Phase Intercept. |
| APIPT | Acquisition Planning IPT (PAC-3 term). |
| APL | Applied Physics Laboratory, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. |
| APLE | Average Power Laser Experiment. |
| APM | Advanced Penetration Model. |
| APMA | Acquisition Program Management Agreement. |
| APO | (1) Apache Point Observatory. (2) Arrow Project Office. |
| APOD | Aerial Point of Debarkation. |
| Application | (1) (Software) It refers to a process; usually implemented as a software routine, at the highest level (Level 7) of the ISO open system architecture. (2) (SDS) It refers to such processes as the Battle Management, Navigation, Network Control, and other high level functions which may originate or receive messages over the SDS Communication network, via underlying lower-level protocols. (3) Software designed to fulfill specific needs of a user. (4) (Acquisition) The process of selecting requirements that are pertinent and cost effective for the particular materiel acquisition and contractually invoking them at the most advantageous times in the acquisition cycle. |

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| Apportionment | (1) A determination made by the Office of Management and Budget which limits the amount of obligations or expenditures that may be incurred during a specified time period. An apportionment may limit all obligations to be incurred during the specified period or it may limit obligation to be incurred for a specific activity, function, project, object, or a combination thereof. The third of four phases of the DoD resource allocation process. (2) The determination and assignment of the total expected effort by percentage and/or by priority that should be devoted to the various air operations and/or geographic areas for a given period of time. (3) In the general sense, distribution for planning of limited resources among competing requirements. Specific apportionments (e.g. air sorties and forces for planning) are described as apportionment of air sorties and forces for planning, etc. |
| Appropriation | An authorization by an act of Congress that permits Federal agencies to incur obligations and make payments from the Treasury. An appropriation usually follows an enactment of authorizing legislation. An appropriation act is the most common means of providing budget authority. Appropriations do not represent cash actually set aside in the Treasury; they represent limitations of amounts, which agencies may obligate during a specified time period. See Authorization. |
| Approved Program | The technical and operational, schedule, and quantity requirements reflected in the latest approved USD (A) ADM, or other document reflecting a more current decision of the USD (A) or other approval authority, such as the President's Budget, the FYDP, and supporting documentation. |
| APPS | Automated POM Preparation Instruction. |
| APS | (1) Axial Propulsion System. (2) Automatic Phasing System. |
| APT | Acquisition, Pointing, and Tracking. |
| APU | Auxiliary Power Unit. |
| AR | Army |
| ARB | Accreditation Review Board. |
| ARC | (1) Advanced Research Center, US Army, Huntsville, AL. (2) Atlantic Research Corporation. |
| ARC/SC | Advanced Research Center/Simulation Center. |
| ARCCC | Army Component Command Center. |
| ARCT | Advanced Radar Component Technology. |
| ARFOR | Army Forces. |
| ARGUS | Advanced Real-time Gaming Universal Simulation. |
| Architectural Design | The process of defining a collection of hardware and software components and their interfaces to establish the framework for the development of a computer system. |

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| Architecture Integration Study (AIS) | A study to determine the performance of alternative architectures and element designs that satisfy BMD System mission requirements, and to evaluate the effect of changing threats and advances in technology on the systems, subsystems, and components making up existing and proposed architectures. |
| ARDSOC | Army Defense System Operations Center. |
| ARE | Aerothermal Reentry Experiment. |
| Area Air Defense Commander (AADC) | The person given overall responsibility for air defense within an overseas unified command, subordinate unified command, or a joint task force. Normally, this will be the Air Force component commander. |
| Area Defense | Defense of a broad geographical area that contains both military and civilian assets (i.e., depots, towns/cities). (USSPACECOM) |
| Area of Influence | A geographical area wherein a commander is directly capable of influencing operations by maneuver or fire support systems normally under his command or control. |
| Area of Interest (AOI) | The area of influence and surrounding areas that is of concern to the commander for the objective of current and planned operations. This may include areas occupied by enemy forces. |
| Area of Operations | That portion of an area of war necessary for military operations and for the administration of such operations. |
| Argus | An airborne optical platform operated by the Air Force's Phillips Laboratory. Argus is sometimes used by MDA to collect flight test signatures, phenomenology, and intercept data. |
| ARGUS | Advanced Real-time Gaming Universal Simulation. |
| ARH | Anti-Radiation Homing. |
| ARI | Army Research Institute |
| ARIES | Active Radio Interferometer for Explosion Surveillance. |
| ARL | Airborne Reconnaissance-Low (USA term) [circa 1996 = Reconnaissance equipment in Dash-7 airplane]. |
| ARM | Anti-Radiation Missile. |
| Arms Export Control Board (AECB) | An interagency board, chaired by the Under Secretary of State for Security Assistance, Science, and Technology, that serves to advise the Secretary of State on matters relating to security assistance program levels and arms transfer policies. |
| Army Brigade Center (ARBC) | The Army center between the ARSPOC and the ARROC with C2 responsibilities for BMD. |
| Army Component Command Center (ARCCC) | A segment of the Command and Control Element, which replicates capabilities of the CCC (BMD) segment and provides administrative and logistics support to Army Component Forces with the Strategic Defense System. The ARCCC was eliminated from the CCE (now C ² E) architecture during the last SAS system architecture definition update. |

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| Army Materiel Command (AMC) | Performs the assigned materiel functions of the Department of the Army, including research and development; product improvement; human factors engineering; test and evaluation; procurement and production; new equipment training; scientific and technical intelligence production; international logistics programs; and storage, distribution, maintenance, demilitarization, and disposal for the continental United States wholesale supply and maintenance systems as well as for overseas systems. Located in Alexandria, VA and moving to Fort Belvoir, VA in 2003. |
| Army Space Operations Center (ARSPOC) | The Army Space Command Center responsible for logistically/ administratively controlling assigned SDS elements and which shall also include the capability to assure the BMD mission is carried out should the USCINCSpace CCC be lost. |
| ARNG | Army National Guard. |
| AROS | Airborne Radar Optical System. |
| ARP | Address Resolution Protocol |
| ARPA | Advanced Research Projects Agency. (Formerly known as Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). |
| ARPANET | ARPA Network. |
| ARRC | Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps. |
| ARROC | Army Regional Operations Center. |
| Arrow | A technology demonstration program started in 1988 and designed to meet Israeli architecture requirements for area defense of population centers against TBMs. |
| ARS | (1) Airborne Remote Sensing. (2) Action Request System. |
| ARSCS | Automated Rear Services Control System. |
| ARSPACE | U.S. Army Space Command. |
| ARSPOC | Army Space Operations Center. |
| ARU | Alignment Reference Unit (PAC-3). |
| ASA | Assistant Secretary of the Army. |
| ASAF | Assistant Secretary of the Air Force. |
| ASAF (A) | Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition). |
| ASARC | Army Systems Acquisition Review Council. |
| ASARS | Advanced Synthetic Aperture Radar System. |
| ASAS | (1) All Source Analysis System. (2) Advanced Solid Axial Stage. |
| ASAT | Antisatellite Weapon. |
| ASB | Army Science Board. |

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| ASBM | Air-to-Surface Ballistic Missile. |
| ASC | (1) Army Space Command (See also USARSPACECOM, ARSPACECOM). (2) Aeronautical Systems Center, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. |
| ASCC | Air Standardization Coordination Committee. |
| ASCII | American Standard Code for Information Interchange. |
| ASCM | Advance Spaceborne Computer Module |
| ASCO | Advanced Systems Concept Office |
| ASCON | Associate Contractor |
| ASD | (1) OBSOLETE Aeronautical Systems Division (AF). See Aeronautical Systems Center (ASC). (2) Assistant Secretary of Defense. |
| ASDC | Alternated Space Defense Center |
| ASDP | Advanced Sensor Demonstration Program. |
| ASEAN | Association of Southeast Asian Nations |
| ASEDP | Army Space Exploitation Demonstration Program. |
| ASIC | Application Specific Integrated Circuit. |
| ASIOE | Associated Support Items of Equipment (USA term). |
| ASL | Authorized Stockage List (USA term). |
| ASM | (1) Anti-Simulation. (2) Anti-ship Missile. (3) Air-to-Surface Missile. |
| ASMD | Anti-ship Missile Defense. |
| ASMDC | Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Huntsville, AL (1998). |
| ASMP | French Air Surface Missile |
| ASN | Assistant Secretary of the Navy. |
| ASN (RD&A) | Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Research, Development & Acquisition). |
| ASN (SB&L) | Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Shipbuilding and Logistics). |
| ASOC | Air Support Operations Center. |
| ASP | (1) Airborne Surveillance Platform. (2) Advanced Sensor Program. (3) Advanced Sensor Platform. (4) Annual Service Practice. |
| ASPADOC | The backup to the SPADOC, maintained by the Naval Space Command, at Dahlgren, VA, collocated with the NAVSPOC and NAVSPASUR. |
| ASPIRIS | Advanced Signal Processing for IR Sensors. |
| ASPJ | Airborne Self Protection Jammer |

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| ASPO | Army Space Program Office. |
| ASR | Acquisition Strategy Report. |
| ASROC | Antisubmarine Rocket. |
| ASSERT | Augmentation Awards for Science and Engineering Research Training (DoD term). |
| Assessment | (1) Appraisal of the worth of an intelligence activity, source information, or product in terms of its contribution to a specific goal, or the credibility, reliability, pertinence, accuracy, or usefulness of information in terms of an intelligence need. When used in context with evaluation, assessment implies a weighing against resource allocation, expenditure or risk. (2) An independent evaluation of a model or simulation by an MDA-sponsored Confidence Assessment Team for a specified purpose. |
| ASSIST | Automated Systems Security Incident Support Term (DISA term). |
| Associated Object | Object that remains near a deployed reentry vehicle, decoy or chaff puff. |
| Assume Course Orientation | Make course attitude adjustments to the weapon platform orientation prior to engagement. |
| Assured Defense | Strategies and tactics that result in (specified) a high probability of kill against designated targets, regardless of the interceptors required. (USSPACECOM) |
| Assured Kill | This option requires defense segments to employ tactics, which produce the highest probability of kill consistent with the available number of defensive resources (interceptors). |
| AST | (1) See Airborne Surveillance Testbed. (2) Advanced Sensor Technology. |
| ASTMP | Army Science and Technology Master Plan |
| ASTP | Advanced Sensor Technology Program |
| ASWG | Architecture Systems Working Group. |
| AT | Advanced Technology |
| ATA | (1) Advanced Test Accelerator. (2) Avionics Test Article. |
| ATACC | (1) Advanced Tactical Command Central (USMC term). (2) Advanced Theater Air Command Center |
| ATACM | Army Tactical Missile |
| ATACMS | Army Tactical Missile System. |
| ATAF | Allied Tactical Air Force (NATO). |
| ATB | (1) Allied Test Bed. (2) Analytical Tool Box. |
| ATBM | (1) Anti-Tactical Ballistic Missile. (2) Anti- Theater Ballistic Missile |

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| ATC | Automated Technical Catalog |
| ATCCS | Army Tactical Command and Control System |
| ATCOM | Army Aviation and Troop Command (pre-Oct 96) (See AMCOM) |
| ATD | Advanced Technology Demonstration. |
| ATDL | Army Tactical Data Link. |
| ATDM | Adaptive Time Division Multiplexer. |
| ATDS | Airborne Tactical Data System. |
| ATE | Automatic Test Equipment. |
| ATH | Above the Horizon |
| ATHS | Airborne Target Handover System. |
| ATI | Advanced Technology Interceptor |
| ATIM | Advanced Technology Insertion Module |
| ATIS | Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions |
| ATM | Anti-Tactical Missile. |
| ATMD | Army Theater Missile Defense. |
| ATMDF | Air and Theater Missile Defense Force (US Army term). |
| ATMDPO | Army Theater Missile Defense Program Office. |
| ATO | Air Tasking Order. |
| ATOC | Air Tactical Operations Center. |
| ATODB | Air Tasking Order Database. |
| ATP | (1) Acquisition, Tracking, and Pointing. (2) Authority To Proceed. (3) Allied Tactical Publication. (4) Acceptance Test Procedures. (5) Acceptance Test Program. (6) Advanced Technology Program (Department of Commerce term). (7) Authority to Process. |
| ATP&FC | Acquisition, Tracking, Pointing, and Fire Control. |
| ATR | Autonomous/Automated Target Recognition. |
| ATRJ | Advanced Threat Radar Jammer. |
| ATSIM | Acquisition and Track Simulation. |
| Attack and Launch Early Reporting to Theater (ALERT) | An upgrade to ground station mission processing which exploits inherent satellite capability to provide theater missile warning and cueing. |

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| Attack Assessment (AA) | An evaluation of information to determine the potential or actual nature and objectives of an attack for the purpose of providing information for timely decisions. |
| Attack Characterization | The process by which the parameters of an attack in progress are developed, updated and defined. |
| Attack Operations (Counterforce) | Attack operations prevent launch of theater missiles by attacking all elements of the overall enemy system, including such actions as destroying launch platforms, support facilities, reconnaissance, intelligence, surveillance and target acquisition platforms, command and control nodes, and missile stocks. Attack operations can be executed by space, air, ground, maritime, and special operations forces. Attack operations are considered one of the four pillars of TMD capability. (JCS J-38 CONOPS) |
| Attack Price | A concept used to evaluate the performance of a BMD system that defines “price” as the number of Re-entry Vehicles required to ensure target destruction. Target destruction is defined as a probability of target survivability using the draw down curve. |
| Attack Warning/ Attack Assessment (AW/AA) | Integrated air, missile, and space defense data used to determine whether an attack is underway and, if so, what is the type and strength of the attack. |
| ATTD | Advanced Technology Transition Demonstration. |
| Attenuation | Decrease in intensity of a signal, beam, or wave as a result of absorption and scattering out of the path of a detector by the propagating medium, but not including a decrease in intensity due to geometric spreading (e.g., the inverse square of distance). |
| ATV | Advanced Technology Validation. |
| AULS | Accidental or Unauthorized Limited Strike. |
| AUPC | Average Unit Procurement Cost. |
| AURORA | Canadian aircraft. |
| Autonomous Acquisition Range (Max.) | The maximum range at which a target can be acquired by a sensor operating in a non-cued mode. |
| AV | (1) Air Vehicle. (2) Audio-Visual. |
| AVATAR (SAIC) | Flight dynamics simulator. |
| AVC | Advanced Vehicle Concept. |
| AVCATT | Aviation CATT (US Army term) |
| Average Unit Procurement Cost (AUPC) | Design to average unit procurement cost objectives, expressed in constant dollars, are established for Milestone I, Concept Demonstration Approval. AUPC includes recurring flyaway, rollaway, sail-away costs (including nonrecurring production costs) adjusted for data, training, support equipment, and initial spares costs. |

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| AVHRR | Advanced Very High Resolution Radiometer. |
| AVSCOM | Aviation Systems Command (US Army). |
| AW/AA | Attack Warning/Attack Assessment. |
| AWACS | Airborne Warning and Control System. |
| AWC | Air Warfare Centre (UK RAF term). |
| AWE | Advanced Warfighting Experiment |
| AWG | (1) Acquisition Working Group (GSA term). (2) Algorithm Working Group. |
| AWS | (1) AEGIS Weapons System (2) Advanced Warning System. (3) Arrow Weapons System (Joint US/Israeli BMD weapons system). |
| Azimuth | Orientation of a vector projected onto a reference horizontal plane, relative to a reference direction in the plane. |
| Azimuth Angle | A positive angle measured clockwise in a reference horizontal plane from a reference direction to a given direction. For a topocentric-horizon coordinate reference frame, the reference direction is due north (true north or magnetic north, depending on the application). |

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| B | Billion. |
| B Spec | Development specification. |
| B2C2 | Brigade and Below Command and Control System (Army term). |
| BA | Budget activity. The budget activity codes are: 01 – Basic Research 02 – Exploratory Development 03 – Advance Technology Development 04 – Dem/Val 05 – EMD 06 – Management Support 07 – Operational Systems Development |
| BAA | Broad Agency Announcement. |
| BAC | Budget At Completion. |
| Backbone Network | Consists of the space communications network, the ground communications network, and the interconnection between the two. |
| Background Rejection (Surveillance) | The suppression of background noise for the improvement of an object signal. |
| BAE | Battlefield Area Evaluation (USA term). |
| BAFO | Best and Final Offer. |
| BAI | Battlefield Air Interdiction. |
| Balanced Technology Initiative (BTI) | DoD's program to hasten application of advanced technology to the most critical and urgent operational needs. BTI projects are demonstrating leap-ahead capabilities enabled by emerging technologies in smart weapons, target acquisition, battlefield C ³ I, active countermeasures, and ultra-wide bandwidth radars and high power microwave systems. |
| Ballistic Coefficient | The weight of the object divided by the product of the coefficient of drag and the projected area (W/CDA), in kilograms per square meter. |
| Ballistic Missile (BM) | Any missile that does not rely upon aerodynamic surfaces to produce lift and consequently follows a ballistic trajectory when thrust is terminated. |
| Ballistic Missile Boost Intercept (BAMBI) | OBSOLETE. A 1966 system concept that a Lockheed study group developed in anticipation of possible government interest in the development of an ABM capability. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) | All active and passive measures designed to detect, identify, track, and defeat attacking ballistic missiles (and entities), in both strategic and theater tactical roles, during any portion of their flight trajectory (boost, post-boost, midcourse, or terminal) or to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attack. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense Battery | An Army operations center, which operates and maintains BMD ground-based weapons and sensors. |

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| Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) Cell | This facility will be located in the USSPACECOM Consolidated Command Center (CCC) and Space Control Center (SPACC) to support the Space Force Application mission area interface between the BMD system and USCINCSpace. The BMD Cell will provide command and decision support to USCINCSpace. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense Operations Center (BMDOC) | OBSOLETE. Initially located at the NTF, and ultimately in the Cheyenne Mountain Complex, this facility supports the BMD Cell-USSPACECOM information interface. The BMDOC hosts a BM/C ³ processing suite and the operations personnel necessary to coordinate and integrate system-wide BMD activities and supports the USCINCSpace planning and decision process. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) | OBSOLETE. The former name of an agency of the Department of Defense whose mission is to manage and direct the conduct of a research program examining the feasibility of eliminating the threat posed by ballistic missiles of all ranges and of increasing the contribution of defensive systems to United States and Allied security. MDA is the successor to Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO). See MDA. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense Program | An architecture comprising three objectives: Theater Missile Defense (TMD), National Missile Defense (NMD), and Follow-on Research Programs. |
| Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) System | (1) An integrated system that employs layered defenses to intercept missiles during their boost, midcourse, and terminal flight phases. (MDA Lexicon) (2) The aggregate BMD BMC ³ and BMD forces that, in total, provide defense against ballistic missile attacks to North America and other areas of vital interest. (USSPACECOM) |
| Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) | Provides tactical warning of ballistic missile attacks, and is part of Spacetrack system. A two-faced phased array radar located at Thule AB, Greenland; three detection radars and one tracking radar at Clear AFS, AK; and three tracking radars at RAF Fylingdales, UK. |
| Ballistics | The science or art that deals with the motion, behavior, appearance, or modification of missiles or other vehicles acted upon by propellants, wind, gravity, temperature, or any other modifying substance, condition, or force. |
| Ballistic Trajectory | The trajectory traced after the propulsive force is terminated and the body is acted upon only by gravity and aerodynamic drag. |
| Balloon | A spherical inflatable decoy used as a penetration aid to mask the location of reentry vehicles. |
| BAMBI | OBSOLETE. See Ballistic Missile Boost Intercept. |
| Bandwidth | The range of usable frequencies assigned to a channel or system; the difference expressed in Hertz between the highest and lowest frequencies of a band. |
| BAR | Bimonthly Activity Report. |
| BARBB Barrage Jamming | BMDO Acquisition Reporting Bulletin Board Simultaneous electronic jamming over a broad band of frequencies. |
| Battery | Tactical and administrative artillery unit or subunit corresponding to a company or a similar unit in other branches of the Army. |

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| Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) | The estimate of damage resulting from the application of military force against a predetermined objective. Battle damage assessments can be applied to the use of all types of weapons systems throughout the range of military operations. BDAs are primarily an intelligence responsibility with required inputs and coordination from the operators. BDA is composed of physical damage assessment, functional damage assessment, and target system assessment. |
| Battlefield Coordination Element (BCE) | An Army liaison provided by the Army component commander to the Air Operations Center (AOC) and/or to the component designated by the joint force commander to plan, coordinate, and de-conflict air operations. The battlefield coordination element processes Army requests for tactical air support, monitors and interprets the land battle situation for the AOC, and provides the necessary interface for exchange of current intelligence and operational data. |
| Baseline | Defined quantity or quality used as starting point for subsequent efforts and progress measurement. Can be a technical baseline or cost baseline. |
| Baseline Comparison System (BCS) | A current operational system, or a composite of current operational subsystems, which most closely represents the design, operational, and support characteristics of the new system under development. |
| Baseline Conditions | The natural and human environmental conditions, which are present prior to implementation of a program and against which impacts are assessed. |
| Baseline Cost Estimate (BCE) | A detailed estimate of acquisition and ownership costs normally required for high-level decisions. This estimate is performed early in the program and serves as the base point for all subsequent tracking and auditing purposes. |
| Base Program | The base program is the program described in the Future Years Defense Program base file, when updated to conform to the budget presented to Congress in January. It constitutes the base from which all current-year program changes are considered. |
| Base Year | A reference period, which determines a fixed price level for comparison in economic escalation calculations and cost estimates. The price level index for the base year is 1.000. |
| Battle Debris | Battle Debris are the fragments produced by the hypervelocity collision of an interceptor with a ballistic missile, post-boost vehicle, or reentry vehicle, objects resulting from intentional fragmentation or accidental detonation of booster components, and objects normally associated with the deployment and propagation of threat objects (such as nuts, bolts, inter-stages, fairings, shrouds, etc.). |
| Battle Group | (1) Domains into which the battle space is partitioned. (2) A data processing approach implemented in the battle management computer, which minimizes the processing load by partitioning (grouping) threat data (Virtual Battle Group). (3) A group of associated system elements which operate together in a segment of the battle, based upon their capabilities and relative location to each other and the threat. |
| Battle Integration | Preplanning processes and/or real-time coordination that occur to minimize resource wastage between battle tiers or battle partitions. |

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| Battle Management (BM) | Battle management is comprised of two parts: strategies and the collection of tasks to be performed to successfully implement chosen strategies. Given a set of strategies, resources, and hostile asset deployment, battle management addresses the problem of choosing a specific strategy or set of strategies and performing the associated tasks, which would result in the most desired outcome. |
| Battle Management/Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (BM/C⁴) | BM/C ⁴ is a set of automated processes, which respond to the C ² system's control directives. The BM/C ⁴ will provide the BMD system with the capability of planning, coordinating, directing, and controlling the surveillance and engagement operations of the system. It will consist of a distributed arrangement of personnel, equipment, communications, facilities, and procedures that will ensure timely human control of the battle management process. BM/C ⁴ consists of a battle planning function, an engagement planning function, and a battle execution function. (USSPACECOM) |
| Battle Management Database | Battle Management data files including: battle management message file, object file, track file, discrimination file, engagement file, kill assessment file, and battle management health and status file. |
| Battle Management System | The hub of the command and control process. It consists of computer hardware and software that integrates elements of the command and control system into a synergistic operation. (USSPACECOM) |
| Battle Management System Configuration | The battle management elements currently in the system together with their locations, connectivity and currently activated modes of operation. |
| Battle Manager | The automated set of hardware and software equipment that performs the battle management functions at an element. |
| Battle Plan | One of a set of BMD operational approaches to counter a ballistic missile attack. It contains the rules of engagement, battle strategy, and intercept tactics to be implemented by the battle management processors. It is directly responsive to the attack type (e.g., counterforce). |
| Battle Space | A characterization of the BMD area of operation generally expressed by Tier (Boost, Post-Boost, Midcourse, and Terminal). (USSPACECOM) |
| Battle Space Partitioning | Assignment of management, sensing, control and firing responsibilities to specific platforms/facilities within the deployed constellation of platforms/facilities. |
| Battlefield Coordination Element | An Army liaison provided by the Army component commander to the Air Operations Center (AOC) and/or to the component designated by the joint force commander to plan, coordinate, and de-conflict air operations. The battlefield coordination element processes Army requests for tactical air support, monitors and interprets the land battle situation for the AOC, and provides the necessary interface for exchange of current intelligence and operational data. |
| BBS | Bulletin Board System. |
| BBSF | Brass Board Seeker Flight |
| BBT | Booster Burn Time. |
| BCAS | Battle Management and C ³ Architecture Simulator. |

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| BCAS | (1) Battle Management and C3 Architecture Simulator. (2) Base Contracting Automated System. |
| BCBL | Battle Command Battle Laboratory, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. |
| BCCE | BM/C3 Consolidated Capabilities Effort. |
| BCD | Baseline Concept Description. |
| BCE | Battlefield Coordinating Element. |
| BCFR | Battle Command Focused Rotation. |
| BCIS | Battlefield Combat Identification System (US Army term). |
| BCM | Baseline Correlation Matrix (AF term). |
| BCO | Broad Concept of Operations. |
| BCP | Battery Command Post (HAWK). |
| BCS | (1) Beam Control System. (2) Baseline Comparison System. |
| BCTP | Battle Command Training Program, Ft. Leavenworth, KS |
| BCV | Battle Command Vehicle (US Army term). |
| BCWP | Budget Cost of Work Performed. |
| BCWS | Budget Cost of Work Scheduled |
| BD | Baseline Description. |
| BDA | Battle Damage Assessment. |
| BDC | Backgrounds Data Center, Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC |
| BDE | Brigade |
| BDL | Battlefield Demonstration Laser. |
| BDP | Baseline Data Package |
| BDPI | Baseline Data Package Integration. |
| BDS | Boost Phase Detection System. |
| BDT | Birth-to-Death Tracking. |
| BDY | Burst Detector Y Sensor. |
| Be | Beryllium. |
| BE | OBSOLETE. See Brilliant Eyes. |

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| Beam Control | Technologies associated with controlling the physical properties of high-energy beams and steering the energy transmitted by those beams to the target vehicle; also, the management of signal or image beams within a complex sensor system. |
| Beam Width | The angle between the directions, on either side of the axis, at which the intensity of the radio frequency field drops to one-half the value it, has on the axis. |
| BEAR | Beam Experiment Aboard Rocket (NPB Technology Validation Experiment). |
| BEAST | Battle Experiment Area Simulator Tracker. |
| BECO | Before Engine Cutoff. |
| BECS | Battlefield Electronic CEOI System (See RBECS) |
| Bell-Lapadula Model | A formal state transition model of computer security policy that describes a set of access control rules. |
| BELLCORE | Bell Communications Research, Incorporated. |
| BEP | Brilliant Eyes Probe. |
| BES | Budget Estimate Submission. |
| BESAM | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Eyes Sensor Algorithm Manager. |
| BESC | BM/C ³ Element Support Center |
| BESim | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Eyes Simulator. |
| BESim/AT | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Eyes Simulator Analysis Tool. |
| BESim/RT | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Eyes Simulator Real-Time. |
| BEST | BM/C ³ Element Support Task. |
| BET | Best Estimate Trajectory. |
| BFAC | Blue Forces Analysis Center. |
| BFTT | Battle Force Tactical Training. |
| BG | Battle Group (USN term). |
| BGM | Battle Group Manager. |
| BGSE | Bus Ground Support System (USAF term). |
| BGV | Boost Glide Vehicle. |
| BI | (1) Background Investigation. (2) Briefing to Industry. |
| BIB | Blocked Impurity Band. |
| BIC | Battlefield Integration Center. |

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| BID | Built-In Diagnostics. |
| BIDS | Biological Integrated Detection System. |
| Biennial Budget | The FY86 DoD Authorization Act required the submission of two-year budgets for the Department of Defense beginning with FY88/89. The department has institutionalized a biennial cycle for the Planning, Programming, and Budget System (PPBS). A biennial budget, as currently structured, represents program budget estimates for a two-year period in which fiscal year requirements remain separate and distinct. |
| Big Crow | A suite of aircraft, helicopters, ground vans, and electronic equipment, which is used to emulate an electronic warfare environment for testing, weapon systems on test ranges. |
| BIM | Ballistic Intercept Missile. |
| Biological Weapon | An item of material, which projects, disperses, or disseminates a biological agent including arthropod vectors. |
| BIOS | Basic Input/Output System. |
| BIPS | Billion Instructions Per Second. |
| Birth-to-Death Tracking (BDT) | The tracking of space objects (e.g., satellites, reentry vehicles, or decoys that simulate these) from the time they are deployed from a booster or post-boost vehicle until they are destroyed. |
| Bistatic Radar | A radar system that has transmitters and receivers stationed at two geographically separate locations; a special case of multi-static radar. |
| BIT | Built-in-Test |
| Bit | Binary digit. |
| BITE | Built-in Test Equipment. |
| Bit Transfer Rate | The number of bits transferred per unit time, usually expressed in bits per second (bps). |
| Black Body | An ideal body, which would absorb all (and reflect none) of the radiation falling upon it. |
| Blackout | The disabling of electronic equipment by means of nuclear explosion. The intense electromagnetic energy by a nuclear explosion obscures signals and renders many types of radar and other types of electronic equipment useless for minutes or longer. |
| BLADES | BMD Long Wavelength Infrared Advanced Exo-atmospheric Sensor. |
| BLADT | Blast, Dust, Thermal Effects Model. |
| Blast Effect | Destruction of or damage to structures and personnel by the force of an explosion on or above the surface of the ground. Blast effect may be contrasted with the cratering and ground-shock effects of a projectile or charge that goes off beneath the surface. |

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| Blast Wave | A sharply defined wave of increased pressure rapidly propagated through a surrounding medium from a center of detonation or similar disturbance. |
| BLCCE | BMDO Life Cycle Cost Estimate. |
| BLK | Block (system production lot) |
| Blk IVA | Navy Standard Missile Block IV-A. |
| Block | <p>(1) A biennial increment of the Ballistic Missile Defense System that provides an integrated set of capabilities which has been rigorously tested as part of the BMDS Test-bed and assessed to adequately characterize its military utility. Once tested, elements and components are available for limited procurement, transition to production, or for emergency deployment as directed. These “off-ramps” may occur at any time during the Block Cycle to support timely execution of these transition or deployment decisions.</p> <p>The configuration for each Block is drawn from the following sources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prior BMDS Block; • BMDS elements, components, technologies, and concepts; • BMDS Battle Management, Command, Control, and Communications (BMC2/C) specifications and products; • Externally managed systems, elements, or technologies (e.g., DSP, GCCS, MILSTAR, etc). <p>Each successive Block provides increasing levels of capability to counter Ballistic Missiles of all ranges and complexity. (MDA Lexicon)</p> <p>(2) This term is used to designate a portion of a multi-message packet that is dedicated to a message contained within the packet.</p> |
| Block Check Character (BCC) | The result of a transmission verification algorithm accumulated over a transmission block, and normally appended at the end, e.g., CRC, LRC. |
| Block Enhancement Plan (BEP) | The BEP documents Ballistic Missile Defense System technology development objectives and defines the steps necessary to achieve those objectives. The BEP replaces the Integrated Technology Program (ITP) Plan and will document all technologies within MDA that address identified needs within the BMDS Capability Space or support MDA Technical Objectives and Goals. |
| Block Manager | The individual selected to exercise management over a development Block. BMDS Block management includes decision points at which activities will be evaluated on the basis of effectiveness within the overall system, technical risk, deployment schedule, and cost. From these decision points the Block Manager will recommend whether developmental activities will be accelerated, modified, or terminated depending on progress and promise. |
| Blue Forces | Those forces used in a friendly role during exercises. |
| Blue Light | Stand alone network development program |
| BM | (1) Battle Management. (2) Ballistic Missile. |
| BM ATD | Battle Management Advanced Technology Demonstration |

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| BM/C³ | Battle Management/Command, Control, and Communications. See also CC/SOIF. |
| BM/C³I | Battle Management/Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence. |
| BM/C³ WG | BM/C ³ Working Group. |
| BM/C⁴I | Battle Management/ Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence. |
| BMAAT | Battle Management Architecture Analysis Tool. |
| BMC | Battle Management Center. |
| BMD | Ballistic Missile Defense. |
| BMDA | Ballistic Missile Defense Act. |
| BMDAC | Ballistic Missile Defense Advisory Committee. |
| BMDAE | Ballistic Missile Defense Acquisition Executive. |
| BMDARC | Ballistic Missile Defense Acquisition Review Council. |
| BMDATC | OBSOLETE. Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center, Huntsville, AL. |
| BMDCC | Ballistic Missile Defense Command/Control Center. |
| BMD Element Program Manager (PM) | A highly qualified individual responsible for day-to-day management and execution of a BMD element program consistent with PM authorities and responsibilities documented in DoDD 5000.1 and DoDI 5000.2. |
| BMD Event Assessment | An evaluation of information that determines the potential or actual nature and objectives of an attack for the purpose of providing information for timely decisions. Event assessment for ballistic missile attack begins on receipt of event assessment information and continues throughout the attack. The objective of event assessment is to determine the origin of the attack, the country and/or theater under attack, the number and type of missiles/RVs involved in the attack, and what specific targets (impact points) are under attack. This determination may be made based on attack assessment quality launch and impact messages from external systems, information generated by BMD sensors, or any combination. |
| BMD Event Validation | The human evaluation of whether an observed event is real or false. It is a statement of validity of a warning event determined by a human analysis of equipment, operational environment, and personnel actions. The basis for this judgment is dependent on both of the following: first, in the judgment of sensor site personnel reporting the event, the data exhibits characteristics consistent with pre-determined phenomena attributed to an actual event. Site personnel actions, and hardware and software performance, are determined to be within established system operation specifications. This is a valid site report. Second, when a site report is received at the BMD operations center, it undergoes system report analysis. This process may change the valid site report based on additional factors such as other site reports, intelligence information, and other data. Only after this process has been completed can a determination be made of event validation. |

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| BMDM | Ballistic Missile Defense Monitor. |
| BMDN | Ballistic Missile Defense Network. Encompasses the mission-oriented local area and wide area networks, facilities, hardware, software, network control and management procedure and capabilities used to link MDA and the scientific and technical laboratories and DoD facilities (collectively, the National Test Bed) that support missile defense systems development, test and evaluation, and acquisition. The Joint National Test Facility (JNTF) at Falcon AFB, CO serves as the Executing Agent for the BMDN. |
| BMDO | OBSOLETE. See Ballistic Missile Defense Organization. |
| BMDOC | OBSOLETE. See Ballistic Missile Defense Operations Center. |
| BMDOICA | OBSOLETE. See BMDO Independent Cost Assessment. |
| BMDP | Ballistic Missile Defense Program. |
| BMDSCOM | OBSOLETE. Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command (now USASSDC). |
| BMEWS | See Ballistic Missile Early Warning System. |
| BMIC | Battle Management Integration Center. |
| BMO | OBSOLETE. Ballistic Missile Office (AF). |
| BMP | Battle Management Processor (C2E term). |
| BMT | Ballistic Missile Threat. |
| BN | Battalion |
| BN HQ | Battalion Headquarters (USA/USMC term). |
| BN OC | Battalion Operations Center |
| BNL | Brookhaven National Laboratory. |
| BOA | (1) Battlefield Ordnance Awareness. (2) Basic Operating Agreement. |
| BOD | Beneficial Occupancy Date (FAR construction contract term). |
| BOE | Basis of Estimate. |
| BOIP | Basis of Issue Plans. |
| BOM | Bill of Material |
| Booster | An auxiliary or initial propulsion system that travels with a missile or aircraft and that may or may not separate from the parent craft when its impulse has been delivered. A booster system may contain or consist of one or more units. |
| Booster Inventory | Total force inventory. |

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| Boost Phase | The first phase of a ballistic missile trajectory during which it is being powered by its engines. During this phase, which usually lasts 3 to 5 minutes for an ICBM, the missile reaches an altitude of about 200 km whereupon powered flight ends and the missile begins to dispense its reentry vehicles. The other phases of missile flight, including midcourse and terminal, take up to the remainder of an ICBM's flight time of 25 to 30 minutes. (USSPACECOM) |
| Boost Defense Segment (BDS) | The portion of the BMDS that defeats ballistic missiles in the period of flight prior to the termination of powered flight. |
| Boost Surveillance and Tracking System (BSTS) | OBSOLETE. An Air Force sensor system in high earth orbit used for early warning, tracking of ballistic missiles, and attack assessment. |
| BORRG | Ballistic Missile Operational Requirements Review Group. |
| BOS | Battlefield Operating System |
| BOSS | Background Optical Suppression Sensor. |
| Bottom-Up Review (BUR) | A comprehensive review, initiated in March 1993, of the nation's defense strategy, force structure, modernization, infrastructure, and foundations. The BUR examined U.S. missile defense requirements from a perspective of identifying options that could meet future needs at an affordable cost. |
| BP | (1) Brilliant Pebbles (2) Boost Phase. (3) Battle Planning. |
| BPAC | Budget Program Activity Code. |
| BPBM | Boost Phase Battle Management. |
| BPHIT | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Pebbles Hover Interceptor Test. |
| BPI | (1) Boost Phase Intercept. (2) Boost Phase Interceptor. |
| BPI/E | Boost Phase Intercept/Exoatmospheric Intercept |
| BPL | Boost Phase Leakage. |
| BPM | Business Program Manager (Acquisition management term). |
| BPPBS | Biennial Planning, Programming and Budget System. |
| BPS | Bits per second (TelComm/Computer term). |
| BPT ATD | Boost Phase Tracking Advanced Technology Demonstration. |
| BPTF | OBSOLETE. Brilliant Pebbles Task Force. |
| BPTS | Boost Phase Tracking System. |
| BPX | Battle Plan Execution. |
| BRAC | Base Realignment And Closure. |

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| Brassboard Configuration | An experimental device (or group of devices) used to determine feasibility and to develop technical and operational data. It will normally be a model sufficiently hardened for use outside of laboratory environments to demonstrate the technical and operational principles of immediate interest. It may resemble the end item, but is not intended for use as the end item. |
| BRDI | Baseline Recompensation Document Integration |
| Breadboard Configuration | An experimental device (or group of devices) used to determine feasibility and to develop technical data. It will normally be configured for laboratory use to demonstrate the technical principles of immediate interest. It may not resemble the end item and is not intended for use as the projected end item. |
| Breakout | Execution of acquisition strategy to convert some parts or systems components from contractor furnished to government furnished. Rather than having prime contractor provide from its sources, government goes out to industry directly and procures items. |
| Break-Up | <p>(1) In detection by radar, the separation of one solid return into a number of individual returns which correspond to the various objects or structure groupings. This separation is contingent upon a number of factors, including range, beam width, gain setting, object size, and distance between objects.</p> <p>(2) In imagery interpretation, the result of magnification or enlargement which causes the imaged item to lose its identity and the resultant presentation to become a random series of tonal impressions.</p> |
| Brightness | The amount of power that can be delivered per unit solid angle by a directed energy weapon. As used in the BMD program, brightness is the measure of source intensity. To determine the amount of energy per unit area on a target, both source brightness and source-target separation distance must be specified. |
| Brilliant Eyes (BE) | OBSOLETE Successor to Space-Based Surveillance and Tracking System (SSTS). BE is also known as the Space and Missile Tracking System (SMTS), and is now the LEO element of the SBIRS. See SBIRS. |
| Brilliant Eyes Probe (BEP) | OBSOLETE. The BE Probe is a concept for a ground launched probe version of the BE space-based satellite, analogous to the obsolete GSTS, that would leverage heavily the applicable BE Flight Demonstration System (FDS) developed equipment. BEP could be developed and deployed on a shorter schedule and could provide interim above-the- (radar) horizon threat tracking and pre-commit for the interceptor. The concept requires the addition of non-FDS LWIR sensor to a sub-set of the existing sensor complement, and is part of potential Contingency Deployment Options. Also called the Ground Launched Probe (GLP). |
| Brilliant Pebbles (BP) | OBSOLETE. Proliferated singlet space-based weapon with autonomous capability. (Now a subset of the Air Force's Advanced Interceptor Technologies (AIT) project.) |
| Broad Concept of Operations (BCO) | An approved USSPACECOM planning concept for a complete SDS. It is a top-level concept that is detailed in specific Phase Concepts of Operations. |
| BRP | Basic Research Plan. |

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| BRV | Ballistic Reentry Vehicle. |
| BS | (1) Battle Staff. (2) Broadcast Source. |
| BSD | Battlefield Situation Display. |
| BSL | Base Support Listing. |
| BSTS | See Boost Surveillance and Tracking System. |
| BT ATD | Booster Typing Advanced Technology Demonstration. |
| BTH | Below the Horizon. |
| BTI | Balanced Technology Initiative. |
| BTOC | Battalion Tactical Operations Center (PATRIOT). |
| BTRY | Battery. |
| BTS | Baseline Target Set. An MDA-approved listing and description of ballistic missile targets, which have been (or are being) developed to meet a variety of target users' needs, validated as threat representative, and accredited for specific applications. |
| BTTV | Ballistic Tactical Target Vehicle. |
| BTY | Battery. |
| Budget Activity | (1) A budget activity is a major subdivision of a budget appropriation, generally in mission areas. It records estimates for a component function or activity to be funded by the appropriation. (2) Categories within each appropriation and fund account that identify the purposes, projects, or types of activities financed by the appropriation or fund. |
| Budget Authority | Authority provided by law to enter into obligations, which generally result in immediate or future disbursements of Government funds. It may be classified by the period of availability, by the timing of congressional action or by the manner of determining the amount available. Also known as Obligational Authority. |
| Budget Estimate | Cost estimate prepared for inclusion in the DoD budget to support an acquisition program. |
| Budget Estimate Submit (BES) | The service submissions to OSD showing budget requirements for inclusion in the DoD budget. Every other autumn (even years) for two-year budget, every autumn of odd years for amendment to second year of previously submitted two-year budget. |
| Built-in Test Equipment (BITE) | Any device permanently mounted in the prime equipment and used for the express purpose of testing the prime equipment, either independently or in association with external test equipment. |
| Bulk Filter | The signal processing rejection of detected signals as not being related to objects of interest. The removal of sensor observations from the track files that can be readily assessed by location or signature as non-threat (e.g., stars, boost fragments, etc.). |

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| BUR | Bottom-Up Review. |
| Burden | Costs not attributed or assigned to a system as a direct cost. Alternative term for overhead. |
| Burnout | The point in time or in the missile trajectory when combustion of fuels in the rocket engine is terminated by other than programmed cutoff. |
| Burn Rate | The monthly rate at which a contractor's funds are expended during the period of the contract. |
| Burn-Through Range | The distance at which specific radar can discern targets through the external interference being received. |
| Bus | The platform (or "bus") sometimes referred to as a post-boost vehicle, on a single missile, which carries all the warheads on that missile. May also carry penetration aids, decoys, etc. |
| Bus Deployment Phase | That portion of a missile flight during which multiple warheads are deployed on different paths to different targets (also referred to as the post-boost phase). The warheads on a single missile are carried on a platform or "bus" (also referred to as a post-boost vehicle), which has small rocket motors to move the bus slightly from its original path. |
| BV | Boost Vehicle. |
| BVR | Beyond Visual Range. |
| BW | (1) Biological Weapon. (2) Biological Warfare. |
| BY | (1) Budget Year. (2) Base Year. |

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| C | (1) Communications. (2) Centigrade. |
| C² | Command and Control. |
| C²E | Command and Control Element. |
| C²P | Command and Control Processor. |
| C²S | Command and Control System. |
| C²Sims | Command and Control Simulations. |
| C³ | Command, Control, and Communications. |
| C³CM | Command, Control, and Communications Countermeasures. |
| C³I | Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence. |
| C³IIT | C ³ I Integration Test. |
| C³TED | C ³ Theater Exploitation Demonstration. |
| C⁴ | Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Systems. |
| C⁴I | Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Intelligence. |
| C⁴S | Command, Control, Communication, and Computer Systems. |
| C Spec | Product specification. |
| CA | Counter Air. |
| CAD | Computer-Aided Design. |
| CADE | Combined Allied Defense Experiment/Effort. |
| CAE | (1) Computer-Aided Engineering. (2) Component Acquisition Executive. |
| CAIG | Cost Analysis Improvement Group. |
| CALM | Characterization of Advanced LWIR Mosaic |
| CALS | (1) Computer-aided acquisition logistic support. (2) Continuous acquisition and life-cycle support. |
| CAM | Computer-aided manufacturing. |
| Campaign Plan | A plan for a series of related military operations aimed to accomplish a common objective, normally within a given time and space. |
| C&D | (1) Cover and Deception. (2) Command and Decision |
| C&D/A | Command and Decision/Auxiliary |
| C&DH | Communications and Data Handling. |
| C++ | Object oriented version of the C programming language. |

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| C-B | Chemical-Biological. |
| C/AHRS | Compass, Attitude Heading Reference System (US Army term). |
| C/SCSC | Cost/Schedule, Control System Criteria. |
| C/SSR | Cost Schedule Status Report. |
| CAESAR | CONUS Attack Engagement Systems Requirements Simulation. |
| CAG | Collective Address Group. |
| CAGE | Commercial and Government Entity (Contracting term). |
| CAI | Computer-Aided Inspection. |
| CAIG | Cost Analysis Improvement Group. |
| CAIS | Common Airborne Instrumentation System. |
| CAIV | Cost As an Independent Variable. |
| CALM | Characterization of Advanced Low Background Mosaic. CALM is a contractor operated ground test facility for testing focal plane arrays. It is located in Anaheim, CA, and is managed by USASSDC for MDA. |
| Candidate Sensors | Any of the following sensors that could potentially be included in a National Missile Defense deployment: UEWR (BMEWS, PAVE PAWS), HAVE STARE, COBRA DANE, Haystack/Millstone, Haystack Aux, COBRA JUDY, and potentially other existing sensors. |
| CAO | Counter Air Operation. |
| CAOC | Combat Air Operations Center. |
| CAP | (1) Combat Air Patrol. (2) Civil Air Patrol. (3) Crisis Action Planning. (4) Configuration and Alarm Panel. |
| Capability Assessment | To determine the value /capability of the BMDS: technical performance, cost, schedule, and other factors included. |
| Capabilities-based Acquisition | An acquisition strategy based on the principle of providing to the user capabilities as they are achieved, vice capabilities as measured against an absolute standard. |

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| Capabilities-based Operational Requirements Document (ORD) | A specialized version of the CJCSI 3701.1B formatted ORD that records the demonstrated operational performance of a base-lined BMDS capability and configuration for a system proposed for Service procurement and operations. In place of requirements, capabilities are stated as operational performance parameters that have been characterized in Developmental Testing, tailored to the system (e.g., satellite, aircraft, ship, missile, or weapon) and reflect system-level performance capabilities such as range, probability of kill, platform survivability, etc. In keeping with the capability-based approach, the threat is described in adversary capabilities terms, rather than specific threat systems. Other facets of the standard ORD that speak to the suitability and supportability of the system remain unchanged. The Service will bring the Operational Capabilities Document through the Joint Requirements Oversight Council as the system element transitions to a Service. |
| Capability Specification | Generally, but not entirely, equivalent to the term “Performance Specification” as used in a DoDI 5000.2/DFARS context. It is different in that capability specification emphasizes operational capability verses performance requirements that are responsive to documented military requirements. Unlike performance specifications, capability specifications are not necessarily tied to APBs, Mission Need Statements (MNSs), or ORDs. |
| Capital Satellite | A highly valued or costly satellite, as distinct from an inexpensive decoy satellite. Some decoys might be so expensive as to be considered capital satellites. |
| CAPS | Commanders Analysis and Planning Simulation. |
| Capstone Test and Evaluation Master Plan (Capstone TEMP) | A Test and Evaluation Master Plan which addresses the testing and evaluation of a defense system comprised of a collection of “stand alone” component systems which function collectively to achieve the objectives of the defense system. |
| CAR | (1) Command Assessment Review (AF). (2) Configuration Audit Review. (3) Contract Assessment Report. |
| CARD | (1) Cost Analysis Requirements Document. (2) Cost Analysis Requirements Description. |
| CARM | Counter Anti-Radiation Missile (PATRIOT). |
| Carrier System | A means of obtaining a number of channels over a single path by modulating each channel upon a different “carrier” frequency, and demodulating at the receiving point to restore the signals to their original form. |
| Carrier Vehicle (CV) | A space platform whose principal function is to house the space-based interceptors in a protective environment prior to use. |
| CARS | Consolidated Acquisition Reporting System. |
| CAS | (1) Close Air Support. (2) Computer-Aided Servicing. (3) Crisis Action System. (4) Cost Accounting Standard. |
| CAS/M | Computer-Aided Servicing/Maintenance. |
| CASA | Cost Analysis Strategy Assessment. |

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| CASE | (1) Common Automated System Execution. (2) Computer-Aided Software Engineering |
| CASOM | Conventionally Armed Stand Off Missile (USAF & UK RAF term). |
| CASREP | Casualty Report (USN term). |
| CASS | Consolidated Automated Support System. |
| CAST | Commercial Acquisition Streamlining Team (USAF team name). |
| CAT | (1) Computer Aided Testing. (2) Crisis Action Team. (3) Category. |
| Cat House | A second-generation Soviet phased array radar that augments Moscow's existing search and target acquisition radars (Dog House). It also enhances their battle management capabilities. |
| CATO | (1) Combined Arms Tactical Operations (US Army). (2) OBSOLETE. Common Automated Tactical Operations. |
| CATS | Computer Aided Test System. |
| CATT | Combined Arms Tactical Trainer (US Army term). |
| CB | Chemical Biological. |
| CBD | (1) Commerce Business Daily. (2) CINC BM/C ³ Demonstrator. |
| CBM | Central Battle Management. |
| CBO | Congressional Budget Office. |
| CBR | (1) Chemical, Biological, Radiological. (2) Concurrent Budget Resolution. |
| CBS | Corps Battle Simulation (US Army term). |
| CBTDEV | Combat Developer (US Army term). |
| CBU | (1) Cluster Bomb Unit. (2) Conference Bridge Unit. |
| CBW | Chemical Biological Warfare. |
| CC | (1) Command and Control. (2) Command Center. (3) Air Force Commander office symbol. |
| CC/SOIF | OBSOLETE. Command Center/System Operation and Integration Functions. (See C ² E and SOIF.) |
| CCA | (1) Contingency Capabilities Assessment. (2) Carrier-Controlled Approach. (3) Circuit Card Assembly. |
| CCA (ICE) | Component Cost Assessment (Independent Cost Estimate). |
| CCB | (1) Community Counter terrorism Board. (2) Configuration Control Board. |

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| CCC | (1) CINC Command Complex. (2) Component Command Center. (3) Consolidated Command Center (NMD BMC3 term) |
| CCC (BMD) | Consolidated Command Center (CCC) (BMD). |
| CCCI | Command, Control, Communications and Intelligence. |
| CCCS | Common Communications Component Set. |
| CCD | (1) Charge-Coupled Device. (2) Camouflage, Concealment, and Deception. |
| CCE | OBSOLETE. Command Center Element. Now called Command and Control Element (C ² E). |
| CCEB | Combined Communications-Electronics Board (NATO term). |
| CCEP | Commercial COMSEC Endorsement Program |
| CCEV | Command Center Experimental Version. |
| CCI | Controlled Cryptographic Item |
| CCIS | Command and Control Information System. |
| CCL | (1) Commodity Control List. (2) Commerce Control List [Commerce Department]. |
| CCM | Counter-Countermeasures. |
| CCMPS | Counter-Countermeasure Parametric Study. |
| CCN | (1) Contract Change Notice. (2) Configuration Change Notice. |
| CCP | Contract Change Proposal (Contracting term). |
| CCP002 | Contract Change Proposal (and number) (Contract Administration term). |
| CCS | Combat Control System (AEGIS). |
| CCTV | Closed Circuit Television |
| CD | (1) Concept Definition. (2) Contingency Deployment. (3) Combat Developments |
| CD/V | Concept Demonstration/Validation (DD 5000 term). |
| CDA | Central Design Activity (USAF term for Software Engineering Center). |
| CDB | Central database (USN term). |
| CDCC | Classified Document Control Center. |
| CDD | Concept and Development Definition. |
| CDE | Conference on Confidence and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe. |

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| CDI | (1) Conventional Defense Initiative. (2) Compressed Data Interface. (3) Classification, Discrimination, and Identification (PATRIOT). |
| CDMA | Code Division Multiple Access [Receiver]. |
| CDO | Contingency Deployment Option. |
| CDP | Contingency Deployment Planning. |
| CDR | Critical Design Review. |
| CDRL | Contract Data Requirements List. |
| CDS | Congressional Descriptive Summary. |
| CDSSI | Common Data Sharing System Infrastructure. |
| CDT&E | Contractor Development Test and Evaluation. |
| CDV | Concept Definition Vehicle. |
| CE | (1) Concurrent Engineering. (2) Communications Enhancements (PATRIOT). (3) Corps of Engineers/Civil Engineers. (4) Current Estimate. (5) Communications-Electronics. 6. Command Element. |
| CE&T | Common Environments & Tools |
| CE/D | Concept Exploration/Definition Phase. |
| Cease Engagement | In air defense, a fire control order used to direct units to stop the firing sequence against a designated target. Guided missiles already in flight will continue to intercept. |
| Cease Fire | A command given to refrain from firing on, but to continue to track objects. Missiles already in flight will be permitted to continue to intercept. |
| CEATM | Cost Effectiveness At The Margin. |
| CEC | Cooperative Engagement Capability. |
| CECOM | U.S. Army Communications Electronics Command, Ft. Monmouth, NJ. |
| CED | Concept Exploration and Development. |
| CEEM | Cost-Effectiveness Evaluation Model. |
| CELSA | Cost Estimate Logistics Support Analysis. [Methodology for estimating logistics support costs]. |
| CELV | Complementary Expendable Launch Vehicle. |
| CEM | Combined Effects Munition. |
| CENTAF | [US] Central Command Air Force. |
| CENTAG | Central Army Group (NATO). |

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| CENTCOM | [US] Central Command |
| Centralized Command | Operational concept which specifies that critical C ² is collected and key C ² decisions are performed at a central location by USCINCSpace, or his designee, to ensure continuous and positive human control over the system. |
| Centralized Control | The control mode whereby a higher echelon makes direct target assignments to fire units. (USSPACECOM) |
| Centralized Management | The concept of using a single, designated management authority. It includes system management, program/project management, and product management. |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| CEOI | Communications Electronics Operating Instructions. |
| CEP | (1) Circular Error Probable. (2) Consolidated Evaluation Process. |
| CEQ | Council on Environmental Quality. |
| CERES | Center for Research Support, NTF, Falcon AFB, CO. |
| CERT | Computer Emergency Response Team. |
| Certification | The technical evaluation of a system's security features, made as a part of and in support of the approval/accreditation process that established the extent to which a particular computer system's design and implementation meet a set of specified security requirements. |
| CES | (1) Cost Element Structure. (2) Civil Engineering Squadron. |
| CEST | CINC Exercise Support Team (BM/C3 warfighter exercise term). |
| CET | Concurrent Engineering Team. |
| CETEC | Corps of Engineers Topographic Engineering Center, Location??? |
| CEU | Cooling Equipment Unit. |
| CEWG | Civil Engineering Working Group. |
| CFA | Center for Architecture (JIEO term). |
| CFAA | Computer Fraud and Abuse Act. |
| CFC | Combined Forces Command, Korea. |
| CFE | (1) Conventional Forces Europe. (2) Contractor Furnished Equipment. (3) Center for Engineering (JIEO term). (4) Commercial Equivalent Equipment (US Army IFTE term). |
| CFEL | Contractor Furnished Equipment List. |
| CFI | Contractor Furnished Information |
| CFI&I | Center for Integration and Interoperability (JIEO term). |

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| CFO | Chief Financial Officer |
| CFP | Contractor Furnished Property. |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations. |
| CFSR | Contractor Funds Status Report. |
| CG | (1) USN guided missile cruiser. (2) Coast Guard. (3) Chairman's Guidance (JCS). (4) Commanding General. (5) Center of Gravity. (6) Comptroller General. |
| CGA | Color Graphics Adapter (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| CGS | (1) Common Ground Station (Part of Joint STARS). (2) Continental Ground Station. |
| Chaff | (1) Radar confusion reflectors, which consist of thin, narrow metallic strips of various lengths and frequency responses, used to create false echoes for confusion purposes. (2) Confetti-like metal foil ribbons which can be ejected from spacecraft (or terrestrial vehicles) to reflect enemy radar signals, thereby creating false targets or screening actual targets from the "view" of radar. |
| Chaff Puff | Volume of space containing a relatively high density of chaff. |
| Chairman's Program Assessment (CPA) | Summarizes the views of the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, on the balance and capabilities of the Program Objective Memorandum (POM) force and the support levels to attain national security levels. The CPA assists the Secretary of Defense in decisions on the FYDP subsequent to receipt of the POMs. |
| CHAMP | Composite High Altitude Maneuvering PBV |
| Change Order | Unilateral written order to a contractor to modify a contractual requirement within the scope of the contract, pursuant to the changes clause contained in the contract. |
| Change of Operational Control (CHOP) | The date and time at which the responsibility for operational control of a force or unit passes from one operational control authority to another. |
| Characterization | The process of ascertaining the BMDS capabilities. The result of the BMDS characterization effort is a description of actual BMDS capability at a particular point in time. Characterization relies on test data supplemented by analysis to establish confidence in estimates across the threat space. |
| CHARM | Composite High Altitude Radiation Model. |
| Checkpoint | Event or point in time during the program before which decision criteria must be met. If decision criteria are not met, MDA may decide that the program may not proceed through the checkpoint. A checkpoint may correspond to an event such as a program review, test event, or contract award; it may also correspond to a point in time, e.g. six months after contract award. |

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| Chemical Agent | A chemical substance which is intended for use in military operations to kill, seriously injure, or incapacitate personnel through its physiological effects. Excluded from consideration are riot control agents, herbicides, smoke, and flame. |
| Chemical Laser | A laser in which chemical action is used to produce the laser energy. |
| Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Base (CMAFB) | CMAFB provides the primary facilities for the command, operations, and processing centers which support the correlation and assessment functions of the ITW/AA system. |
| CHIPS | Clearing House for Interbank Payments. |
| CHOP | (1) Countermeasures Hands-On Program. Also known as the MDA Countermeasures Skunkworks. (2) Change of Operational Control. |
| CHS | Common Hardware and Software. |
| CI | (1) Counterintelligence. (2) Configuration Item. |
| CI (n) | Capability Increment (Number), e.g., CI-2, (NMD BMC3 term). |
| CIA | Central Intelligence Agency (US). |
| CIAC | Computer Incident Advisory Capability. |
| CIC | (1) NORAD/USSPACECOM Combined Intelligence Center. (2) Combat Information Center. (U.S. Navy). (3) Content Indicator Code. (4) Communications Interface Controller. (5) Computer Information Center. (6) Combat Integration Capability (USAF term). |
| CIDR | Configuration Item Design Review. |
| CIDS | (1) Control, Instrumentation and Diagnostic Systems (2) Critical Item Development Specification. |
| CIDSE | Consolidated Integrated Development support Environment. |
| CIEL | Certification and INFOSEC Engineering Laboratory. |
| CIF | CINC Initiative Fund. |
| CIFMS | Center for Integrated Mission support (JIEO term). |
| CIL | Critical Items List. |
| CIM | Computer-Integrated Manufacturing. |
| CINC | (1) Commander-in-Chief, used when referring to the President of the United States. (2) An obsolete term used to refer to the combatant commanders of major commands such as CENTCOM or NORAD. |

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| CINC Decision Set | A group of decisions available to control forces, including determining operational state, DEFCON, hostile intent, authorizing engagement, selecting preplanned response options, withholding weapons, overriding system directives, and terminating engagement. |
| CIOTE | Commander's Integrated Open System Technology Evaluator. |
| Cipher System | A cryptographic system in which cryptography is applied to plain text elements of equal length. |
| Ciphertext | Unintelligible text or signals produced through the use of cipher systems. |
| CIPT | Cost As an Independent Variable (CAIV) IPT. |
| Circular Error Probable (CEP) | An indicator of the delivery accuracy of a weapon system, used as a factor in determining probable damage to a target. It is the radius of a circle within which half of a missile's projectiles are expected to fall or there is a 50 percent probability that a single projectile shall impact. |
| CIRIS | Completely Integrated Reference Instrumentation System |
| CIRRIS | Cryogenic Infrared Radiance Instrumentation for Shuttle. |
| CIS | (1) Commonwealth of Independent States. (2) Common Item Support. (3) Communications Interface Shelter. |
| CISF | Centralized Integration Support Facility. |
| CISS | Center for Information Systems Security (JIEO term). |
| CITE | Common Integrated Tactics Execution (USAF term). |
| CITIS | Contractor Integrated Technical Information Service. |
| CIWS | Close-In Weapon System. |
| CJ | Cobra Judy, name of a surveillance radar. |
| CJCS | Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff |
| CJTF | (1) Commander, Joint Task Force. (2) Combined Joint Task Force. |
| CL | Chemical Laser. |
| CLC | Command Launch Computer (HARM term). |
| CLE | Command and Launch Equipment. |
| CLEMENTINE | A flight program to demonstrate lightweight spacecraft technologies. |
| CLEO | Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics (See EQEC). |
| CLGP | Cannon-Launched Guided Projectile. |
| CLIN | Contract Line Item Number |

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| Closely Spaced Objects (CSO) | Entire or partial object clusters that cannot be resolved to individual objects due to their close proximity and/or exceeding the sensor resolution capability due to the range or the lack of suitable sensor viewing angles. |
| Closure | In transportation, the process of a unit arriving at a specified location. It begins with the arrival of the first element at a designated location and ends with the arrival of the last. |
| Clutter | Permanent echoes, cloud, or other atmospheric echo on radarscope. |
| CLS | (1) Command and Launch Station. (2) Contractor Logistic Support. |
| Clump | Two or more objects that give rise to a single observation, e.g., an extended object consisting of at least two unresolved closely spaced objects. |
| Cluster | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A total collection of objects each of which is within some metric distance of at least one other object in the collection. (2) A total collection of objects each of whose image on the focal plane of a sensor is within some metric distance of the image of at least one other object in the collection. (3) A set of objects with similar state vectors (based on truth). For example, a reentry vehicle and its penaids deployed at virtually the same time from a post-boost vehicle. (4) For BM/C³ purposes, a cluster is a group of objects any one of which can be engaged by an interceptor launched at the Centroid of the cluster, possibly before the cluster is resolved into separate objects. |
| Cluster Dispersion | The rate of expansion of a cluster in meters/sec or angle/sec. |
| Cluster Set | A group of object clusters and debris that originated from a single missile. |
| CM | (1) Countermeasures. (2) Configuration Management. (3) Cruise Missile. (4) Chairman's Memorandum. (5) Control Modem, (6) Composite Material |
| cm | Centimeter. |
| CM/SM | Communications Manager/Security Manager. |
| CMAFB | See Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Base. |
| CMAS | Cheyenne Mountain Air Station (replaces CMAFB). |
| CMC | (1) Cheyenne Mountain Complex. (2) Commandant of the Marine Corps. |
| CMD | (1) Cruise Missile Defense. (2) Abbreviation of Command. |
| CMDI | Cruise Missile Defense Initiative. |
| CMEST | Cruise Missile Engagement Systems Technology. |
| CMF | (1) Common Mode Failure. (2) Conjugate Matched Filter. |
| CMG | Control Moment Gyro |
| CMI | Countermeasure Integration. |

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| CMM | Capability Maturity Model. |
| CM(N)CC | Cheyenne Mountain National Command Center. |
| CMO | Central MASINT Office (DIA). |
| CMOC | Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Cheyenne Mountain AS, CO. |
| CMOP | Counter Missile Operations Plan. |
| CMOS | Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor. |
| CMP | (1) Configuration Management Plan. (2) Counter Military Potential. (3) Communications Message Processor. |
| CMRS | Calibration Measurement Requirements Summary |
| CMS | Cheyenne Mountain Support. |
| CMTC | Combat Maneuver Training Center, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. |
| CMTS | Cheyenne Mountain Training System. |
| CMTSS | Cheyenne Mountain Training and Simulation Support. |
| CMW | Compartmented Mode Workstation. |
| CNA | Center for Naval Analyses. |
| CNAD | Council of NATO Armaments Directors. |
| CNC | Computer Numerical Control. |
| CNM | Communications Network Manager (C2E term). |
| CNO | Chief of Naval Operations. |
| CNWDI | Critical Nuclear Weapons Design Information. |
| CO | (1) Contracting Officer. (2) Change Order. (3) Commanding Officer. |
| COA | Course of Action. |
| COAST | Computer Operation, Audit, and Security Technology. |
| COB | Close of Business. |
| Cobra Ball | Modified EC—130 OAMP aircraft (see Cobra Eye). |
| Cobra Dane | L-Band phased array radar at Shemya AFB, AK. |
| Cobra Eye | Modified EC-135, IR/EO sensors, Shemya AFB, AK. |
| Cobra Gemini | Ship-based S-Band Radar development program with both shore and ship basing options. |

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| Cobra Judy | A ship-borne phased array radar. |
| COC | Combat Operations Center. |
| COCOM | See Combatant Command. |
| COCOMO | Constructive Cost Model (COEA, now JAE, term). |
| Code Template | A software tool used to develop a module for multiple general applications. |
| CODR | Conceptual Design Review. |
| COEA | Cost and Operational Effectiveness Analysis. |
| Coherence | The matching, in space (transverse coherence) or time (temporal coherence), of the wave structure of different parallel rays of a single frequency of electromagnetic radiation. This results in the mutual reinforcing of the energy of a larger beam. Lasers and radar systems produce partially coherent radiation. |
| COI | (1) Critical Operational Issues. (2) Combat Operations Intelligence. |
| COIC | Critical Operational Issues and Criteria. |
| COIL | Chemical Oxygen-Iodine Laser. |
| Collocation | The physical placement of two or more detachments, units, organizations, or facilities at a specifically defined location. |
| COM | (1) Collections Operations Management. (2) Commander. |
| COM3 | Common Communications Components |
| COMAFFOR | Commander, Air Force Forces. |
| COMAFSPACE | Commander, Air Force Space Command. |
| COMARFOR | Commander, Army Forces. |
| COMARSPACE | Commander, Army Space Command. |
| Combat Area | A restricted area (air, land, or sea) that is established to prevent or minimize mutual interference between friendly forces engaged in combat operations. |
| Combat Assessment (CA) | The determination of the overall effectiveness of force employment during military operations. Combat assessment is composed of three major components: battle damage assessment, munitions effects assessment, and re-attack recommendation. The objective of combat assessment is to recommend the course of military operations. The J-3 is normally the single point of contact for combat assessment at the joint force level, assisted by the joint force J-2. |
| Combat Information Center | The agency in a ship or aircraft manned and equipped to collect, display, evaluate, and disseminate tactical information for the use of the embarked flag officer, commanding officer, and certain control agencies. Certain control, assistance, and coordination functions may be delegated by command to the combat information center. Also called Action Information Center. |

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| Combat Readiness | Synonymous with operational readiness, with respect to missions or functions performed in combat. |
| Combat Ready | Synonymous with operationally ready, with respect to missions or functions performed in combat. |
| Combat Service Support | The essential logistic functions, activities, and tasks necessary to sustain all elements of an operating force in an area of operations. Combat service support includes administrative services, chaplain services, civil affairs, finance, legal services, laundry, etc. |
| Combat Support | Fire support and operational assistance provided to combat elements. Combat support includes artillery, air defense artillery, engineer, military police, signal, and military intelligence support. |
| Combat System Test Installation | A collection of subsystems including weapon, sensor, and information processing equipment together with their interfaces installed for the purposes of early testing prior to the availability of a first production item, at a test facility designed to simulate the essential parts of the production item. |
| Combatant Command (COCOM) | Non-transferable command authority established by title 10, United States Code, section 164, exercised only by commanders of unified or specified combatant commands. Combatant Command (command authority) is the authority of a Combatant Commander to perform those functions of command over assigned forces involving organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction over all aspects of military operations, joint training, and logistics necessary to accomplish the missions assigned to the command. Combatant Command (command authority) should be exercised through the commanders of subordinate organizations; normally this authority is exercised through the Service component commander. Combatant Command (command authority) provides authority to organize and employ commands and forces, as the CINC considers necessary to accomplish assigned missions. Also called COCOM. See also Combatant Commander. |
| Combatant Commander | A commander of one of the unified or specified combatant commands established by the President. |
| Combined Doctrine | Fundamental principals that guide the employment of forces for two or more nations in coordinated actions toward a common objective. Participating nations ratify it. |
| Combined Force | A military force composed of elements of two or more allied nations. |
| Combined Operation | An operation conducted by forces of two or more allied nations acting together to accomplish a single mission. |
| COMINT | Communications Intelligence. |
| COMM | Communications. |
| COMM CON | Communications Control |
| Command | For command-oriented functions, the authorization required to perform command operations. |

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| Command and Control (C²) | The exercise of authority and direction by properly designated commanders over assigned forces to accomplish the mission. Command and control functions are performed through a hierarchical arrangement of personnel, equipment, communications, facilities, and procedures employed by a commander in planning, directing, coordinating, and controlling forces and operations in the accomplishment of the mission. |
| Command and Control Element (C²E) | Distributed informed system consisting of processors, software, man-machine interfaces, and communications media that provide USCINCSpace with the capability to plan, command, and control BMD operations. |
| Command and Control System | The facilities, equipment, communications, procedures, and personnel essential to a commander for planning, directing, and controlling operations of assigned forces pursuant to the missions assigned. |
| Command Center (CC) | A facility from which a commander and his representatives direct operations and control forces. It is organized to gather, process, analyze, display, and disseminate planning and operational data and perform other related tasks. |
| Command, Control, and Communications Countermeasures (C³CM) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Counter C³ – That division of C³CM comprising measures taken to deny adversary commanders and other decision makers the ability to command and control their forces effectively. (2) C³ Protection – That division of C³CM comprising measures taken to maintain the effectiveness of friendly C³ despite adversary counter – C³ actions. |
| Command, Control, Communications, and Intelligence (C³I) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Procedures and technologies supporting command and control, communications, and intelligence requirements, including those interfaces affecting systems external to the Strategic Defense System. (2) One of the four pillars of TMD capability. Coordination of other pillars and integration of the entire TMD system into overall combat operations. |
| Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Systems (C⁴ Systems) | Integrated systems of doctrine, procedures, organizational structures, personnel, equipment, facilities, and communications designed to support a commander's exercise of command and control, through all phases of the operational continuum. |
| Command Destruct Signal | A signal used to intentionally activate the destruction system in a missile. |
| Command Guidance | A guidance system wherein intelligence transmitted to the missile from an outside source causes the missile to traverse a directed flight path. |
| Command Net | A communications network, which connects an echelon of command with some or all of its subordinate echelons for the purpose of command control. |
| Command Verification | The verification of commands from the Battle Manager or Operational Commander prior to execution to confirm the command was correctly received and properly issued. |
| Command Post Exercise (CPX) | An exercise in which the forces are simulated, involving the commander, his staff, and communications within and between headquarters. |
| COMMARFOR | Commander, Marine Forces. |

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| Commit | The process of committing one or more interceptor vehicles against a target track. |
| Commitment | A firm administrative reservation of funds for future obligations by the local comptrollers. Based upon firm procurement directives, orders, requisitions, authorizations to issue travel orders, or requests. |
| Common Automated System Execution (CASE) | An Army segment of the Command and Control Element responsible for the SDS functions which task the associated sensors and weapons (e.g., WTA) and process the information resulting from those taskings (e.g., perform multi-sensor track function). Expected to consist of survivable computer hardware and software. |
| Common Integration and Tasks Execution (CITE) | An Air Force segment of the Command and Control Element that performs multi-sensor data correlation and tactics execution for space based elements. Expected to consist of survivable computer hardware and software. |
| Common Mode Failure | A type of system failure in which diverse components are disabled by the same single cause. |
| Communication Control Character | A functional character intended to control or facilitate transmission over data networks. There are 10 control characters specified in ASCII, which form the basis for character-oriented communications control procedures. |
| Communications Data Base | Communications data files and updates including, but not limited to, communications message file, network management file, information management file, link quality file, synchronization file, security file and communications health and status file. |
| Communications Intelligence (COMINT) | Technical and intelligence information derived from foreign communications by other than intended recipients. |
| Communications Security (COMSEC) | The protection resulting from all measures designed to deny unauthorized persons information of value, which might be derived from the possession and study of telecommunications, or to mislead unauthorized persons in their interpretation of the results of such possession and study. Communications security includes crypto security; transmission security; emission security; and physical security of communications security materials and information. |
| Communications System Segment (CSS) | The communications front end for all Cheyenne Mountain Air Force Base (CMAFB) missions for non-common user traffic, performing circuit and message switching. |
| Communications System Synchronization | Coordination of timing among communications system elements to permit transmission/reception of messages/data which may be distorted by time delays and Doppler shifts between communications nodes. |
| Communications Zone | Rear part of the theater of operations (behind but contiguous to the combat zone) which contains the lines of communications, establishments for supply and evacuation, and other agencies required for the immediate support and maintenance of the field forces. |
| COMNAVFOR | Commander, Naval Forces. |

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| COMNAV-SEASYS COM | Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command. |
| COMNAV-SPACECOM | Commander, Naval Space Command. |
| COMNAVSECGRU | Commander Naval Security Group. |
| COMOCK | Computer Mock-up |
| COMOPTVFOR | Commander, Operational Test and Evaluation Force (Navy). |
| Comp | Completion. |
| COMPASS | Common Operational Mission Planning and Support System (Army term) |
| COMPES | Contingency Operations/Mobility Planning and Executing System. |
| Component | Subsystem, assembly, or subassembly of logically grouped hardware and software, that performs interacting tasks to provide BMDS capability at a functional level. |
| Component Acquisition Executive | A single official within a DoD component who is responsible for all acquisition functions within that Component. This includes Service Acquisition Executives for the Military Departments and Acquisition Executives in other DoD components that have acquisition management responsibilities. |
| Component Command Centers | The Component Command Centers (which will contain Army and Air Force unique capabilities) will be capable of supporting the USSPACECOM Command Center and distributed Operations Centers by functioning as “Hot Backups” to provide for BM/C ³ availability and survivability. The Component Command Centers will be capable of executing real-time control of BMD engagement operations. |
| Component Program | A major defense acquisition program delegated to the Military Department of Defense Agency for management. |
| Compton Current | Electron current generated as a result of Compton processes. (See Compton Effect and Compton Electron.) |
| Compton Effect | The scattering of photons (of gamma or x-rays) by the orbital electrons of atoms. In a collision between a (primary) photon and an electron, some of the energy of the photon is transferred to the electron which is generally ejected from the atom. Another (secondary) photon, with less energy, then moves off in a new direction at an angle to the direction of motion of the primary photon. (See Scattering.) |
| Compton Electron | An electron of increased energy ejected from an atom as a result of a Compton interaction with a photon. (See Compton Effect.) |

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| Computer Security (COMPUSEC) | The totality of security safeguards needed to provide acceptable level of protection for automatic data processing (ADP) systems and the classified data processed. Includes all hardware/software functions, characteristics, features; operational, accountability, and access control procedures at the computer and remote terminal facilities; and, the management constraints, physical structures, and devices needed to provide an acceptable level of protection for classified information in any state of storage, processing, display or communication within the ADP system. |
| Computer Software Configuration Item (CSCI) | An aggregation of software that satisfies an end use function and is designated by the Government for separate configuration management. They are selected based on tradeoffs among software function, size, host or target computers, developer, support concept, plans for reuse, criticality, interface considerations, need to be separately documented and controlled, and other factors. |
| COMSAT | Communications Satellite Corporation |
| COMSEC | Communications Security. |
| Concept Exploration & Definition | The initial phase (Phase 0) of the system acquisition process, beginning at Mission Need Determination. During this phase, the acquisition strategy is developed, system alternatives are proposed and examined, and the system program requirements document is expanded to support subsequent phases. |
| Concept of Operations (CONOPS) | <p>(1) A statement, in broad outline, of a commander's outline or intent in regard to an operation or series of operations. The concept is designed to give an overall picture of the operation. (MDA Lexicon)</p> <p>(2) A verbal or graphic statement, in broad outline, of a commander's assumptions or intent in regard to an operation or series of operations. The concept of operations frequently is embodied in campaign plans and operation plans; in the later case, particularly when the plans cover a series of connected operations to be carried out simultaneously or in succession. The concept is designed to give an overall picture of the operation. It is included primarily for additional clarity of purpose.</p> |
| Concept Plan | An operation plan in concept format. Also called CONPLAN. |
| Concurrency | Part of an acquisition strategy which combines or overlaps two or more phases of the acquisition process, or combines development T&E with operational T&E. |
| Concurrent Engineering | A systematic approach to the integrated, simultaneous design of products and their related processes, including manufacture and support. This approach is intended to cause developers, from the beginning, to consider all elements of the system life cycle from requirements development through dispersal, including cost, schedule, and performance. |
| CONEX | CONOPS Exerciser. |
| Configuration | A collection of an item's descriptive and governing characteristics, which can be expressed in functional terms (i.e., what performance the item is expected to achieve); and in physical terms (i.e., what the item should look like and consist of when it is built). |

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| Configuration Audit | One of the Configuration Management tasks which includes a functional configuration audit (FCA) to validate that the development of a configuration item has been completed satisfactorily and that the configuration item has achieved to specified performance and functional characteristics, and also includes a physical configuration audit (PCA) to verify that the configuration item “As Built” conforms to the technical documentation which defines the configuration item. |
| Configuration Baseline | The configuration documentation formally designated by the Government at a specific time during a system’s or configuration item’s life cycle. Configuration baselines, plus approved changes from those baselines, constitute the current configuration baselines, namely the functional, allocated, and product baselines. |
| Configuration Control | One of the Configuration Management tasks that involves the systematic evaluation, coordination, approval, or disapproval of proposed changes to the design and construction of a configuration item whose configuration has been formally approved. |
| Configuration Identification | One of the Configuration Management tasks, which require that for every change that is made to an Automated Data processing (ADP) system, the design and requirements of the changed version of the system should be identified. |
| Configuration Item (CI) | An aggregation of system elements that satisfies an end use function and is designated by the Government for separate configuration management. Configuration items vary widely in complexity, size, and type. Any item required for logistic support and designated for separate procurement is a configuration item. Configuration items are traceable to the work breakdown structure (WBS). |
| Configuration Management (CM) | In computer modeling and simulation, a discipline applying technical and administrative oversight and control to identify and document the functional requirements and capabilities of a model or simulation and its supporting databases, control changes to those capabilities, and document and report the changes. See also Accreditation. |
| CONOPS | Concept of Operations. |
| CONPLAN | Concept Plan |
| CONS | Contracting Squadron. |
| Consolidated Command Center (CCC) | A single command center from which USCINCSpace/CINCNOAD can direct all his assigned missions, to include BMD. (USSPACECOM) Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| Consolidated Intelligence Watch (CIW) | A consolidation of intelligence watch functions within the Intelligence Operations Center (IOC) consisting of the USSPACECOM ITW Center, the NORAD Aerospace Defense Intelligence Center (ADIC), and the Air Force Space Command Space Intelligence Element (SIE). |
| Consolidated Space Operations Center (CSOC) | Series of centers at Falcon AFB, CO, which operationally control and maintain assigned DoD satellites. |
| Consolidated Space Test Center (CSTC) | Series of centers at Onizuka AFB, CA (Sunnyvale), which support launch and initial on-orbit checkout of operational satellites, operate R&D satellites, and serves as a backup to CSOC for operational DoD satellites. |

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| Constellation Size (CSIZE) | The number of satellites of a particular system placed in orbit about the earth. |
| Contact Fuse | Device used to detonate warhead on physical contact with another object. |
| Contingency Deployment Plan (CDP) | An executable plan designed to deploy an early missile defense capability and reduce deployment time. The plan provides specific executable deployment options and describes activities required before and after a deployment decision. The plan also allows decision makers to have oversight on technical progress, cost, schedule, and risks associated with a deployment system. |
| Continuity of Command | The degree or state of being continuous in the exercise of the authority vested in an individual of the armed forces for the direction, coordination, and control of military forces. |
| Continuity of Operations | The degree or state of being continuous in the conduct of functions, tasks, or duties necessary to accomplish a military action or mission in carrying out the national military strategy. It includes the functions and duties of the commander, as well as the supporting functions and duties performed by the staff and others acting under the authority and direction of the commander. |
| Contract Administration Office (CAO) | The activity identified in the DoD Directory of Contract Administration Services Components assigned to perform contract administration responsibilities. It is a general term and includes Defense Contract Management Regions (DCMRs), Defense Contract Management Area Operations (DCMAOs), and Defense Plant Representative Offices (DPROs). (Defense Systems Management College Glossary) |
| Contract Data Requirements List (CDRL) | Document used to order (“buy”) and require delivery of data. Tells contractor what data to deliver, when and how it will be accepted, where to look for instructions, etc. |
| Contract Definition | A funded effort, normally by two or more competing contractors, to establish specifications, to select technical approaches, to identify high-risk areas, and to make cost and production time estimates for developing large weapons systems. |
| Contract Work Breakdown Structure | The complete WBS for a contract developed and used by a contractor within the guidelines of MIL-STD 881A, and in accordance with the contract statement of work. |
| Contracting Officer (CO) | A person with the authority to enter into, administer, or terminate contracts and make related determinations and findings. The term includes any authorized representatives of the CO acting within the limits of their authority. A CO whose primary responsibility is to administer contracts is an Administrative Contracting Officer. One whose primary responsibility is to terminate contracts and/or settle terminated contracts is a Termination Contracting Officer. A single contracting officer may be responsible for duties in any or all of these areas. |
| Control | Authority that may be less than full command exercised by a commander over part of the activities of subordinate or other organizations. |
| Control Abstraction | (Software) The process of extracting the essential characteristics of control by defining abstract mechanisms and their associated characteristics while disregarding low-level details and the entities to be controlled. |

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| Control and Reporting Center | An element of the US Air Force tactical air control system, subordinate to the tactical air control center, from which radar control and warning operations are conducted within its area of responsibility. |
| Control and Reporting Post | An element of the US Air Force tactical air control system, subordinate to the control and reporting center, that provides radar control and surveillance within its area of responsibility. |
| Control Area | A controlled airspace extending upwards from a specified limit above the Earth. |
| Controlled Environment | Area where entry into the radiation hazard area is controlled. |
| Control Procedure | The means used to control the orderly communication of information between stations on a data link. Also called line discipline. |
| Control Station | The station on a network, which supervises the network control procedures such as polling, selecting, and recovery. It also is responsible for establishing order on the line in the event of contention, or any other abnormal situation, arising between any stations on the network. |
| Control Zone | The space, expressed in feet or radius, that surrounds equipment that is used to process sensitive defense information and that is under sufficient physical and technical control to preclude an unauthorized entry or compromise. |
| CONUS | Continental United States. |
| Conventional Co-Production | An effort between governments to produce the same end item, or components of the same end item, in concert. |
| Conventional Weapon | A weapon that is neither nuclear, biological, nor chemical. |
| Coop | Cooperative |
| Coordinated Engagement Planning/Actions | Necessary coordination among engagement components to ensure maximum effectiveness of the SDS and resources are not wasted on targets already targeted. |
| Coordinating Authority | A commander or individual assigned responsibility for coordinating specific functions of activities involving forces of two or more Services or two or more forces of the same Service. The commander or individual has the authority to require consultation between the agencies involved, but does not have the authority to compel agreement. In the event that essential agreement cannot be reached, the matter shall be referred to the appointing authority. |
| COP | Committee of Principals |
| COR | Contracting Officer's Representative. Contracting Officer. |
| CORBA | Common Object Request Broker Architecture. |
| CORM | Commission on Roles and Missions. |

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| Corner Reflector | <p>(1) A device, normally consisting of three metallic surfaces or screens perpendicular to one another, designed to act as a radar target or marker.</p> <p>(2) In radar interpretation, an object that, by means of multiple reflections from smooth surfaces, produces a radar return of greater magnitude than might be expected from the physical size of the object.</p> |
| Corps SAM | OBSOLETE. See Medium Extended Air Defense System. |
| Correlation | <p>(1) The process of relating observations or tracks from one set of data to observations or tracks from another set of data, i.e., collecting data from different frames or sensors that presumably relate to the same target. (2) In air defense, the determination that an aircraft appearing on a radarscope, on a plotting board, or visual is the same as that on which information is being received from another source. (3) In intelligence usage, the process which associates and combines data on a single entity or subject from independent observations, in order to improve the reliability or credibility of the information.</p> |
| COSEMS | Evolving architecture operations support tool. |
| COSM | Computer System Operator's Manual |
| COSMIC | NATO security category. |
| Cost Analysis Improvement Group (CAIG) | An organization within the office of OSD Director, PA&E which advises the DAB on all matters concerning the estimation, review, and presentation of cost analysis of future weapon systems. The CAIG also develops common cost estimating procedures for DoD. |
| Cost Analysis Requirements Document (CARD) | The document describing the technical baseline, which is a subset of current system technical data and is used to generate the baseline cost estimate for an SDS element. It includes, but is not limited to, the element description, interfaces, operational concept quantity requirements, manpower requirements, activity rates, schedules, research and development-phasing plan, and facilities requirements. |
| Cost and Operational Effectiveness Analysis (COEA) | An analysis of the estimated costs and operational effectiveness of alternative materiel systems to meet a mission need, and the associated program for acquiring each alternative. |
| Cost Risk | Cost estimating risk and schedule/technical risk. Cost estimating risk is the risk due to cost estimating errors and the statistical uncertainty in the estimate. Schedule/technical risk is risk due to inability to conquer the problems posed by the intended design |
| COTR | Contracting Officer's Technical Representative. See Contracting Officer. |
| COTS | Commercial Off-The-Shelf. |
| Counterair | A US Air Force term for air operations conducted to attain and maintain a desired degree of air superiority by the destruction or neutralization of enemy forces. Both air offensive and air defensive actions are involved. The former range throughout enemy territory and are generally conducted at the initiative of friendly forces. The latter are conducted near or over friendly territory and are generally reactive to the initiative of the enemy air forces. |

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| Counter-countermeasures (CCM) | Measures taken by the defense to defeat offensive countermeasures. |
| Counterforce | The employment of strategic air and missile forces in an effort to destroy, or render impotent, selected military capabilities of an enemy force under any of the circumstances by which hostilities may be initiated. |
| Countermeasure | A design or procedural measure taken against covert or overt attacks. |
| Countermeasures (CM) | That form of military science that by the employment of devices and/or techniques has as its objective the impairment of the operational effectiveness of enemy activity. |
| Countermeasures Rejection (Surveillance) | Improvement or rejection of an object signal in the presence of countermeasures. |
| Course of Action (COA) | (1) Any sequence of acts that an individual or unit may follow. (2) A possible plan open to an individual or command that would accomplish or is related to the accomplishment of his mission. (3) The scheme adopted to accomplish a job or mission. (4) A line of conduct in an engagement. (5) A plan to accomplish a mission. It describes the execution concept for BMD of North America. It will specify the engagement priorities, resource allocation and desired results by Area of Operation (AO). (USSPACECOM) (6) The scheme adopted to accomplish a task or mission. It is a product of the Joint Operation Planning and Execution System concept development phase. The supported commander will include a recommended course of action in the commander's estimate. The recommended course of action will include the concept of operations, evaluation of supportability estimates of supporting organizations, and an integrated time-phased data base of combat, combat support, and combat service support forces and sustainment. Refinement of this database will be contingent on the time available for course of action development. When approved, the course of action becomes the basis for the development of an operation plan or operation order. |
| Coverage | (1) The ground area represented on imagery, photomaps, mosaics, maps, and other geographical presentation systems. (2) Cover or protection, as the coverage of troops by supporting fire. (3) The extent to which intelligence information is available in respect to any specified area of interest. (4) The summation of the geographical areas and volumes of aerospace under surveillance. |
| Covert Timing Channel | A covert channel in which one process signals information to another by modulating its own use of system resources in such a way that this manipulation affects the real response time observed by the second process. |
| CP | Command Post. |
| CPA | (1) Chairman's Program Assessment. (2) Closest Point of Approach. |
| CPAF | Cost Plus Award Fee. |
| CPAM | Chief of Naval Operations Program Assessment Memorandum (Navy) |

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| CPAR | Cost Performance Assessment Report. |
| CPAT | Critical Process Assessment Tool |
| CPB | Charged Particle Beam. |
| CPEV | Communications/Processor [Network] Experimental Version. |
| CPFF | Cost Plus Fixed Fee. |
| CPIF | Cost Plus Incentive Fee. |
| CPIPT | Cost-Performance Integrated Product (Process) Team. |
| CPM | (1) Critical Path Method. (2) Contractor Performance Measurement. |
| CPP | Critical Performance Parameter. |
| CPR | Cost Performance Report. |
| CPR/NC | Cost Performance Report/No Criteria (Contract management term). |
| CPS | (1) Consolidated Program Summary. (2) Competitive Prototyping Strategy. (3) Current Program Status. |
| CPU | Central Processing Unit (TelComm/Computer term). |
| CPX | See Command Post Exercise. |
| CQAE | Chief/Contract Quality Assurance Evaluator. |
| CR | (1) Computer Resources. (2) Continuing Resolution (US Congress term). |
| CR-UAV | Close Range Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. |
| CRA | (1) Coordinating Review Authority. (2) Command Relationships Agreement |
| CRADA | Cooperative Research and Development Agreement. |
| CRAM | (1) Control Random Access Memory. (2) Cross-tie Random Access Memory (Computer term). |
| CRB | Configuration Review Board. |
| CRC | Control and Reporting Center. |
| CRD | (1) Capstone Requirements Document. (2) Component Requirements Document. |
| CRDA | Cooperative Research and Development Agreement. |
| CRG | Communications Relay Groups (PATRIOT). |
| CRI | Classification, Recognition and Identification. |
| CRISD | Computer Resources Integrated Support Document |



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| Critical Design Review (CDR) | A review conducted to determine that the detailed design satisfies the performance and engineering requirements of the development specification; to establish the detailed design compatibility between the item and other items of equipment, facilities, computer programs, and personnel; to assess producibility and risk areas; and to review the preliminary product specifications. Conducted during Phase I, Demonstration and Validation (for prototypes) and Phase II, Engineering and Manufacturing Development. |
| Critical Information | Specific facts about friendly intentions, capabilities, and activities vitally needed by adversaries for them to plan and act effectively so as to guarantee failure or unacceptable consequences for friendly mission accomplishment. |
| Critical Intelligence Parameter | A threat capability or threshold established by the program, changes to which could critically impact on the effectiveness and survivability of the proposed system. |
| Critical Issues | Those aspects of a system's capability, either operational, technical, or other, that must be questioned before a system's overall suitability can be known, and which are of primary importance to the decision authority in reaching a decision to allow the system to advance into the next phase of design, development, production, or post-production. |
| Critical Operational Issue | A key operational effectiveness or operational suitability issue that must be examined in operational test and evaluation to determine the system's capability to perform its mission. A critical operational issue is normally phrased as a question to be answered in evaluating a system's operational effectiveness and/or operational suitability. |
| Critical Path Method | A technique that aids dependency of other activities and the time required to complete. Activities, which when delayed have an impact on the total project schedule, are critical and are said to be on the critical path. |
| Critical Risk | The existence of a vulnerability that could cause exceptionally grave damage to the viability or the operational effectiveness of the SDS. |
| Critical Security Risk | The existence of a security vulnerability that, if exploited by an adversary, could cause exceptionally grave damage to the viability of the BMD or the operational effectiveness of the SDS. Critical risks assume an adversary's capability to cause major system disruption or degradation (e.g., single point failure), destruction of mission-critical components, or usurpation of system functions. |
| Critical Supporting Technology | A technology that program management personnel consider a critical part of the program being described. |
| CRLCMP | Computer Resources Life-Cycle Management Plan. |
| CRM | Computer Resources Management. |
| CRMP | Computer Resources Management Plan. |
| CRO | Chemical Release Observation. |
| CRP | (1) Command and Reporting Post. (2) Control and Reporting Point (JFACC term.) |

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| CRS | (1) Computer Resources Support. (2) Congressional Research Service. (3) Contractor Reporting System. |
| CRT | Cathode Ray Tube. |
| CRWG | Computer Resource Working Group. |
| Cryocoolers | Cryogenic Coolers. |
| Cryogenic | Of or related to cryogenics (substances which are used to obtain low temperatures). |
| Crypto | A designation or marking which identifies classified operational keying material, and which indicates that this material requires special consideration with respect to access, storage and handling. |
| Cryptographic System | The documents, devices, equipment, and associated techniques that are used as a unit to provide a single means of encryption (enciphering or encoding). |
| Cryptology | The science that deals with hidden, disguised, or encrypted communications. It includes communications security and communications intelligence. |
| CS | (1) OBSOLETE. See Corps SAM. (2) Contracting Specialist. (3) Contract Start. |
| CS/CSS | Combat Support and Combat Service Support (USAF budget term). |
| CSA | Chief of Staff of the Army. |
| CSAF | Chief of Staff of the Air Force. |
| CSC | Computer Software Component. |
| CSCE | OBSOLETE – Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. (See OSCE) |
| CSCSC | Cost/Schedule Control System Criteria. |
| CSD | (1) Constant Speed Drive. (2) Critical System Demonstration. |
| CSE | Center for Security Evaluations (DCI). |
| CSEDS | Combat System Engineering Development Site, supporting the AEGIS Weapon System, located in Cherry Hill, NJ. |
| CSF | Consolidated Support Facility, Arlington, VA. |
| CSI | (1) Critical Safety Item. (2) Critical Sustainability Item. |
| CSIP | Current Systems Improvement Program. |
| CSIZE | Constellation Size. |
| CSL | Computer Systems Laboratory. |
| CSM | (1) Core Support Module (*C2E term). (2) Communications Support Model. |
| CSNI | Communications Shared Network Interface (NATO term). |

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| CSO | Closely Spaced Objects. |
| CSOC | See Consolidated Space Operations Center. |
| CSOM | Computer System Operator's Manual |
| CSOSS | Combat System Operational System Sequencing |
| CSP | Communications Support Processor (numerous locations, including USAF Air Development Center, Rome, NY term). |
| CSRD | Computer System Requirements Document. |
| CSS | (1) Cooperating Space System. (2) Communications System Segment. (3) Contractor Support Services. (4) Common Sharing System. (5) Communications Support System (Navy term). (6) Common Support System. (7) Combat Service Support. |
| CSSCS | Combat Service Support Control System (USA term). |
| CSSPAB | Computer System Security and Privacy Advisory Board. |
| CSSO | Computer Systems Security Officer. |
| CSSTSS | Combat Service Support Training Simulation System (US Army term). |
| CSTC | Consolidated Space Test Center. |
| CSTI | Civil Space Technology Initiative. |
| CSU | (1) Computer Software Unit. (2) Communications System Utilization. |
| CSUR | Communications System Utilization Report. |
| CT | (1) Counter-terrorism. (2) Communications Terminal. (3) Control Telemetry. (4) Cryptologic Technician (Navy occupation specialty). |
| CTACS | Contingency Theater Air Control System (JFACC term). |
| CTAPS | Contingency Theater Automated Planning System (USAF). |
| CTB | (1) Communications Test Bed. (2) Comprehensive Test Ban [Treaty term]. |
| CTBM | Conventionally-0armed TBM. |
| CTC | Combat Training Center, Ft. Leavenworth, KS. |
| CTCC | Critical Technology Coordinating Committee. |
| CTD | Communications Test Driver. |
| CTE | (1) Center for Test and Evaluation (JIEO term) (2) Common Test Environment. |
| CTEIP | Central Test and Evaluation Investment Program. A DoD program for centrally funding selected test investments proposed by the Services and Defense Agencies (including MDA). |

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| CTF | Controlled Test Flights. |
| CTI | Concept Technology Insertion. |
| CTN | CALS Test Network. |
| CTOC | Corps Tactical Operations Center. |
| CTOL | Conventional Takeoff/Landing aircraft. |
| CTP | (1) Critical Technical Parameters. (2) Communication Tasking Plan. (3) Consolidated Targets Program. |
| CTPE | Central Tactical Processing Element. |
| CTPP | Consolidated Targets Program Plan. |
| CTR | Cooperative Threat Reduction (Treaty negotiation term). |
| CTRS | Centers |
| CTS | (1) Clear To Send (TelComm/Computer term). (2) Contact Test Set (USA IFTE term). |
| CTSS | Computer and Telecommunications Staff. |
| CTT | Commander's Tactical Terminal (US Army). |
| CTT-H/R | Commander's Tactical Terminal –Hybrid Receiver (USA term). |
| CTV | Control Test Vehicle(s). |
| CUDIXS | Common User Digital Information Exchange System. |
| Cued Operation | The directing of one sensor based upon the data received from another sensor. |
| Cueing Command | The command within a tactic, which specifies the sensor element's coverage volume. |
| Cueing Data | Cueing data is a subset of object tracks within a sensor element's coverage volume. |
| CV | (1) Carrier Vehicle. (2) USN Aircraft Carrier. (3) Curriculum Vitae. |
| CV/BM | Carrier Vehicle/Battle Management. |
| CVBG | USN aircraft carrier battle group. |
| CVHG | Carrier, Aircraft (V/STOL), Guided missile. |
| CVISC | Combat Visual Information Support Center. |
| CVL | Copper Vapor Lasers. |
| CVN | USN nuclear powered aircraft carrier. |

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| CW | (1) Continuous Wave. (2) Chemical Weapon/Warfare. (3) Carrier Wave. |
| CWAR | Continuous Wave Acquisition Cycle (Hawk). |
| CWBS | Contract Work Breakdown Structure. |
| CWDD | Continuous Wave Deuterium Demonstrator. |
| CWIPT | Cost Working group integrated Product Team. |
| CY | Calendar Year. |

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| D | Deuterium |
| D Spec | Process specification. |
| D Star | Measure of infrared sensor sensitivity. |
| D&D | Design and Development |
| D&T | Detection and Tracking. |
| D-IFOG | Depolarized-Interferometric Fiber Optic Gyro. |
| D-Level | Depot Level (ILS term). |
| D/A | Digital-to-Analog |
| D/V | Demonstration and Validation. |
| D2 | Projective (interceptor) in the Hyper-Velocity Gun program. |
| DA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Department of the Army. (2) Department of Administration. (3) Decision Analysis. (4) Developing Agency/Activity. (5) Data Administrator. (6) Direct Action. (7) Data Adapter. |
| DAA | Designated Approval Authority (DD 5000 term). |
| DAASAT | Direct Ascent Anti-Satellite. |
| DAB | See Defense Acquisition Board. |
| DAC | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Days After Contract [Award]. (2) Department of the Army Civilian. (3) Directed Attack Characterization. (4) Deploy ACCS Component. (5) Digital-to-Analog Converter. |
| DACS | Divert and Attitude Control System. |
| DAD | Defense Acquisition Deskbook. |
| DADS | Distributed Air Defense Study (1993). |
| DAE | Defense Acquisition Executive. |
| DAES | Defense Acquisition Executive Summary. |
| DAGGR | Depressed Altitude Guided Gun Round. |
| DAHQ | Department of the Army Headquarters. |
| DAI | Damage Assessment Indicator (targets). |
| DAL | Defended Asset List. |

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| DAMA | Demand Assigned Multiple Access. |
| DANASAT | Direct Ascent Nuclear Anti-Satellite. |
| DAPR | Director's Annual Program Review (SDIO term) |
| DARO | Defense Aeronautical Reconnaissance Office (OSD). |
| DARP | Defense Aeronautical Reconnaissance Program. |
| DARPA | Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. See ARPA. |
| DART | OBSOLETE. Defense Acquisition Review Team. |
| DASA | German Aerospace. Member of the MEADS Program Team. |
| DASC | Deep Air Support Center (JFACC term). |
| DASD | OBSOLETE. Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense. |
| DASD (C3) | Deputy/Assistant Secretary of Defense (C3) |
| DASO | Demonstration and Shakedown Operation. |
| Data Integrity | The state that exists when computerized data is the same as that in the source documents and has not been exposed to accidental or malicious alteration or destruction. |
| Datalink | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The means of connecting one location to another for the purpose of transmitting and receiving data. (2) A particular path between two nodes over which data is transmitted. It includes not only the transmission medium, but also digital to analog converters, modems, transmission equipment, antennas, etc., associated with this path. In the SDS backbone network, it was a path between two SDS elements. In space these datalinks were microwave or laser. On the ground, they could have been wire line, microwave, or optical fiber. |
| DAU | Defense Acquisition University, Ft. Belvoir, VA. |
| DAVID | Development of Advanced Very long wavelength Infrared Detector (USAF Phillips Lab term). |
| DAWS | Defense Automated Warning System. |
| Dazzling | The temporary blinding of a sensor by overloading it with an intense signal of electromagnetic radiation (e.g., from a laser or a nuclear explosion). |
| DB | Bata Base |
| DBME | Database Management Environment (Computer term). |
| DBMS | Database Management System. |
| DBOF | Defense Business Operations Fund. |
| DBS | Direct Broadcast Satellite. |

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| Dbsm | Decibels per square meter. |
| DBSM | Database System Management. |
| DC | (1) Disarmament Commission. (2) Direct Current. |
| DC-X | Delta Clipper Experiment. |
| DCA | (1) Defensive Counter Air. (2) OBSOLETE. Defense Communications Agency. (Now known as Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA)). |
| DCAA | Defense Contract Audit Agency. |
| DCAS | Defense Contract Administrative Services. |
| DCCO | Defense Commercial Communications Office (of DISA). |
| DCDS | Distributed Computer Design/Development System. |
| DCE | (1) Data Communications Equipment (TelComm/Computer term). (2) Distributed Computer Environment. |
| DCEC | Defense Communications Electronics Command. |
| DCI | (1) Director of Central Intelligence. (2) Dual Channel Interchange. |
| DCINC | Deputy Commander-in-Chief. |
| DCM | Defensive Counter Measures. |
| DCMC | Defense Contract Management Command |
| DCN | Document Change Notice. |
| DCO | Director of Combat Operations (JFACC term). |
| DCP | (1) Decision Coordination Paper (see ADM). (2) Director of Combat Plans (JFACC term). |
| DCPG | Digital Clock Pulse Generator. |
| DCS | Deputy Chief of Staff. |
| DCSOPS | Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (Army). |
| DCT | Digital Communications Terminal |
| DCTN | Defense Commercial Telecommunications Network. |
| DD | Variation of DoD. |
| DDCI | Deputy Director of Central Intelligence. |
| DDEL | Dwight David Eisenhower Library, Abilene, KN (army term). |
| DDG | USN guided missile destroyer. |

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| DDL | Disclosure authority letter. |
| DDN | Defense Data Network. |
| DDR&E | Director, Defense Research and Engineering. |
| DDDR&E | Deputy Director, Defense Research and Engineering. |
| DDS | Data phone Digital Service (AT&T service) (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| DE | (1) See Directed Energy. (2) Delay Equalizer. |
| DEBRA | Debris, Radiance Model. |
| Decentralized Control | In air defense, the normal mode whereby a higher echelon monitors unit actions, making direct target assignments to units only when necessary to ensure proper fire distribution or to prevent engagement of friendly aircraft. |
| Decentralized Execution | The distributed and integrated implementation of USCINCSpace direction by the BMD forces. (AFSPACECOM) |
| Decommissioning | The removal or the rendering useless of obsolete or no longer needed components of the BMD system from service. |
| Decrement | A directed funding level reduction for an acquisition program. |
| DED | Data Element Definition (Computer term). |
| Dedicated Mode of Operation (ADP Security) | A mode of operation where all users of the AIS possess the required personnel security clearance or authorization, formal access approval (if required), and a Need-to-Know for all data included in the AIS. |
| Deep Space (DS) | The region of outer space at altitudes greater than 3,000 nautical miles (about 5,600 kilometers) above the earth's surface. |
| Def | Definition. |
| DEF | (1) Defense. (2) Demilitarization Enterprise Fund. |
| DEFCON | Defense Readiness Conditions. |
| Defended area coverage | The geographical region that the BMDS can protect from ballistic missile attacks with a specified level of probability of negation. May be specified for a particular threat type, launch point(s), launch regions, raid size, etc. |
| Defended Asset List (DAL) | A ranked listing of facilities, forces, and national political items that require protection from attack or hostile surveillance. The list is compiled from Federal departments and agencies, Unified and Specified Commands, and the Armed Services to ensure National Security Emergency Preparedness functions. |

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| Defense Acquisition Board (DAB) | The senior DoD acquisition review board chaired by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition. The Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the Vice-Chair. Other members of the Board are the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, Service Acquisition Executives of the Army, Navy, and Air Force; the Director of Defense Research and Engineering; the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Program Analysis and Evaluation; the Comptroller of the Department of Defense; the Director of Operational Test and Evaluation; the appropriate Defense Acquisition Board Committee Chair; and the Defense Acquisition Board Executive Secretary. Other persons may attend at the invitation of the Chair. (See DoD Directive 5000.49, "Defense Acquisition Board.") |
| Defense Acquisition Board Committee | Advisory review groups subordinate to the Defense Acquisition Board. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition determines the number of Committees. The purpose of the Committee is to review DoD Component programs prior to a Defense Acquisition Board review in order to make an independent assessment and recommendation to the Board regarding the program. (See DoD Directive 5000.49, "Defense Acquisition Board.") |
| Defense Acquisition Executive (DAE) | The principal advisor to the Secretary of Defense on all matters pertaining to the Department of Defense Acquisition System. The USD (A) is the DAE and the Defense Procurement Executive (DoD Directive 5134.1). |
| Defense Acquisition Executive Summary (DAES) | The DAE's principal mechanism for tracking programs between milestone reviews. Includes programs subject to the Selected Acquisition Report (SAR), and any non-SAR programs subject to review by the Defense Acquisition Board. |
| Defense Employment Option (DEO) | Engagement strategy provided to USSPACECOM component forces to achieve specific military objectives against a ballistic missile attack. It defines hostile target priorities, provides assets to defend, and allocates SDS resources to be employed. A number of DEOs may reside in a particular Preplanned Response Option (PRO). However, default DEOs (those believed to be best suited to counter the threat initially) will be automatically processed and executed when Defense Activation Authority (DAA) is given by USCINCSpace. |
| Defense Enterprise Program (DEP) | An Acquisition program designed to streamline the acquisition process by waiver of selected regulatory requirements. |
| Defense In-Depth | Locating mutually supportive defense positions in such a manner as to absorb and progressively weaken an attack, prevent initial observations of the entire position by the enemy, and allow the commander to maneuver his reserve. |
| Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) | Satellites designed to meet unique military requirements for weather information. Used to detect and observe developing cloud patterns and follow existing weather systems. Visible and infrared imagery are used to form three-dimensional cloud-plural analyses of various weather conditions. |
| Defense Planning and Resources Board (DPRB) | A board, chaired by the Deputy Secretary of Defense, established to facilitate decision making during all phases of the planning, programming, and budgeting system process. Board members include the Secretaries of the Military Departments, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Under Secretaries of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, and Policy, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Program Analysis and Evaluation, and the Comptroller of the Department of Defense. |

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| Defense Planning Guidance (DPG) | Document issued by SECDEF to DoD components providing strategic framework for developing the Service POMs. Result of planning effort by Joint Staff, OSD, and Services. In connection with two-year budget process, DPG is issued every other (even) year. |
| Defense Priority and Allocation System (DPAS) | The implementation of a statutory requirement where contracts in support of national defense must be accepted and performed on a priority basis over all other contracts, and which requires the allocation of materials and facilities in such a manner as to promote the national defense. See “DO” and “DX.” |
| Defense Readiness Conditions (DEFCON) | A uniform system of progressive alert postures for use between the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the commanders of unified and specified commands and for use by the Services. Defense readiness conditions are graduated to match situations of varying military severity (status of alert). Defense Readiness Conditions are identified by the short title DEFCON (5), (4), (3), (2), and (1), as appropriate. |
| Defense Satellite Communications Systems (DSCS) | Advanced communications satellites in synchronous orbit around the earth. Provides high-capacity, super high-frequency (SHF) secure voice and data links for the Worldwide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS). They support terminal deployments for contingencies; restoration of disrupted service overseas; presidential travel; global connectivity for the Diplomatic Telecommunications Services; and transmission to the continental United States of some surveillance, intelligence, and early warning data. |
| Defense Satellite (DSAT) Weapon | A device that is intended to defend satellites by destroying attacking ASAT weapons. |
| Defense Support Program (DSP) | A system of satellites in geo-stationary orbits, fixed and mobile ground processing stations, one multi-purpose facility, and a ground communications network (GCN). DSP’s primary mission is to provide tactical warning and limited attack assessment of a ballistic missile attack. |
| Defense Suppression | Temporary or transient degradation of the performance of a defensive system below the level needed to fulfill its mission objectives, by an opposing force. (USSPACECOM) |
| Defense Tier | The arranging of a defensive system to correlate with the phases of a ballistic missile trajectory; i.e., boost, post-boost, midcourse, and terminal. |
| Defensive Counter Measures (DCM) | Actions taken to eliminate an ASAT attack. |
| Defensive Technologies Study Team (DTST) | A committee, generally known as the “Fletcher Panel” after its Chairman, appointed by (former) President Reagan to investigate the technologies of potential BMD systems. |
| DEFSMAC | Defense Special Missiles and Astronautics Center, Ft. Meade, MD. |
| DEIS | Defense Enterprise Integration Services (ex-DTIS). |
| DEL | Delivery. |
| Delivery Error | The inaccuracy associated with a given weapon system resulting in a dispersion of shots about the aiming point. See also Circular Error Probable. |

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| Delta-V | A numerical index of the maneuverability of a satellite or rocket. It is the maximum change in velocity, which a spacecraft could achieve in the absence of a gravitational field. |
| Dem/Val | OBSOLETE. Demonstration and Validation (DD 5000 term). |
| Demise Altitude | Altitude at which object of interest (decoy, chaff, etc.) no longer performs its desired function (matching RV characteristics, screening RV, etc.) |
| DEMO | Demonstration. |
| Demonstration and Validation (Dem/Val) | The acquisition phase when major program characteristics and product designs are refined through extensive study and analysis, hardware development, test, and evaluations. The objective is to validate the choice of alternatives and to provide the basis for determining whether or not to proceed into Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD). |
| Denial Measure | An action to hinder or deny the enemy the use of space, personnel, or facilities. It may include destruction, removal, contamination, or erection of obstructions. |
| DEO | Defense Employment Option. |
| Department of Defense Acquisition System | A single uniform system whereby all equipment, facilities, and services are planned, designed, developed, acquired, maintained, and disposed of within the Department of Defense. The system encompasses establishing and enforcing policies and practices that govern acquisitions, to include documenting mission needs and establishing performance goals and baselines; determining and prioritizing resource requirements for acquisition programs; planning and executing acquisition programs; directing and controlling the acquisition review process; developing and assessing logistics implications; contracting; monitoring the execution status of approved programs; and reporting to Congress. (See DoD Directive 5134.1, "Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition).") |
| Deployment | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The placement of force elements in battle positions to obtain a higher state of readiness. (2) The movement required to place force elements in battle positions. (3) Fielding the weapons system by placing it into operational use with units in the field/fleet. (4) To arrange, place, or move strategically. |
| Deployment Planning | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The development and maintenance of plans required to initially deploy, maintain, and evolve the operational system in accordance with schedules and priorities. It includes factors such as launch facility availability and planning for the availability of other required elements such as trained personnel or units. In addition, it identifies the impact of deployment on operational readiness and any testing constraints associated with deployment. (2) Encompasses all activities from origin or home station through destination, specifically including intra-continental United States, inter-theater, and intra-theater movement legs, staging areas, and holding areas. |
| Deployment Testing | The testing and/or simulation of system assets in the physical and operational environment in which they are expected to perform. |
| DepOpsDep | Service Deputy Operations Deputies. |

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| Depressed Trajectory | Trajectory with an apogee below that of the minimum-energy trajectory. |
| DEPSCoR | Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research. |
| DEPSECDEF | Deputy Secretary of Defense. |
| DeSecState | Deputy Secretary of State. |
| DERA | Defense Evaluation and Research Agency. Consolidated research and development resources of the U.K. Ministry Defence. Headquartered in Farnborough, England. |
| Derivative Classification | A determination that information is in substance the same as information currently classified and the application of the same classification marking. |
| DES | Data Encryption Standard. |
| DESC | Defense Electronics Supply Center (DLA term). |
| Design Constraints | Boundary conditions within which the developer must remain while allocating performance requirements and/or synthesizing system elements. |
| Design Parameters | Qualitative, quantitative, physical, and functional value characteristics that are inputs to the design process, for use in design tradeoffs, risk analyses, and development of a system that is responsive to system requirements. |
| Design Phase | A period of time in the software life cycle during which the designs for architecture, software components, interfaces, and data are created, documented, and verified to satisfy requirements. |
| Design-to-Cost (DTC) Goal | Management concept wherein rigorous cost goals are established during development, and the control of systems costs (acquisition, operating, and support) to these goals is achieved by practical tradeoffs between operational capability, performance, costs, and schedule. Cost, as a key design parameter, is addressed on a continuing basis and as an inherent part of the development and production process. A DTC goal should be in the form of average unit flyaway cost. Also, DTC parameters for operation and support will be selected—parameters that are design-controllable, significantly affect O&S costs, and can be measured during test and evaluation. Parameters may be expressed in dollars or by other measurable factors, e.g., manpower, reliability, or maintainability. Firm goals and thresholds will be established no later than entry into EMD (Milestone II). This is an in-house goal, almost contractual in nature, between the PM (Service) and the SECDEF. Allocations from this goal will become the contractual DTC goals for contractors supporting the program. |
| Det | Detachment. |
| DETEC | Defense Technology Evaluation Code. |
| Detector | A passive IR, visible, UV detector turns photons into an electrical signal. The IFOV of the detector is its solid angular sub-tense. There is sometimes confusion between the detector sub-tense (size) and the pixel (picture element size). They are the same for a staring sensor, but in a scanner it depends on the array offset and number of samples per dwell. A pixel area is often only one-sixth or one-eighth of a detector angular area. |

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| DEV ENV | Development Environment. |
| Development Test (DT) | Test conducted by the development test organization to achieve specified test objectives. It may be a complete test, a subtest, or a phase of a test. |
| Development Test I (DT I) | A series of tests conducted during the demonstration and validation phase. Components, subsystems, or the total (or full) system are examined to determine whether the system is ready for EMD. State-of-the-art technology is addressed in DT I. |
| Development Test II (DT II) | A series of tests, normally during EMD, which provide the technical data necessary to assess whether the system is ready for low-rate initial or full production. It measures the technical performance and safety characteristics of the item and evaluates its associated tools, test equipment, training package, and maintenance test package as described in the development plan. DT II addresses accomplishment of engineering design goals and the fulfillment of contract specifications. |
| Development Test III (DT III) | Tests conducted during production. |
| Development Test and Evaluation (DT&E) | Test and evaluation conducted to measure progress, usually of component/subsystems, and the proofing of manufacturing processes and controls and to assist the engineering design and development process and verify attainment of technical performance specifications and objectives. Usually conducted under controlled or laboratory conditions. Can be conducted before or after production begins. |
| Development Test (DT) | Test conducted by the development test organization to achieve specified test objectives. It may be a complete test, a subtest, or a phase of a test. |
| Deviation Criteria | Limits established beyond which a Program Manager may not trade-off cost, schedule, or performance without authorization from the milestone decision authority. Acquisition Program Baseline (APB) thresholds represent these parameters. |
| Devolution of Command | Minimal essential operational capability to perform C2 provided in an orderly and timely fashion to a duly authorized successor. |
| DEW | (1) Directed Energy Weapon. (2) Directed Energy Warfare. |
| DEW/D | Directed Energy Weapon/Discrimination. |
| DEWG, O | Directed Energy Weapon Ground, Orbital |
| DEWL | Directed Energy Weapon, Laser (thermal or impulse). |
| DEWP | Directed Energy Weapon, Particle Beam (neutral or charged). |
| DF-KBS | Data Fusion Knowledge Based System. |
| DF₂ | Deuterium Fluoride. |
| DFAR | Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation |
| DFARS | Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement. |

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| DFAS | Defense Financing and Accounting Service. |
| DG | OBSOLETE. Defense Guidance. See Defense Planning Guidance. |
| DGA | Director General of Armaments (France). |
| DGP | Defense Group on Proliferation. |
| DI | (1) Data Item. (2) Developmental Item. |
| DIA | Defense Intelligence Agency. |
| DIAC | Defense Intelligence Analysis Center. |
| DIAM | Defense Intelligence Agency Manual |
| Diameter | (Optics) The unit of measure of the light gathering power of a lens. |
| DICE | Digital Integrated Combat Evaluator. |
| DID | Data Item Description. |
| Diffraction | The spreading out of electromagnetic radiation as it leaves an aperture. The angle of spread, which cannot be eliminated by focusing, is proportional to the ratio of the wavelength of radiation to the diameter of the aperture. |
| Digital Processing | The most familiar type of computing, in which problems are solved through the mathematical manipulation of streams of bits. |
| DII | Defense Information Infrastructure |
| Dip | A period of significantly decreased RCS signatures of an RV at low altitude (6 to 12 km) between wake termination and de-sheathing. |
| DIPS | Dynamic Isotope Power System (which provides up to 10 kW of power). |
| DIR | Director. |
| Direct Air Support Center | A subordinate operational component of a tactical air control system designed for control and direction of close air support and other tactical air support operations, and normally collocated with fire support coordination elements. |
| Direct Cost | Any cost that is specifically identified with a particular final cost objective. Is not necessarily limited to items that are incorporated into the end product as labor or material. |
| Direct Labor | Labor specifically identified with a particular final cost objective. Manufacturing direct labor includes fabrication, assembly, inspection and test for constructing the end product. Engineering direct labor consists of engineering labor such as reliability, quality assurance, test, design, etc., that is readily identified with the end product. |
| Directed Energy (DE) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Energy in the form of atomic particles, pellets, or focused electromagnetic beams that can be sent long distances at, or nearly at, the speed of light. 2. An umbrella term covering technologies that relate to the production of a beam of concentrated electromagnetic energy or atomic or subatomic particles. |

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| Directed Energy Device | A system using directed energy primarily for a purpose other than as a weapon. Directed energy devices may produce effects that could allow the device to be used as a weapon against certain threats, for example, laser rangefinders. |
| Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) | A system using directed energy primarily as a direct means to damage or destroy enemy equipment, facilities, and personnel. |
| DIRLAUTH | Direct Liaison Authorized. |
| DIRNSA | Director, National Security Agency. |
| DIS | (1) Distributed Interactive Simulation. (2) Defense Investigative Service. |
| DISA | Defense Information Systems Agency, Washington, DC. (Formerly known as Defense Communications Agency). |
| DISCO | Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office |
| DISCOM | Division Support Command (US Army term). |
| Discretionary Judgment | The authority given USCINSPACE or his duly authorized representative to perform actions not covered by the ROE. |
| DISCRIM | Discrimination |
| DISN | Defense Information System Network (DISA term). |
| DISSP | Defense-wide Information Systems Security Program. |
| DISUM | Daily Intelligence Summary (JFACC term). |
| DITDS | Defense Intelligence Threat Data System. |
| DITP | Discriminating Interceptor Technology Program. The objective of DITP is the development of advanced interceptor seekers to counter advanced threats. DITP will integrate passive and active sensors into an interceptor seeker that integrates data fusion processors, multicolor infrared sensors, and LADAR. DTP flight demonstrations will involve the tracking and interceptor on-board discrimination of targets of opportunity while providing fusion processor data telemetry. (See also ASTP). |
| DIVARTY | Division Artillery (US Army term). |
| DIW | Defensive Information Warfare. |
| DLA | Defense Logistics Agency, Alexandria, VA. |
| DLSC | Defense Logistics Services Center (Battle Creek, MI). |
| DM | Data Management |
| DMA | Defense Mapping Agency, Fairfax, VA. |
| DME | Distributed Management Environment. |
| DMI | Dual-Mode Interceptor. |

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| DMRD | Defense Management Review Decision. |
| DMS | (1) Defense Message System. (2) Dissimilar Mission Simulator. |
| DMSO | Defense Modeling and Simulation Office (OSD). |
| DMSP | Defense Meteorological Satellite Program. |
| DMU | Disk Memory Unit. |
| DNA | Defense Nuclear Agency, Alexandria, VA. |
| DNMS | Distributed Network Management System. |
| DNSIX | DoDIIS Network Security Information Exchange |
| DNSO | Defense Network Systems Organization. |
| DO | The lowest rating under the DPAS. All “DO” orders take preference over unrated orders to meet a required delivery date. |
| Doc | Document |
| DOCPREP | Documentation Preparation. |
| Doctrine | Fundamental principles by which the military forces or elements thereof guide their actions in support of national objectives. It is authoritative but requires judgment in the application. See also Combined Doctrine. |
| DoD | Department of Defense |
| DoD Component Acquisition Executive | A single official within a DoD Component who is responsible for all acquisition functions within that Component. This includes Service Acquisition Executives for the Military Departments and Acquisition Executives in other DoD Components who have acquisition management responsibilities. |
| DoD Components | The Office of the Secretary of Defense; the Military Departments; the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff and Joint Staff; the Unified and Specified Commands; the Defense Agencies; and DoD Field Activities. |
| DoDD | DoD Directive. |
| DoD Directive 5000.1 | “Defense Acquisition.” The principal DoD directive on acquisition. It establishes policies, practices and procedures of governing the acquisition of defense acquisition programs. |
| DoDI | DoD Instruction. |
| DoD Instruction 5000.2 | “Defense Acquisition Management Policies and Procedures.” Implements DODD 5000.1. |
| DoDIIS | DoD Intelligence Information System. |
| DoDISS | DoD Index of Specifications and Standards. |
| DoD-M | DoD Manual. |

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| DoDR | Department of Defense Regulation. |
| DOD-STD | Department of Defense Standard. |
| DoE | Department of Energy. |
| DOF | Degrees of Freedom. |
| Dog House | Large Soviet A-frame radar used as a component of the Moscow ABM system having a detection range of approximately 3000 km. It is believed to provide battle management for the totality of Moscow defenses. |
| DOP | (1) Degree of Protection. (2) Depot Overhaul Point (ILS term). |
| DOPAA | Description of Proposed Actions and Alternative (environmental term). |
| Doppler Effect | The phenomenon evidenced by the change in the observed frequency of a sound or radio wave caused by a time rate of change in the effective length of the path of travel between the source and the point of observation. |
| DoS | Department of State (US). |
| DOS | Disk Operating System (TelComm/Computer term). |
| DoT | Department of Transportation [US]. |
| DOT | Designated Optical Tracker. |
| DOT&E | Director, Operational Test & Evaluation. |
| DOTH | Defense of the Homeland. |
| Down Select | To reduce the number of contractors working on a program by eliminating one or more for the next phase. |
| DP | (1) Data Processor. (2) Decision Point. (3) Deployment Planning. |
| DPA | Defense Production Act. |
| DPA&E | Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation. |
| DPAS | Defense Priority and Allocation System. |
| DPAT | Dynamic Program Analysis Tool. |
| DPB | Defense Policy Board. |
| DPG | Defense Planning Guidance. |
| DPM | Deputy Program Manager. |
| DPML | Deputy Program Manager for Logistics |
| DPP | Distributed and Parallel Processing (Computer term). |
| DPR | Defense Performance Review. |

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| DPRB | See Defense Planning and Resources Board. |
| DPRK | Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). |
| DPRO | Defense Plant Representatives Office. |
| DPSSL | Diode-Pumped Solid State Laser. |
| DR | Deployment Review. |
| DRAM | Dynamic Random Access Memory. |
| Draw-down Curve | A method used to encapsulate the overall performance of a BMD system that plots the probability of survival on the vertical axis versus the number of attacking RVs on the horizontal axis. Used in conjunction with attack price, they are the most important expressions of a BMD capability. |
| DRB | Defense Resources Board. |
| DREN | Defense Research and Engineering Network. |
| DRFP | Draft Request for Proposal. |
| Drift | In ballistics, a shift in projectile direction due to gyroscopic action that results from gravitational and atmospherically induced torques on the spinning projectile. |
| DRM | DAB Readiness Meeting (DD 5000.2 term). |
| Drone | A land, sea, or air vehicle that is remotely or automatically controlled. See also Remotely Piloted Vehicle. |
| DRP | (1) Deployment Readiness Plan (US Army term). (2) Deployment Readiness Program. |
| DRR | Digital Receiver Replacement (USN term). |
| DS | Deep Space. |
| DS-1 | Category of telecommunications circuit capability. |
| DS-3 LAN | Category of telecommunications circuit for a Local Area Network. |
| DSAA | Defense Security Assistance Agency (OSD). |
| DSAT | Defense Satellite Weapon. |
| DSB | Defense Science Board. |
| DSCS | Defense Satellite Communications Systems. |
| DSCS-3 | Defense Satellite Communications System Three. |
| DSCSOC | Defense Satellite Communications System Ops Center. |
| DSI | Defense Simulation Internet |

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| DSIS | (1) Defense Special Intelligence System. (2) Defense Simulation Internet System. |
| DSM | Decision Support Matrix |
| DSMAC | Digital Scene-Matching Area Correlation. |
| DSMC | Defense Systems Management College. |
| DSN | (1) Defense Switched Network (formerly AUTOVON). (2) Deep Space Network (NASA term). |
| DSP | (1) Defense Support Program. (2) Defense Standardization Program. |
| DSPRTM | Defense Support Program Real-Time Model. |
| DSR | Data Set Ready (TelComm/Computer term). |
| DSRCE | Down Scooped Radio Control Equipment (TelComms term). |
| DSS | (1) Defense Supply Service. (2) Digital Signature Standard. |
| DST | Defense Suppression Threat. |
| DSTAR | Defense Strategic and Tactical Array Reproducibility. |
| DSTO | Defence Science Technology Organization (Australia). |
| DSU | Digital Service Unit (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| DSWA | Defense Special Weapons Agency, Alexandria, VA. DSWA is the successor to the DNA. |
| DT | (1) Discrimination Technique. (2) Development Testing. (3) See Development Test I, II, III. (4) Down Time (ILS term). (5) Depressed Trajectory. (6) Dedicated Target. |
| DT&E | Development Test and Evaluation. |
| DT/OA | Development Test/Operational Assessment. |
| DT/OT | Developmental Test/Operational Test. |
| DTAP | Defense Technology Area Plan. |
| DTC | Design-to-Cost. |
| DTD | Digital Transfer Device (TelComm/Computer term). |
| DTE | Data Terminal Equipment (TelComm/Computer term). |
| DTED | Digital Terrain Elevation Data. |
| DTIC | Defense Technical Information Center, Alexandria, VA. |

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| DTIS | Defense Technical Information Services (now DEIS). |
| DTLCC | Design to Life-Cycle Cost. |
| DTLOMS | Doctrine, Training, Leadership, Organization, Material, and Soldiers (USA BCBL term). |
| DTLS | Descriptive Top-Level Specification. |
| DTMF | Data Tone Multiple Frequency (TelComm/Computer term). |
| DTO | Defense Technology Objectives. |
| DTOC | Division Tactical Operations Center. |
| DTR | (1) Demonstration Test Round. (2) Development Test Round. |
| DTRM | Dual Thrust Rocket Motor. |
| DTSA | Defense Technology Security Administration. |
| DTSE&E | Director, Test Systems Engineering and Evaluation. |
| DTST | Defensive Technologies Study Team. |
| DTT | Design-To Threat |
| DTWT | Dual Traveling Wave Tube (Electronics Engineering term). |
| DU | Depleted Uranium. |
| DUA | Design Upgrade Assessment. |
| Dual Source | Two contractors producing the same components or end items for the same program. |
| DUNDEE | Down Under Early Warning Experiment (MDA/DSTO term). |
| DURIP | Defense University Research Instrumentation Program. |
| DUSD | Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. |
| DUSD (ES) | Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Environmental Security). |
| DVAL | Demonstration Validation. |
| DX | The highest rating under the DPAS. It takes preference over all other rated and not rated orders on a contractor's production line. The BMD program carries a "DX" rating. |

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| E | East |
| E²I | See Endo-Exoatmospheric Interceptor. |
| E²SRD | Effectively Two-System Requirement Document. |
| E³ | (1) Electromagnetic Environmental Effects. (2) Electrical, Electronic, and Electromechanical. |
| E Spec | Materiel Specification. |
| EA | (1) Environmental Assessment. (2) Engagement Authorization. (3) Executing Agent. (4) Evolutionary Acquisition. (5) Environmental Analysis (environmental term). (6) Executive Agent. |
| EAC | Estimated Cost at Completion. |
| EAD | (1) Engineering Analysis and Design. (2) Extended air defense. |
| EAD/D | Engineering, Analysis, Design and Development. |
| EADSIM | Extended Air Defense Simulation. |
| EADTB | Extended Air Defense Test Bed. An object-oriented simulation tool allowing users to model military response to airborne and ballistic missile threats. |
| EADTBP | Extended Air Defense Test Bed Program. |
| EAGLE | Extended Airborne Global Launch Evaluator. |
| EAM | Emergency Action Message. |
| EAR | Export Administration Regulations. |
| Early Operational Assessment | An operational assessment conducted prior to, or in support of, Milestone II. |
| Early User Test (EUT) | A test employing representative users to examine materiel concepts, training or logistics planning, or inter-operability issues. EUT can be accomplished during DEM/VAL on brassboard configurations, experimental prototypes, or surrogates to provide data leading to the decision to enter full-scale development. |
| Early Warning | (1) Early detection of an enemy ballistic missile launch, usually by means of surveillance satellites and long range radar. (2) Early notification of the launch or approach of unknown weapons or weapon carriers. |
| Earth Limb | The apparent outer edge of the earth as viewed from space. |
| Eastern Test Range (ETR) | Beginning at Patrick AFB, FL, this range stretches halfway around the globe where it meets the Western Test Range. An array of launch complexes, sensors, and tracking sites make up the Eastern Test Range. The ETR is now operated by AFSPACECOM as shown in WTR definition. |

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| EB | (1) Electron Beam. (2) Enhanced Blast. |
| EBB | Electronic Bulletin Board. |
| EBCDIC | Extended Binary Code Decimal Interchange Code. |
| EBW | Electron Beam Welding. |
| EC | (1) Electronic Combat. (2) Error Control. (3) OBSOLETE. European Community. Now known as the European Union (EU). |
| EC/EDI | Electronic Commerce/Electronic Data Interchange |
| ECAC | Electromagnetic Compatibility Analysis Center. |
| ECB | Engineering Change Board. |
| ECC | (1) Equipment Control Center. (2) Element Control Center (USAF term). |
| ECCM | Electronic Counter-Countermeasures. |
| ECDs | Element Control Directives. |
| ECLS | ERINT Command and Launch System. |
| ECM | Electronic Countermeasures. |
| ECN | Engineering Change Notice. |
| ECO | Engagement Control Orders. |
| ECP | (1) Engineering Change Proposal. (2) Emergency Command Precedence. |
| ECPMO | Electronic Commerce Program Management Office. |
| ECS | Engagement Control Station (PATRIOT). |
| ECU | Environmental Control Unit. |
| EDAC | Error Detection and Correction |
| EDGES | Electronic Data/Guidelines for Element Survivability. |
| EDL | Electrical Discharge Laser |
| EDM | Engineering Development Model. |
| EDP | Engineering Development Process |
| EDR | Embedded Data Recorder (PATRIOT). |
| EDS | Electronic Data Systems Corporation |
| EDWA | Engagement Determination and Weapons Assignment (PATRIOT). |

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| EDX | Exoatmospheric Discrimination Experiment |
| EE | (1) Electrical Engineering. (2) Engineering Estimate. |
| EED | Electro-Explosive Device. |
| EEEV | End-to-End Experimental Version. |
| EEFI | Essential Elements of Friendly Information. |
| EEI | Essential Elements of Information. |
| EEIC | Element of Expense Investment Code. |
| EELV | Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle (USAF term) |
| EEU | Electronic Equipment Unit. |
| EFEX | Endo-Aeromechanics Flight Experiment. |
| EFF | Electronic Frontier Foundation. |
| Effectivity | A designation given to the BMDS configuration and demonstrated capability at a point in time, becoming effective at each increment when an element or component is inserted into a particular Block. |
| Effective Damage | That damage necessary to render a target element inoperative, unserviceable, nonproductive, or uninhabitable. |
| Effluent Plume | The pathway of movement of effluents through surface water or air. |
| EFP | Explosively Formed Projectile. |
| EGP | End Game Processor. |
| EGTR | Eglin [AFB] Gulf Test Range. |
| EHC | Enhance Hit Capability (USN term, related to SM2 Block IVA). |
| EHF | Extremely High Frequency. |
| ehp | Equivalent Horsepower. |
| EIA | (1) Environmental Impact Assessment. (2) Electronic Industries Association. |
| EIAP | Environmental Impact Analysis Process. |
| EIP | Exoatmospheric Interceptor Propulsion. |
| EIPC | Electronic Information Privacy Center. |
| EIPT | (1) Element IPT. (2) Engineering IPT. |
| EIS | (1) Environmental Impact Statement. (2) Explosive Initiation System. |
| EISA | Extended Industry Standard Architecture (Telecomm/Computer term). |

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| EKV | (1) Electromagnetic Kill Vehicle. (2) Exoatmospheric Kill Vehicle. |
| Elastic Range | The stress range in which a material will recover its original form when the force (or loading) is removed. Elastic deformation refers to dimensional changes occurring within the elastic range. |
| Electro-Optics Infrared (EO/IR) | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the wavelength spectrum slightly longer than visible but shorter than radio. |
| Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) | A condition when all electromagnetic emissions from electronic, electro-magnetic, and electro-optical components of a system interact without interfering with one another. |
| Electromagnetic Emanations | Signals transmitted as radiation through the air, through a vacuum, or through conductors. |
| Electromagnetic Field (EMF) | An electric or magnetic field or combination of the two, as in an electromagnetic wave. Created by electric charges in motion, having both electric and magnetic components oriented at right angles to one another and containing a definite amount of energy. |
| Electromagnetic Gun (EMG) | A gun in which the projectile is accelerated by electromagnetic forces rather than by an explosion, as in a conventional gun. |
| Electromagnetic Interference (EMI) | Any electromagnetic disturbance that interrupts, obstructs, or otherwise degrades or limits the effective performance of electronics/electrical equipment. It can be induced intentionally, as in some forms of electronic warfare, or unintentionally, as a result of spurious emissions and responses, inter-modulation products, and the like. |
| Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) | The electromagnetic radiation from a nuclear explosion caused by Compton-recoil electrons and photoelectrons from photons scattered in the materials of the nuclear device or in a surrounding medium. The resulting electric and magnetic fields may couple with electrical/electronic systems to produce damaging current and voltage surges. May also be caused by non-nuclear means. |
| Electromagnetic Radiation (EMR) | <p>(1) A form of propagated energy, arising from electric charges in motion that produces a simultaneous wavelike variation of electric and magnetic fields in space. The highest frequencies (or shortest wavelengths) of such radiation are possessed by gamma rays, which originate from processes within atomic nuclei. As one goes to lower frequencies, the electromagnetic spectrum includes x-rays, ultraviolet light, visible light, infrared light, microwaves, and radio waves.</p> <p>(2) Radiation made up of oscillating electric and magnetic fields and propagated with the speed of light. Includes gamma radiation, X-rays, ultraviolet, visible, and infrared radiation, and radar and radio waves.</p> |
| Electromagnetics | Application of electrical, electronic, and magnetic phenomena to develop devices used in system/subsystem design, excluding employment in the RF spectrum. |
| Electromagnetic Spectrum | The range of frequencies of electromagnetic radiation from zero to infinity. It is divided into 26 alphabetically designated bands. |

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| Electronic Counter-Countermeasures (ECCM) | That division of electronic warfare involving actions taken to insure friendly effective use of the electromagnetic, optical, and acoustic spectra despite the enemy's use of electronic warfare to include high power microwave techniques. |
| Electronic Countermeasure (ECM) | That division of electronic warfare involving actions taken to prevent or reduce an enemy's effective use of the electromagnetic spectrum. |
| Electronic Industries Association (EIA) | A standards organization specializing in the electrical and functional characteristics of interface equipment. |
| Electronic Warfare (EW) | <p>Any military activity involving the use of electromagnetic and directed energy to control the electromagnetic spectrum or to attack the enemy. The three major subdivisions are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic attack – Involves the use of electromagnetic or directed energy to attack personnel, facilities, or equipment with the intent of degrading, neutralizing, or destroying enemy combat capability. Also known as EA. Includes: 1) actions taken to prevent or reduce an enemy's effective use of the electromagnetic spectrum, such as jamming and electromagnetic deception, and 2) employment of weapons that use either electromagnetic or directed energy as their primary destructive mechanism (lasers, radio frequency weapons, particle beams). • Electronic protection -- Involves actions taken to protect personnel, facilities, and equipment from any effects of friendly or enemy employment of electronic warfare that degrade, neutralize, or destroy friendly combat capability. Also called EP. • Electronic warfare support – Involves actions tasked by, or under direct control of, an operational commander to search for, intercept, identify, and locate sources of intentional and unintentional radiated electromagnetic energy for the purpose of immediate threat recognition. Thus, electronic warfare support provides information required for immediate decisions involving electronic warfare operations and other tactical actions such as threat avoidance, targeting, and homing. Also called ES. |
| Electronic Warfare (EW) Environments | Electronic warfare environments result from radar and communications jamming and other related electromagnetic countermeasures and counter-countermeasures. Currently, radar jamming is the sole EW threat for the NMD system. |
| Electronics Intelligence (ELINT) | Technical and geo-location intelligence derived from foreign non-communications electromagnetic radiations emanating from other than nuclear detonations or radioactive sources. |
| Electronics Security (ELSEC) | The protection resulting from all measures designed to deny unauthorized persons information of value that might be derived from their interception and study of non-communications electromagnetic radiations, e.g. radar. |
| Electro-Optics Infrared (EO/IR) | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the wavelength spectrum slightly longer than visible but shorter than radio. |

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| Element | A complete, integrated set of components capable of autonomously providing BMDS capability. |
| Element Capability Specification (ECS) | A document that identifies the element-level BMDS capabilities and specifications necessary to achieve the system capabilities identified in the SCS. The ECS further defines the SCS-apportioned mission/technical performance capabilities and allocates these capabilities to the element's components. |
| Element Control Directives (ECDs) | The command and control data instructions to control the conduct of the engagement. ECDs are developed by command and control software based upon variable parameter input by the operators (both pre-planned and real time), and operator defined rule sets embedded in the software. The individual battle management processors use these instructions to accomplish the assigned tasks from the operations order. ECDs are contained within a Task and represent the form of parameter values that influence the resource management processes of Weapon Target Assignment (WTA), Sensor Resource Management (SRM), and Communications Management (CM). There will be numerous ECDs per Task. |
| Element Operations Center (EOC) | An Air Force operations center, which operates and maintains a BMD weapon or sensor suite. (USSPACECOM) |
| ELF | Extremely Low Frequency. |
| ELIAS | Earth Limb Infrared Atomic Structure. |
| ELINFOSEC | Electronic Information Security. |
| ELINT | Electronics Intelligence. |
| ELPRS | Enhanced Position Location Reporting System. |
| ELS | Earth Limb Sensor. |
| ELSEC | Electronics Security. |
| ELSI | Enhanced Longwave Spectrometer Imager. |
| ELV | Expendable Launch Vehicle. |
| Emanations Security (EMSEC) | The protection that results from all measures designed to deny unauthorized persons information of value that might be derived from intercept and analysis of compromising emanations. |
| EMC | (1) Electromagnetic Compatibility. (2) Early Midcourse. |
| EMCON | Emission Control |
| EMD | Engineering and Manufacturing Development (previously referred to as FSD). |
| EMDCT | Expanded Memory DCT. |
| EME | Electromagnetic Environment. |

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| Emergency Capability (replaces Contingency Capability) | BMD elements or components that are still in development or testing that provide limited ballistic missile defense capabilities. MDA, working with the Services, will develop plans, which cover the potential use of prototypes and test assets for contingency deployment should the SECDEF determine that an emerging BMD threat requires emergency fielding of a BMD capability. |
| EMF | Electromagnetic Field. |
| EMG | Electromagnetic Gun. |
| EMI | Electromagnetic Interference. |
| EMIP | See Exoatmospheric Midcourse Interceptor Program. |
| Emission Control (EMCON) | The selective and controlled use of electromagnetic, acoustic, or other emitters to optimize command and control capabilities while minimizing: a) detection by enemy sensors, and b) mutual interference among friendly systems. EMCON can also be involved in military deception plans. Also called EMCON. |
| EML | Electromagnetic Launcher. A device used to launch hypervelocity particles. |
| EMP | Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| EMPSKD | Employment Scheduling (USN term). |
| EMR | Electromagnetic Radiation. |
| EMRLD | Excimer Moderate Power Raman-Shifted Laser Device. |
| EMSEC | Emanations Security. |
| EMSP | Enhanced Modular Signal Processor. |
| EMT | Engineering Management Team. |
| EMV | Electromagnetic Vulnerability. |
| ENA | Engineering: Architecture and Analysis. |
| ENCATT | Engineer CATT (US Army term). |
| Enclave | Isolated resource – an SDS asset that has lost connectivity with other SDS assets with which it normally has connectivity, but is still capable of coordinating with SDS assets to conduct ballistic missile defense. Various combinations of connectivity losses are possible; for example, (1) an operations center has lost connectivity with Higher Authority, yet can still provide sufficient C2 and can still connect with sufficient weapons and sensors to conduct an engagement and (2) an operations center has loss of connectivity with another operations center with which it normally shares data, but can still conduct an engagement. |
| Endgame FOV | The field of view of the interceptor's sensor during its final maneuvers after target acquisition to intercept the target. May be less than the acquisition FOV. |
| End Item | The final production product when assembled, or completed, and ready for issue/deployment. |

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| Endoatmospheric | Within the earth's atmosphere; generally considered to be altitudes below 100 km. An endoatmospheric interceptor reaches its target within the atmosphere. |
| Endo-Exoatmospheric Interceptor (E²I) | A ground-based interceptor capable of engaging RVs either endoatmospheric or exoatmospheric. (Successor to High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor (HEDI).) |
| ENDOSIM | Endoatmospheric Simulation. |
| Endurance | The time an aircraft can continue flying, or a ground vehicle or ship can continue operating, under specified conditions, e.g. without refueling. |
| ENG | Engineering. |
| ENGAG'T | Engagement. |
| Engage | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) In air defense, a fire control order used to direct or authorize units and/or weapon systems to fire on a designated target. (2) In air intercept, a code meaning, "Attack designated contact." |
| Engagement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A period of hostilities beginning when the first ballistic missile target undergoes fire from the first defensive weapon. (2) A period beginning whenever any hostile object is identified (designated) as hostile and ending after the last hostile object has been attacked. (3) In air defense, an attack with guns or air-to-air missiles by an interceptor aircraft, or the launch of an air defense missile by air defense artillery and the missile's subsequent travel to intercept. |
| Engagement Authorization | The authorization given to USSPACECOM to use weapon and sensor systems under previously coordinated and authorized rules, procedures, and conditions. |
| Engagement Control | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) That set of coordination, assessment, decision, and direction functions normally implemented automatically to execute the selected battle plan, military strategy and tactics within partitioned battle spaces (i.e., a spatial/functional subdivision of battle management). Includes the determination of: what specific objects to intercept in order to implement the selected military strategy, and which specific interceptors to assign to each attacker to implement the selected tactics within the rules of engagement. (2) In air defense, that degree of control exercised over the operational functions of an air defense unit that are related to detection, identification, engagement, and destruction of hostile targets. |
| Engagement Planning | A set of rules and parameters to be used in developing weapon-target assignments and for sensor resource management. (USSPACECOM) |
| Engagement Surveillance | The surveillance required to support RV negation in the midcourse tier. |
| Engagement Time | The time that a weapon takes while engaging a given target. This includes not only firing at the target but all other necessary weapon functions involved that are unique to that particular target. |

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| Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) | The third phase in the acquisition process, following Milestone II. The system and its supporting items are fully developed, engineered, designed, fabricated, tested, and evaluated. The intended output is a pre-production system that closely approximates the final product; the documentation necessary to enter the production phase, and the test results demonstrating that the production product will meet stated requirements. |
| Engineering Change Proposal (ECP) | A proposal to the responsible authority recommending that a change to an original item of equipment be considered, and the design or engineering change be incorporated into the article to modify, add to, delete, or supersede original parts. |
| Engineering Development | A funding category including those development programs being engineered for service use but which have not yet been approved for procurement or operation. Money under budget activity 6.4. |
| Engineering Development Model | An advanced prototype used during the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase (EMD) to resolve design deficiencies, demonstrate maturing performance, and develop proposed production specifications and drawings. |
| Enhanced Target Delivery System (ETDS) | Target delivery system being developed for future GMD testing that will complement existing systems, provide flexible, modular configurations, and will be launchable from land, air, or sea modes |
| ENNK | Endoatmospheric Non-Nuclear Kill. |
| ENSCD | Enemy Situation and Correlation Division (JFACC term). |
| Environmental Assessment (EA) | A concise public document whose primary purpose is to provide sufficient analysis of environmental effects of an action to determine whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact. |
| Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) | A detailed written statement analyzing the environmental effects of a major Federal action. |
| Environmental Security | A specialized form of physical security that prevents technical penetration, e.g., penetration by waves of electron beams. |
| Environments | The media, conditions, and/or physical objects in which a BMD asset is immersed or surrounded. For BMD systems and elements, the comprehensive environments definition consists of natural, hostile, induced, and storage, transportation and handling categories. |
| EO | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Electro-Optical. (2) Engagement Operations. (3) End Office. (4) Eyes Only. |
| EOA | Early Operational Assessment. |
| EOB | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Enemy Order of Battle. (2) Electronic Order of Battle. |
| EOC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) See Element Operations Center. (2) Emergency Operations Center |

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| EOCM | Electro-Optic Countermeasure. |
| EOCT | Element Operations Center Test Bed. |
| EOD | Explosive Ordnance Detail |
| EO/IR | See Electro-Optics Infrared. |
| EOM | End of Message. |
| EOP | Executive Office of the President |
| EORSAT | ELINT Ocean Reconnaissance Satellite (US). |
| EOS | Earth Orbiting System (NASA term). |
| EOSH | Environmental Operational Safety and Health. |
| EP | (1) Engagement Planning. (2) Evaluation Plan |
| EP Cycle | Engagement Planner Cycle (NMD BMC2 term). |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency. |
| EPD | Engineering Product and Development |
| Ephemeris/ Ephemerides | (1) A table showing the positions of an object in space at regular intervals of time. (2) A publication giving the computed places of the celestial bodies for each day of the year or for other regular intervals. |
| EPITS | Essential Program Information Technology and Systems. |
| EPL | Emitter Parameter Listing (USN term). |
| EPLRS | Enhanced Position Locator Reporting System. |
| EPO | (1) OBSOLETE - ERINT Project Office (US Army term). (2) Element Program Office. |
| EPP | Electric Power Plant (PATRIOT). |
| EPROM | Electrically Programmable Read-Only Memory. |
| EQEC | EurQuantum Electronics Conference (See CLEO). |
| Equipment Operationally Ready | The status of an item of equipment in the possession of an operating unit that indicates it is capable of fulfilling its intended mission and in a system configuration that offers a high assurance of an effective, reliable, and safe performance. |
| ER | (1) Enhanced Radiation (“neutron bomb”). (2) Extended Range. |
| ERA | Explosive Reactive Armor |
| ERADCOM | OBSOLETE. Army Electronics Research and Development Command. (Now Laboratory Command (LABCOM), Adelphi, MD.) |

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| ERCS | Emergency Rocket Communications System (US). |
| ERD | Element Requirements Document. |
| ERG | Executive Review Group. |
| ERINT | OBSOLETE. Extended Range Interceptor. Now referred to as PAC-3. |
| ERIS | OBSOLETE. Exoatmospheric Reentry Vehicle Interceptor Subsystem. (Predecessor to Ground-Based Interceptor (GBI).) |
| ERIS(F) | OBSOLETE. ERIS Farm. |
| ERP | Emitted Radiative Power. |
| ERR | (1) Element Requirements Review. (2) Engineering Release Record. |
| ERS | (1) Early Release of Submunitions. (2) Emergency Response System. |
| ESA | Electronically Scanned Array. |
| ESAD | Electronic Safe and Arm Device. |
| ESAR | Extended Subsequent Application Review. |
| ESC | Electronic System Center (AFMC), Hanscom AFB, MA. |
| ESCN | Existing Systems and Center Notebook. |
| ESD | OBSOLETE. Electronic Systems Division. (Now Electronic Systems Center, Hanscom AFB, MA.) |
| ESH | Environmental, Safety and Health |
| ESI | External Systems Integration. |
| ESI ICD | External Systems Integration Interface Control Document. |
| ESM | (1) Electronic Warfare Support Measures. (2) Electronic Support Measures. |
| ESMC | Eastern Space and Missile Center, Patrick AFB, FL. |
| ESNet | Energy Sciences Network. |
| ESPRIT | European Strategic Program of Research in Information Technology. |
| ESQD | Explosive Safety Quantity Distance. |
| ESSM | Evolved (Enhanced) Sea Sparrow Missile. |
| ET&C | Extended Tracking and Control. |
| ETA | Estimated Time of Arrival. |
| ETC | (1) Electro-Thermal Chemical. (2) Estimated Time-to-Completion. |
| ETD | (1) Estimated Time of Departure. (2) Electronic Transfer Device. |

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| ETERTS | End-to-End Real Time Simulator. |
| ETESD | End-to-End Sensor Demonstration. |
| ETI | Estimated Time of Intercept. |
| ETIC | Estimated Time for Completion. |
| ETM | Engineering Test Model |
| ETR | (1) Extended Test Range (Pacific Test Bed) (2) See Eastern Test Range. (3) Environmental Test Round. (4) Estimated Time to Repair. |
| ETS | (1) Experimental Test System. (2) Experimental Test Site. |
| EU | European Union [formerly European Community (EC)] |
| EUCOM | European Command. See USEUCOM. |
| EURATOM | European Atomic Energy Agency. |
| EUREKA | European Research and Coordinating Agency. |
| EUT | Early User Test. |
| EV | Experimental Version |
| EVA | Extravehicular Activity. |
| Evasive MRV | A reentry vehicle, which maneuvers for the purpose of evading defensive weapons. |
| Event Based Contracting | Support “event driven acquisition strategy” by linking specific contractual events to the “exit criteria” for the acquisition phase, or to intermediate development events established for the acquisition strategy. |
| Event Driven Acquisition Strategy | An acquisition strategy that links program decisions to demonstrated accomplishments in development, testing, and production. |
| Event Validation | A sensor element internal process that results in a determination by the operator that the sensor is healthy and the event reported is real. |
| Event Verification | The process by which it is decided, from SDS external data, that the event reported is real. |

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| Evolutionary Acquisition | <p>(1) An approach in which a core capability is fielded, and the system design has a modular structure and provisions for future upgrades and changes as requirements are refined. An evolutionary acquisition strategy is well suited to high technology and software intensive programs where requirements beyond a core capability can be generally, but not specifically, be defined.</p> <p>(2) An acquisition strategy that defines, develops, produces or acquires, and fields an initial hardware or software increment (or block) of operational capability. It is based on technologies demonstrated in relevant environments, time-phased requirements, and demonstrated manufacturing or software deployment capabilities. These capabilities can be provided in a shorter period of time, followed by subsequent increments of capability over time that accommodate improved technology and allowing for full and adaptable systems over time. Each increment will meet a militarily useful capability specified by the user (i.e., at least the thresholds set by the user for that increment); however, the first increment may represent only 60% to 80% of the desired final capability. (MDA Lexicon)</p> |
| Evolutionary Requirements Definition | Mission needs are first expressed in broad operational capability terms, and then progressively evolved to system specific performance requirements. |
| EVPA | Experimental Version Performance Assessment. |
| EVPA/TEVS | Experimental Version Performance Assessment Test Environment System. |
| EVS | Enhanced Verdin System. |
| EW | (1) Electronic Warfare. (2) Early Warning. |
| EW/AA | Early Warning and Attack Assessment. |
| EWCC | Expanded Weapons Control Computer (PATRIOT). |
| EWDA | Energy and Water Development Appropriations (US). |
| EWG | Event Working Group. |
| EWN | Early Warning Net. |
| EWO | Electronic Warfare Officer. |
| EWPE | Electronic Warfare Pre-Processing Element. |
| EWR | Early Warning Radar. |
| EWS | Early Warning System. |
| EXCEDE | Electron Accelerator Experiment. |
| Excimer | A contraction for "excited dimer"; a type of lasant. A dimer is a molecule consisting of two atoms. Some dimers (e.g., xenon chloride and krypton fluoride) are molecules, which cannot exist under ordinary conditions of approximate thermal equilibrium but must be created in an "excited" (e.g., energized) condition by special "pumping" processes in a laser. |
| Excimer Laser (EXL) | A laser in which emission is stimulated when a gas is shocked with electrical energy and the excited medium emits light when returning to a ground state. |

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| EXCOM | Executive Committee. |
| Executable Program | A program is executable if the PM has adequate near-term approved funding. |
| Executing Agent | The individual within the executing element assigned responsibility for managing MDA funded programs. |
| Executing Elements | Agencies or organizations (DoD or non-DoD) that are managing BMD-related programs. |
| Executing Responsibility | Program Manager responsibility. |
| Exercise | A military maneuver or simulated wartime operation involving planning, preparation, and execution. It is carried out for the purpose of training and evaluation. It may be a combined, joint, or single-Service exercise, depending on participating organizations. See also Command Post Exercise. |
| Exit Criteria | Program specific accomplishments that must be satisfactorily demonstrated before an effort or program can progress further in the current acquisition phase or transition to the next acquisition phase. Exit criteria may include such factors as critical test issues, the attainment of projected growth curves and baseline parameters, and the results of risk reduction efforts deemed critical to the decision to proceed further. Exit criteria supplement minimum required accomplishments and are specific to each acquisition phase. |
| EXL | Excimer Laser. |
| Exoatmospheric | Outside the Earth's atmosphere; generally considered to be altitudes above 100 km. |
| Exoatmospheric Reentry Vehicle Interceptor Subsystem (ERIS) | OBSOLETE. Interceptor designed to provide functional test validation of GBI. |
| Exoatmospheric Test Bed (XTB) | Flight qualified and range integrated vehicle to support other programs such as GBI-X. |
| Exo Decoy | A decoy that matches RV signature exoatmospherically. Exo decoys can use radar and/or optical means to deceive sensors. |
| Expert Systems | Software programs, which use artificial intelligence techniques to capture and apply the non-algorithmic knowledge and procedures of human experts. |
| Expired Appropriation | An appropriation that is no longer available for new obligation but is still available for disbursement to liquidate existing obligations. Under current legislation no disbursement may be recorded or paid after a five-year expiration period. Maintains all original accounting identity, e.g. FY, appropriation, PE, etc. |
| EXPLAN | Exercise Plan. |
| Explicit Coordination | A battle management technique which communicates results, decisions or command from one battle manager to another, usually from a higher command to a lower command. |

**Extended
Planning Annex**

A document providing program guidance for an additional 10 years beyond the POM.

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| F | (1) Fluoride. (2) Fahrenheit. |
| F/O | (1) Fiber Optic. (2) Follow-On. |
| FA | (1) Field Artillery. (2) Feasibility Assessment. |
| FA/RD | Functional Analysis/Requirements Definition. |
| FAA | Federal Aviation Administration. |
| FAAD | Forward Area Air Defense (US Army). |
| FAAD C2I | Forward Area Air Defense Command, Control and Intelligence. |
| FAADS | Forward Area Air Defense System (JCS term). |
| FAAWC | Fleet/Force Anti-Air Warfare Commander. |
| FAB | Fly Along Probe. |
| Fac | Facility (MILCON term). |
| FACP | Forward Area Control Post (JFACC term). |
| FACSPMF | Federal Agency Computer Security Program Manager's Forum. |
| FAD | (1) Force Activity Designator. (2) Feasible Test Date. |
| FADEC | Full-Authority Electronic Controls. |
| FAFB | Falcon AFB, CO. |
| FAFBR | Falcon AFB Regulation |
| Fairing | Structure to protect the payload during ascent phase. |
| FAIT | Fabrication Assembly, Inspection/Integration, and Test. |
| FALCON | Fission-Activated Light Concept. |
| FAM | Functional Area Management. |
| FAMIS | Financial Accounting Management Information System. |
| FAMP | Facilities Acquisition Management Plan. |
| FAMSIM | Family of Simulations (USA term). |
| FAR | See Federal Acquisition Regulation. |
| Far Field | The region far from an antenna compared to the dimensions of the antenna and the wavelength of the radiation. |
| FAS | (1) Fly Away Sensor (TCMP). (2) Federation of American Scientists. |
| FAST | Facility Allocation Study Team. |

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| Fast-Burn Booster (FBB) | A ballistic missile that burns out much more quickly than current versions, possibly before exiting the atmosphere entirely. Such rapid burnout complicates a boost-phase defense. |
| FAT | (1) First Article Testing. (2) Factory Acceptance Test. |
| Fault Tolerance | The ability of a processor to maintain mission effectiveness after some subsystems failed. |
| Fax | Facsimile. |
| FBB | Fast-Burn Booster. |
| FBIS | Foreign Broadcast Information Service (US). |
| FBM | Fleet Ballistic Missile. |
| FBMS | Fleet Ballistic Missile System (USN term). |
| FBP | Forward Based Probe. |
| FBR | Forward-Based Radar (US Army term). |
| FBS | Forward-Based System. |
| FBXR | Forward-Based X-band Radar. |
| FC | (1) Fire Control [of weapons]. (2) Fund Code. |
| FCA | Functional Configuration Audit. |
| FCC | Federal Communications Commission. |
| FCCM | Facilities Capital Cost of Money. |
| FCN | Fully Connected Network. |
| FCO | Field Change Order. |
| FCRC | OBSOLETE. Federal Contract Research Center. |
| FCS | Fire Control Section. |
| FCT | Foreign comparative testing. |
| FD | First Deployment. |
| FDA | Food and Drug Administration. |
| FDC | Fire [of weapons] Direction Center. |
| FDG | Foreign Disclosure Guide. |
| FDM | Function Description Manual. |
| FDO | Fee Determining Official. |

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| FDP | Flight Demonstration Program. |
| FDR | Final/Formal Design Review. |
| FDRU | Final Design Review Update (MDA PAC term). |
| FDS | (1) Flight Demonstration System. (2) Fault Detection System. |
| FDSV | Flight Demonstration Space Vehicle. |
| FDT&E | See Force Development Test and Experimentation (US Army). |
| FDX | Full Duplex (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| FEA | Functional Economic Analysis. |
| Feasibility Study | A study of the applicability or desirability of any management or procedural system from the standpoint of advantages versus disadvantages in any given case. |
| FEBA | Forward Edge of the Battle Area. |
| FECA | Front-End Cost Analysis |
| FED | Federal. |
| FEDAC | Federal Computer Acquisition Center. |
| Federal Acquisition Regulation | The primary regulation for use by federal executive agencies for acquisition of supplies and services with appropriated funds. It directs the defense program manager in many ways, including contract award procedures, acquisition planning, warranties, and establishing guidelines for competition. The Military Departments and DoD issue supplements to the FAR. The DoD supplement is called DFARS (Defense FAR Supplement). |
| FEDSIM | Federal System Integration and Management. |
| FEL | Free Electron Laser. |
| FEMA | Federal Emergency Management Agency. |
| Fenced Funding | An identified aggregation of resources reviewed, approved, and managed as a distinct entity. The proposed program must be implemented within specified resources. Examples of fences areas are: Intelligence and Security, Support to Other Nations. |
| FER | Financial Execution Review. |
| FES | Facility Engineering Surveillance Plan. |
| FET | Field Effect Transistor. |
| FEU | Flight Evaluation Unit. |
| FEWS | Follow-on Early Warning System. |
| FF | Fire Finder Radar (US Army). |

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| FFBD | Functional Flow Block Diagram. |
| FFCD | Full, Final and Complete Disclosure (Treaty negotiation term). |
| FFD | Fraction Failure Detected. |
| FFH | Fast Frequency Hopping. |
| FFP | Firm Fixed Price. |
| FFRDC | Federally Funded Research and Development Center. |
| FGC | Functional Group Code (Navy ILS term). |
| FGEP | Fixed Ground Entry Point. |
| FH | Flight Hours. |
| FI | Fault Isolation. |
| FI&A | Fault Isolation and Analysis. |
| FIDO | Fighter Duty Officer (JFACC term). |
| Field of View (FOV) | The angular measure of the volume of space within which the system can respond to the presence of a target. |
| Fighting Mirror (FMIR) | Part of the GBL System. The low orbit mirror, which receives laser energy and reflects it to the target. |
| Figure of Merit (FOM) | The numerical value assigned to a measure of effectiveness, parameters, or other figure, as a result of an analysis, synthesis, or estimating technique. |
| FIP | Federal Information Processing. |
| FIPS | Federal Information Processing Standard. |
| Fire Control | The control of all operations in connection with the application of fire on a target. |
| Fire Control System | A group of interrelated fire control equipment and/or instruments designed for use with a weapon or group of weapons. |
| Fire Support Coordinating Measure | A measure employed by land or amphibious commanders to facilitate the rapid engagement of targets and simultaneously safeguard friendly forces. |
| Fire Support Coordinating Line (FSCL) | A line established by the appropriate ground commander to ensure the coordination of fire not under the commander's control but may affect current tactical operations. The fire support coordination line is used to coordinate fires of air, ground, or sea weapons systems using any type of ammunition against surface targets. The fire support coordination line should follow well-defined terrain features. The establishment of the FSCL must be coordinated with the appropriate tactical air commander and other supporting elements of the FSCL without prior coordination with the ground force commander provided the attack will not product adverse effects on or to the rear of the line. Attacks against surface targets behind this line must be coordinated with the appropriate ground force commander. |

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| Firing Doctrine | The ratio and manner of assigning numbers of interceptors against given attackers. One-on-one, salvo, shoot-look-shoot, shoot-fail-shoot, etc. are examples of different firing doctrine. The priority of targets being defended and the number of interceptors available relative to the number of attackers drive doctrine. |
| Firing Rate | The number of missiles fired per site per minute. |
| FIRMR | Federal Information Resources Management Regulation. |
| FIRST | Forum of Incident Response and Security Teams. |
| First Article | First article includes pre-production models, initial production samples, test samples, first lots, pilot models, and pilot lots. Approval involves testing and evaluating the first article for conformance with specified contract requirements before or in the initial stage of production under a contract. |
| First Strike | The first offensive action of a war (generally associated with nuclear operations). |
| First Unit Equipped Date | The scheduled date an end item and its support elements are issued to the initial operational capability unit and training in the new equipment training plan has been accomplished. |
| FIS | Facility Installation Standard. |
| Fiscal Guidance | The annual guidance issued by the SECDEF in the Defense Guidance which provides the fiscal constraints that must be observed by the DoD Components in the formulation of force structures and the FYDP, and by the OSD in reviewing proposed programs. |
| FISSP | Federal Information System Support Program. |
| FIWC | Fleet Information Warfare Center (USN term). |
| FIX Site | Firing-in-Extension (Target Launch site in White Sands Missile Range Northern Extension). |
| Fixed Costs | Costs that do not vary with the volume of business, such as property taxes, insurance, depreciation, security, and minimum water and utility fees. |
| Fixed Ground Entry Point (FGEP) | The subset of GEPs, which are not transportable. GEPs provide the communications interfaces between the SDS space orbital/sub-orbital elements and the C ² E. |
| Fixed Ground Station | All hardware, software, and facilities located at a fixed ground site necessary to receive, process, support, and analyze mission status and data, and disseminate operational messages. |
| FLAGE | OBSOLETE. Flexible Lightweight Agile Guided Experiment. (Predecessor program to Extended Range Interceptor (ERINT).) |
| FLC | Federal Laboratory Consortium. |

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| Fleet Satellite Communications System (FLTSATCOM) | Operating at ultra high frequency (UHF), FLTSATCOM allows relatively low-cost terminals with simple antennas for use on highly mobile platforms. It has a relatively small capacity because of its much lower operating frequency. It provides a satellite communication system for high-priority communication requirements for the Navy and Air Force that encompasses almost the entire world. It supports other DoD needs as well. It consists of satellites in geo-synchronous equatorial orbit, each with 23 communication channels in the UHF and SHF bands. The Navy has exclusive use of 10 channels for communication with its land, sea, and air forces. The Air Force uses 12 others as part of its AFSATCOM system for command and control of nuclear capable forces. The system has one 500 KHz channel allotted to the national command authorities. |
| Flexible Response | The capability of military forces for effective reaction to any enemy threat or attack with actions appropriate and adaptable to the circumstances existing. |
| FLHER | Funds and Labor Hours Expenditure Report. |
| Flight Demonstration System (FDS) | Part of the SBIRS Low Program Definition and Risk Reduction (PDRR) program phase. The FDS will consist of two satellites and a ground system being built by TRW/Hughes. The FDS satellites are to be launched in FY99 for a two-year test program to demonstrate operations and performance of a SBIRS Low concept, collect target and phenomenology data to support the objective system design, and validate cost estimating models. |
| Flight Path | The line connecting the successive positions occupied, or to be occupied, by an aircraft, missile, or space vehicle as it moves through air or space. (It is more commonly referred to as trajectory for space vehicles, especially ICBMs.) |
| Flight Readiness Firing | A missile system test of short duration conducted with the propulsion system operating while the missile is secured to the launcher. Such a test is performed to determine the readiness of the missile system and launch facilities prior to flight test. |
| Flight Test | Test of an aircraft, rocket, missile, or other vehicle by actual flight or launching. Flight tests are planned to achieve specific test objectives and gain operational information. |
| Flight Test Vehicle (FTV) | Prototype of airborne or spaceborne hardware used to validate a technology concept. |
| FLIR | Forward Looking Infrared Radar. |
| FLOT | Forward Line of Own Troops. |
| FLT | Flight. |
| FLTSATCOM | Fleet Satellite Communications System. |
| Fluence (or Integrated Flux) | The product (or integral) of particle (neutron or photon) flux and time, expressed in units of particles per square centimeter. The absorbed dose of radiation (in rads) is related to the fluence. (It should be specified whether this is incident or absorbed fluence). |

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| Flyaway Cost | The total cost related to the production of a usable end item of military hardware. Flyaway cost includes the cost of procuring the basic unit (airframe, hull, chassis, etc.), a percentage of basic unit cost for changes allowance, propulsion equipment, electronics, armament, and other installed government-furnished equipment, and nonrecurring production costs. Flyaway cost equates to Rollaway and Sailaway cost. |
| FM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Flare Multiunit. (2) Frequency Modulation. (3) Functional Manger. (4) Force Module(s). (5) Field Manual. |
| FMA | Foreign Military Acquisition. |
| FMB | Financial Management Board. |
| FMC | Flexible Manufacturing Cell. |
| FMEA | Failure Modes Effects Analysis (ILS term). |
| FMECA | Failure Modes Effects and Criticality Analysis (ILS term). |
| FMIR | Fighting Mirror. |
| FMP | Foreign Materiel Program. |
| FMS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Flight Mission Simulator (PATRIOT), Huntsville AL. (2) Foreign Military Sales. |
| FMTV | Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (USA term). |
| FNC | Federal Network Council |
| FO | Force Operations (PATRIOT). |
| FO Link | Fiber Optic Link. |
| FOA | Future Offensive Aircraft (UK RAF term). |
| FOB | Forward Operations Base. |
| FOBS | Fractional-Orbital Bombardment System. |
| FOC | Full Operational Capability. |
| Focal Plane | The plane, perpendicular to the optical axis of the lens, in which images of points in the object field of the lens are focused. |
| Focal Plane Array (FPA) | An FPA is a matrix of photon sensitive detectors which, when combined with low noise preamplifiers, provides image data for the signal frequencies of interest. |
| FOFA | Follow-On Force Attack. |
| FOG | Fiber-Optic Gyroscope. |
| FOIA | Freedom of Information Act (US). |

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| FOL | Forward Operating Location. |
| FOLAN | Fiber Optic Local Area Network. |
| Folded Optics | Any optical system containing reflecting components for the purpose of reducing the physical length of the system or for the purpose of changing the path of the optical axis. |
| Follow-On Operational Test and Evaluation (FOT&E) | That test and evaluation that is necessary during and after the production period to refine the estimates made during operational test and evaluation, to evaluate changes, and to reevaluate the system to ensure that it continues to meet operational needs and retains its effectiveness in a new environment or against a new threat. |
| FOM | Figure of Merit. |
| FON | Fiber Optic Network. |
| Footprint | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) An estimated area of possible reentry or the solid angle of a detector or linear area of a detector at a certain location. (2) Geographic area in which a focused satellite downlink can be received. |
| FOR | Field of Regard. |
| Force Closure | The point in time when a supported commander determines that sufficient personnel and equipment are in the assigned area of operations to carry out assigned tasks. |
| Force Development Test and Experimentation | Tests employing representative users to examine definition of materiel requirements or support/assess development of doctrine, training, organization, and logistics for system acquisition. (U.S. Army). |
| Force Direction | The operational management of the forces. |
| Force Integration Staff Officer | Army individual assigned to ODCSOPS to serve as HQDA user representative for a specific system. Provides continuous coordination necessary for integration of a new system into the Army force structure. |
| Force Management | The assessment of the effectiveness of the defense forces throughout an engagement and adjustment of tactics and the system configuration as necessary to effectively allocate resources to satisfy mission objectives. |
| Force Reliability | The percentage of the missile force that will successfully detonate within 3.5 CEPs of the target. |
| FORDTIS | Foreign Disclosure Technical Information System. |
| Foreign Government Information | Information that is (1) provided to the United States by a foreign government or governments, an internal organization of governments, or any element thereof with the expectation, expressed or implied, that the information, the source of the information, or both, are to be held in confidence; (2) produced by the United States pursuant to or as a result of a joint arrangement with a foreign government or governments or international organization of governments requiring that the information, the arrangement, or both, are to be held in confidence. |

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| Foreign Military Sales (FMS) | That portion of U.S. security assistance authorized by the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and the Arms Export Control Act, as amended. The recipient provides reimbursement for defense articles and services transferred from the U.S. Includes case sales from stocks (inventories, services, training) by the DoD defense services. |
| Foreign Security Policy Model | A mathematically precise statement of a security policy. To be adequately precise, such a model must represent the initial state of a system, the way in which the system progresses from one state to another, and a definition of a "secure" state of the system. |
| Form, Fit, and Function Data | Technical data pertaining to items, components or processes for the purpose of identifying source, size, configuration, mating and attachment characteristics, functional characteristics and performance requirements. |
| Formal Qualification Review | A systems level configuration audit conducted after system testing is completed to ensure that performance requirements have been met. |
| Formerly Restricted Data | Information removed from the RESTRICTED DATA category upon joint determination by DoE (or antecedent agencies) and DoD that such information relates primarily to the military utilization of atomic weapons and that such information can be adequately safeguarded as classified defense information. |
| FORSCOM | U.S. Army Forces Command, Ft. McPherson, GA. |
| FORTRAN | Formula Translation Language. |
| Forward Edge of the Battle Area (FEBA) | The foremost limits of a series of areas in which ground combat units are deployed, excluding the areas in which the covering or screening forces are operating, designated to coordinate fire support, the positioning of forces, or the maneuver of units. |
| Forward Funding | Carry-over of RDT&E funding into second year of appropriations availability. Requires permission from high authority. |
| FOS | Family of Systems (TMD). |
| FOSS | Fiber-Optic Sensor System. |
| FOT | Follow-On Technologies. |
| FOT&E | Follow-On Test & Evaluation. |
| FOTC | Force Over-the-horizon Track Coordinator (USN term). |
| FOUO | For Official Use Only. |
| Fourth Generation Language | A programming environment that produces both screen and report utilities for use by lower-level programming environments. |
| FOV | Field of View. |
| FOV Radar | [Full] Field of View Radar |
| FP | Focal Plane. |

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| FPA | Focal Plane Array. |
| FPC | Facilities Protection Committee. |
| FPI | Fixed Price Incentive. |
| FPS | Fixed Radar. |
| FPTOC | Force Projection Tactical Operations Center (USA term). |
| FQR | Formal Qualification Review. |
| FQT | Formal Qualification Testing. |
| FR | (1) Federal Register. (2) France. |
| FRACAS | Forward Reaction Altitude Control System. |
| FRACS | Forward Reaction Altitude Control System. |
| Fragmentation Warhead | A warhead, which releases small solid objects to damage or destroy its targets. |
| FRAS | Free Rocket Anti-Submarine. |
| FRC | Fire Control Radar |
| FRD | Facilities Requirements Document. |
| Free Electron Laser (FEL) | A type of laser, which generates radiation by the interaction of an electron beam with a static magnetic or electric field. Loosely speaking, free-electron laser technology resembles and evolved from that used by particle accelerators (“atom smashers”). Lasers, which are not free electron lasers, are bound electron lasers. |
| Free Rocket | A rocket not subject to guidance or control in flight. |
| Frequency Management | The act of allocating frequencies, or bandwidths to a telecommunications system, necessary to minimize the potential interference between transmitting/receiving devices. Governing agencies and international agreement controls authorized use of a particular frequency, frequencies, or bands. |
| FRG | Federal Republic of Germany. |
| FRN | Force Requirement Number. |
| FROD | Functionally Related Observable Differences. |
| FROG | Free Rocket Over Ground. |
| FRN | Force Requirement Number. |
| FRP | Full-Rate Production. |
| FRS | Federal Reserve System. |
| FS&E | Facility Siting and Environment (MILCON term). |

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| FS³ | Future Strategic Strategy Study. |
| FSAF | Future Surface-to-Air [Missile] Family. |
| FSC | (1) Fire Solution Computer. (2) Fire Support Coordination. |
| FSCATT | Fire Support CATT [for Weapons] (US Army term). |
| FSCL | Fire Support Coordination Line. |
| FSD | OBSOLETE. Full Scale Development Phase. See EMD. |
| FSE | Fire Support Element. |
| FSM | Firmware Support Manual. |
| FSP | Facility Security Plan. |
| FSS | Fixed Satellite Service. |
| FSST | Forward Space Support in-Theater. |
| FST | Flight System Testbed. |
| FSU | Former Soviet Union. |
| FSU Republics | Former Soviet Union Republics. |
| FT | Flight Test. |
| Ft | Foot |
| FTC | Federal Trade Commission. |
| FTD | OBSOLETE. Foreign Technology Division (USAF), Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. See NAIC. |
| FTI | Fixed Target Indicator |
| FTLS | Formal Top-Level Specification. |
| FTP | File Transfer Protocol (ADP/Internet term). |
| FTR | Flight Test Round. |
| FTS | (1) Flight Test Summary (2) Federal Telephone Service |
| FTS 2000 | Federal Telecommunications System 2000. |
| FTV | (1) Functional Technology Validation. (2) Flight Test Vehicle. |
| FTX | Field Training Exercise. |
| FU | Fire Unit (PATRIOT). |
| FUE | First Unit Equipped. |

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| Full Mission Capable | Material condition of an aircraft or training device indicating that it can perform all of its missions. Also called FMC. |
| Full Operational Capability (FOC) | The full attainment of the capability to employ effectively a weapon, item of equipment, or system of approved specific characteristics, which is manned and operated by a trained, equipped, and supported military unit or force. |
| Full Rate Production | Production of economic quantities following stabilization of the system design and prove-out of the production process. |
| Fully Configured End Item | The final combination of end products, component parts, and/or materials, which is fully ready for its intended operational use. Normally all production units are fully configured. Research and development units may be considered fully configured if they are or are planned to become operationally equivalent to the production units. |
| Fully Connected Network (FCN) | A network in which each node is directly connected with every other node. |
| Functional Analysis | An approach to the solution of a problem, in which the problem is broken down into its component function, such as intelligence, firepower, or mobility. Each relevant function is then further analyzed and broken down into smaller functional components until a level of molecularity suitable for solution of the problem is attained. |
| Functional Baseline | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Established after the system requirements analysis/design activity has completed the definition of the system functions and associated data, interface characteristics, functional characteristics for key configuration items, and tests required to demonstrate achievement of each specified characteristic. This Government normally controls the baseline. (2) In configuration management, the initial approved technical documentation for a configuration item. (3) Documentation describing a system's functional characteristics and the verification required to demonstrate the achievement of requirements. |
| Functional Configuration Audit (FCA) | The formal examination of functional characteristics test data for configuration item, prior to acceptance, to verify that the item has achieved the performance specified in its functional or allocated configuration identification. |
| Functional Economic Analysis (FEA) | A structured proposal that serves as the principal part of a decision package for enterprise leadership. It includes an analysis of functional process needs or problems; proposed solutions, assumptions, and constraints; alternatives; life-cycle costs; benefits and/or cost analysis; and investment risk analysis. It is consistent with, and amplifies, existing DoD economic analysis policy in DoD Instruction 7041.3. |
| Functional Kill | The destruction of a target by disabling vital components in a way not immediately detectable, but which nevertheless prevents the target from functioning properly. An example is the destruction of electronics in a guidance system by a neutral particle beam. Also referred to as "soft kill." |
| Functional Support | Systematized methodologies and procedures, or a common set of standards, applied to materiel acquisition programs. |
| Functional Technology Validation (FTV) | Program with the intent of proving or disproving a technology is useful for a given application. |

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| Functional Testing | The portion of testing in which the advertised features of a system are tested for correct operation. |
| Funding Profile | Program funding, usually displayed in columnar spreadsheet format by years, starting with previous year through current year and out-years. |
| Future Years Defense Program (FYDP) | The official DoD document that summarizes forces and resources associated with programs approved by the Secretary of Defense. Its three parts are the organizations affected, appropriations accounts and the 11 major force programs (strategic forces, airlift, R&D, etc.). Under the biennial PPBS cycle, the FYDP is updated in even years in April (POM); October (budget); and then in January (President's budget) of odd years. The primary data element in the FYDP is the Program Element (P.E.). Formerly known as the Five Years Defense Program. |
| FWCA | Fixed Wing Combat Aircraft. |
| Fwd | Forward. |
| FXBR | Forward-based X-Band Radar. |
| FY | Fiscal Year. |
| FYDP | Future Years Defense Program. |

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| G | Giga (one thousand million). |
| g | Gram. |
| G&A | General and Administrative costs. |
| G&C | Guidance and Control. |
| G&O | Goals and Objectives. |
| G/A | Ground-to-Air |
| G/G | Ground-to-Ground. |
| GaAs | Gallium Arsenide. |
| Galosh | The Soviet Anti-Ballistic Missile system built to defend Moscow from missile attack. |
| Gamma-Ray | Electromagnetic radiation resulting from nuclear transitions. Although incorrect, high-energy radiation, particularly "bremsstrahlung," is sometimes referred to as gamma radiation. |
| Gamma-Ray Laser | A laser which generates a beam of gamma rays; also called a "graser." A gamma-ray laser, if developed, would be a type of x-ray laser; although it would employ nuclear reactions, it need not (but might) employ nuclear fission or fusion reactions or explosions. |
| GAMS | GPS (Global Positioning System)-Aided Munitions. |
| GaNMPA | Gallium Nitride Microwave Power Amplifiers. (A demonstration program to develop GaN based transistors and integrated circuits for power amplifiers in systems such as Ground Based Radar. Goal is to reduce total weight and size by a factor of 10). |
| GAO | General Accounting Office. |
| GARDIAN | General Area Defense Integrated Anti-missile Laser System. |
| GAT | Government Acceptance Testing. |
| GAT CALL | Guidance, Apportionment, and Targeting Call (JFACC term). |
| GATE | Graphic Analysis Tool Environment. |
| Gateway | An element that contained a node on the SDS backbone network as well as on some other network(s) and would have performed protocol and format conversions necessary to accept messages from one network and retransmit them on the other. |
| GATS | GPS (Global Positioning System)-Aided Targeting System. |
| GB | (1) Ground-Based. (2) Gigabyte. |
| GBD | Global Burst Detector. |
| GBDL | Ground-Based Data Link. |

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| GBEV | Ground Based Experimental Version. |
| GBFEL | Ground-Based Free Electron Laser. |
| GBHE | Ground-Based Hypervelocity Gun Experiment. |
| GBHRG | Ground-Based Hypervelocity Rail Gun. |
| GBI | OBSOLETE. See Ground-Based Interceptor. |
| GBI-P | Ground-Based Interceptor – Prototype. |
| GBI-X | Ground-Based Interceptor Experiment. |
| GBKV | Ground-Based Kinetic Kill Vehicle. |
| GBL | Ground-Based Laser. |
| GBLD | Ground-Based Launcher Demonstration. |
| GBLRS | Ground-Based Laser Repeater Station. |
| GBM | Global Battle Managers. |
| GBMD | Global Ballistic Missile Defense. |
| GBMI | Ground-Based Midcourse Interceptor. |
| GBOS | Ground-Based Optical System. |
| GBPST | Ground-Based Passive Signal Tracking. |
| GBR | See Ground-Based Radar. |
| GBR-M | Ground-Based Radar-Midcourse. |
| GBR-O | Ground-Based Radar-Objective. |
| GBR-P | Ground-Based Radar-Prototype. |
| GBRT | Ground-Based Radar Terminal. |
| GBR-X | The experimental version of the GBR. |
| GBRF | Ground-Based Radio Frequency. |
| GBRI | Ground-Based Rocket Interceptor. |
| GBRT | Ground-Based Radar Terminal. |
| GBS | Ground-Based Sensor. |
| GCA | (1) Guidance, Control, and Avionics. (2) Guidance, Control, and Airframe. |
| GCC | Ground Component Commander (JFACC term). |
| GCCS | Global Command and Control System. |

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| GCI | Ground Control Intercept. |
| GCN | Ground Communications Network. |
| GCS | Ground Control Station. |
| GD | General Dynamics. |
| GDL | Gas Dynamic Laser. |
| GEDI | Ground-Based Electromagnetically-Launched Defensive Impactors. |
| GEM | Guidance Enhancement Missile (PATRIOT). |
| General Manager Program Management Directive (GPMD) | OBSOLETE. The primary document used by the GM to direct the Service BMD PEO on the specific actions necessary to fulfill BMD program requirements. |
| General Specifications | A general specification covers requirements common to two or more types, classes, grades, or styles of products, services or materials; this avoids the repetition of common requirements in detail specifications. It also permits changes to common requirements to be readily affected. General specifications may also be used to cover common requirements for weapons systems and subsystems. |
| Generic Rest of World Target (GROW) | Strategic target being developed for GMD program. |
| GEO | Geo-synchronous Earth Orbit. |
| GEODSS | Ground-based Electro-Optical Deep Space Surveillance System. |
| Geo-stationary Orbit (GSO) | An orbit 35,784 km above the equator. A satellite placed in such an orbit revolves around the earth once per day, maintaining the same position relative to the surface of the earth. It appears to be stationary, and is useful as a communications relay or as a surveillance post. |
| GEP | OBSOLETE. Ground Entry Point. IFICS. |
| GES | Ground Engineering System. |
| GFE | Government Furnished Equipment. See Government Furnished Property. |
| GFI | Government Furnished Information. |
| GFM | Government Furnished Material. |
| GFM/P | Government Furnished Material and Property. See Government Furnished Property. |
| GFP | Government Furnished Property. |
| GFS | Government Furnished Software. See Government Furnished Property. |

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| Ghosting | This condition occurs when two or more targets reside close to the same plane also containing two sensors viewing the targets so they are within experimental determination of having the same hinge angle F. Thus, ghosting depends on LOS error and positions. |
| GHz | Giga Hertz (1 x 10 ⁹ Hz). |
| GIDEP | Government/Industry Data Exchange Program. |
| GIF | Generic Interface. |
| GII | Global Information Infrastructure. |
| GIP | Ground Impact Point. |
| GIS | Geographic Information System. |
| GITIS | Government Integrated Technical Information System. |
| GLCM | Ground-Launched Cruise Missile. |
| GLP | Ground Launched Probe. See Brilliant Eyes Probe. |
| Global Environment | The ISTC Global Environment is responsible for the creation, propagation, and maintenance of test scenario common knowledge, how subsets of this information will be determined, and how common knowledge will be disseminated to the various element representations (nodes). The Global Environment performs functions which are common to the scenario such as timing, health, status, state vectors of objects, and effects models. |
| Global Positioning System (GPS) | The NAVSTAR Global Positioning System is a space-based radio navigation network providing precise positioning and navigation needs of all the military services. In the fully operational configuration, there will be 18 satellites in six orbital planes with an orbit period of 12 hours at 10,900 nautical miles altitude. Each satellite transmits three L-band, pseudo-random noise-coded signals, one S-band, and one ultra high frequency for spacecraft-to-spacecraft data relay. |
| Global Protection Against Limited Strikes (GPALS) | OBSOLETE. GPALS was an architecture denoting an anti-missile system designed to provide protection against limited ballistic missile strikes, be they deliberate, accidental or unauthorized—whatever their source. GPALS was composed of three interrelated segments: (1) theater ballistic missile defenses, and associated space-based sensors, to protect U.S. forces deployed abroad, and our friends and allies; (2) ground-based defenses, with space sensors, to protect the entire United States against long-range ballistic missiles; and (3) interceptors based in space – Brilliant Pebbles – capable of providing continuous, global coverage by intercepting enemy ballistic missiles with ranges greater than several hundred miles. |
| Global Protection Against Limited Strikes (GPALS) Program | OBSOLETE. The GPALS Program consisted of six Major Defense Acquisition Programs: GPALS System/BMC ³ , National Missile Defense (NMD), Global Missile Defense (GMD), Upper Tier Theater Missile Defense (UTTMD), Corps SAM, and PATRIOT. Army PEO GPALS was re-designated PEO Missile Defenses in 1992. |
| GLOBIXS | Global Information Exchange System. |
| GLONASS | Global Navigational Satellite System. |

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| GLOW | Gross Lift-Off Weight. |
| GLP | Ground Launched Probe. See Brilliant Eyes Probe. |
| GLS | Ground-Launched Sensor. |
| GM | (1) Guided missile. (2) General Manager. |
| GMACC | Ground Mobile Alternate Command Center. |
| GMAOC | Ground Mobile Alternate Operations Center. |
| GMCC | Ground Mobile Command Center. |
| GMCP | Ground Mobile Command Post. |
| GMD | (1) Ground-based Midcourse Defense (formally National Missile Defense) (2) Global Missile Defense (OBSOLETE). |
| GMT | Greenwich Mean Time. |
| GMTT&C | Ground Mobile Tracking, Telemetry, and Control. |
| GN&C | Guidance, Navigation, and Control. |
| GNC&P | Guidance, Navigation, Control and Propulsion. |
| GND | Ground. |
| GOCO | Government Owned, Contractor Operated. |
| GOES | Geo-stationary Operational Environmental Satellite. |
| GOI | Government of Israel. |
| GOJ | Government of Japan. |
| GOSG | General Officer Steering Group. |
| GOSIP | Government Open Systems Interconnect Profile (CALs term). |
| GOSP | Government Open System Protocol (CALs term). |
| GOTS | Government Off-the-Shelf. |
| Gov't | Government. |
| Government Furnished Property | Property in the possession of, or directly acquired by, the Government and subsequently made available to the contractor. (See FAR 45.101.) |
| Government Verification Management Plan (GVMP) | A management document that provides the overall framework for BMDS verification. It includes processes for implementation, organizational relationships, and stakeholder responsibilities. It covers the full scope of BMDS verification and identifies how all BMDS verification activities will come together to confirm BMDS capability. |

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| GP | Group. |
| GPALS | Global Protection Against Limited Strikes. |
| GPC | Global Protection Center. |
| GPMD | General Manager Program Management Directive. |
| GPO | Government Printing Office (US). |
| GPP | General Purpose Processor. |
| GPS | (1) Global Positioning System. (2), Global Protection System. |
| GPSIU | GPS Interface Unit. |
| GPU | Guidance Processor Unit (US Army term). |
| Graceful Degradation | A condition in which a system continues to operate, providing service in a degraded mode rather than failing completely or catastrophically. |
| GRASER | Gamma-Ray Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation. (See Gamma-Ray Laser.) |
| GRC | General Research Corporation. |
| Green Code | Interface Software. |
| Ground-Based Defense | The ground-based sensor and weapon systems of BMD. |
| Ground-Based Interceptor (GBI) | A kinetic energy exoatmospheric interceptor with long flyout range to provide, where possible, a multiple engagement capability for defense of the U.S. with a relatively small number of missile launch locations. It is designed to engage post-boost vehicles and/or RVs in the midcourse phase of flight. (USSPACECOM) (Successor to Exoatmospheric Reentry Vehicle Interceptor Subsystem (ERIS).) See EKV. |
| Ground-Based Interceptor Experiment (GBI-X) | Designed to infuse advanced technology and promote competitive environment for GBI. |
| Ground-Based Radar (GBR) | A task-able, modular, multi-function, phased-array radar that provides surveillance, tracking and engagement planning data in post-boost, midcourse, and terminal flight phases within its capabilities. It also provides target discrimination, in-flight target updates (IFTUs), and target object maps (TOMs) to interceptor vehicles. See THAAD. (USSPACECOM) |
| Ground-Based Radar Terminal (GBRT) | The sensor for the NMD system. An X-band, ground-based, phased array radar capable of detecting, tracking, and providing discrimination information to a ground-based interceptor. |
| Ground-based Surveillance and Tracking System (GSTS) | A fast-response rocket-launched sensor, which can support the SDS midcourse sensor suite by employing multiple Long Wavelength Infrared (LWIR) wavebands and a visible waveband sensor to provide tracking and discrimination of potentially lethal targets. |

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| Ground Entry Point (GEP) | OBSOLETE. GEPs provide the communications interfaces between the SDS space orbital/sub-orbital elements and the C ² E. See IFICS. |
| Ground Mobile Regional Operations Center (GMROC) | Transportable ground segment of the Regional Operations Center. |
| Ground Zero | The point on the surface of the earth at, or vertically below or above, the center of a planned or actual nuclear detonation. |
| GS | Garrison Support (US Army term). |
| GSA | General Services Administration (US). |
| GSDC | Ground Station Demonstration Lab. |
| GSE | (1) Ground Support Equipment. (2) Government Support Equipment. |
| GSFC | Goddard Space Flight Center, Greenbelt, MD. |
| GSII | Government Services Information Infrastructure. |
| GSM | Ground Station Module. |
| GSO | Geo-stationary Orbit. |
| GSR | Ground Station Radar. |
| GSTS | OBSOLETE. A fast-response, rocket-launched, Long Wavelength Infrared (LWIR) and visible waveband sensor, which would have enhanced the information available from the SDS' midcourse sensor suite by providing tracking and discrimination data on potentially lethal targets. |
| GSTS (F) | GSTS Farm. |
| GTA | Ground Test Accelerator. |
| GTACS | Ground Theater Air Control System. |
| GTE | GTE Corporation. |
| GTF | Guided Test Flights. |
| GTM | Global Track Manager. |
| GTN | General Technical Note. |
| GTR | Gulf Test Range, Eglin AFB, FL. |
| GTSF | Guidance Test and Simulation Facility (PATRIOT), Huntsville, AL. |
| GTV | Guided Test Vehicle. |
| GUI | Graphic User Interface. |

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| Guidance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Direction, altitude control, and navigation (where appropriate) of sensors or interceptor vehicles. (2) The entire process by which target intelligence information received by a guided missile is used to effect proper flight control to cause timely direction changes for effective target interception. |
| Guidance Enhanced Missile (GEM) | A companion program to PATRIOT PAC-2, which includes enhancements to the radar to increase intercept range and performance. |
| Guidance System (Missile) | A system, which evaluates flight information, correlates it with target data, determines the desired flight path of the missile, and communicates the necessary commands to the missile flight control system. |
| Guided Missile | An unmanned vehicle moving above the surface of the earth, whose trajectory or flight path is capable of being altered by an external or internal mechanism. |
| GVSC | Generic VHSIC (Very High Speed Integrated Circuit) Spaceborne Computer. |
| GWAPS | Gulf War Air Power Survey, 1994 [a DoD-sponsored survey]. |
| Gwd | Giga watt-days. |
| GWEN | Ground Wave Emergency Network. |
| GZ | Ground Zero. |

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| H | Hour. |
| H&S | Health and Status. |
| H/W | Hardware. |
| HA | Higher Authority. |
| HABE | High Altitude Balloon Experiment. |
| HAC | House Appropriations Committee (US). |
| HADS | High Altitude Defense System. |
| HALE | High Altitude Long-Endurance. |
| HALE UAV | High Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. |
| Half-Value Thickness (HVT) | The thickness of a given material, which will absorb half the gamma radiation incident upon it. This thickness is inversely proportional to its density and also depends on the energy of the gamma rays. |
| HALO II | High Altitude Observatory II |
| HAMS | Hardness Assurance, Maintenance and Surveillance. |
| Handoff | This occurs when information on positions, velocities and tracks are given by one sensor or system to another and the first sensor or system continues to track the objects. |
| Handover | This occurs when information is passed on to another sensor or system in which the first does not continue to track. |
| HAOI | High Altitude Optical Imaging. |
| HAOIS | High Altitude Optical Imaging System. |
| HAP | High Altitude Probe. |
| Hard Kill (HK) | Destruction of a target in such a way as to produce unambiguous visible evidence of its neutralization. |
| Hardening | Design and manufacturing process and other measures, which may be employed to render military assets less vulnerable. |
| HARDMAN | Hardware/Military Manpower Integration (Navy ILS term). |
| Hardness | A property of a target; measured by the power needed per unit area to destroy the target. A hard target is more difficult to kill than a soft target. |
| Hardware-in-the-Loop (HWIL) | Tests in which BM/C ³ computer and communication test systems will be in communication with some of the hardware test facilities developed for other BMD technology programs. |
| Hardware Security | Computer equipment features or devices used in an ADP system to preclude unauthorized access to data or system resources. |
| HARM | High Speed Anti-Radiation Missile. |

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| HASC | House Armed Services Committee (US). |
| HASP | Hardened Ada Signal Processor. |
| HATELM | High-speed Anti-TEL Missile. |
| HATMD | High-Altitude Theater Missile Defense. (U.S. Army) |
| HAVE STARE | Name assigned a proven sensor capability. |
| HAWK | Homing All-the-Way Killer. |
| HBCU/MI | Historically Black Colleges and Universities/Minority Institutions. |
| HBHO | Hard-body Hand-over [algorithms]. |
| HCO | High Consequence Option (Safety Engineering term). |
| HCT | Mercury Cadmium Telluride. |
| HDA | Hybrid Detector Assembly. |
| HDBK | Handbook. |
| HDR | High Data Rate. |
| HDX | Half Duplex (TelComm/Computer term). |
| HE | (1) High Explosive. (2) High Energy. |
| Health and Status (H&S) | Health and Status pertains to a unit's ability to assess the conditions of its subsystem functions. The term H&S is used for units in remote locations, such as satellites, where ground controls must interface with BITE to determine operational status of the satellite and its equipment. |
| Heavy Replicas (HREPS) | Decoys, which by virtue of shape, size, and mass, closely approximate an RV's signature. HREPS have significant off- load penalty. |
| HEDI | OBSOLETE. See High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor. |
| HEDR | High Endoatmospheric Defense Radar. |
| HEDS | High Endoatmospheric Defense System. |
| HEI | High Endoatmospheric Interceptor. |
| HEL | High Energy Laser. |
| HELKS | High Energy Laser Kill System. |
| HELLO | High Energy Laser Light Opportunity. |
| HELSTF | High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility. |
| HELWS | High Energy Laser Weapon System. |
| HEMP | High Altitude Electromagnetic Pulse. |

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| HEMTT | Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (US Army prime mover). |
| Hen House | Soviet area defense radar used as a component of the Moscow ABM system that provides VHF coverage of space to monitor orbiting satellites and early warning of ICBMs launched from the U.S. |
| HEO | See High Earth Orbit. |
| HERA | (1) An improved surrogate TBM test target. (2) Two-stage, ground launched solid propellant theater target vehicle. (MDA Lexicon) |
| HERO | Hazards of Electromagnetic Radiation to Ordnance (SM-2 Bk IVA). |
| HESP | High Efficiency Solar Panel. |
| HEU | Highly Enriched Uranium. |
| HF | (1) High Frequency. (2) Hydrogen fluoride. |
| HF/DF | (1) High Frequency/Direction Finding. (2) Hydrogen Fluoride/Deuterium Fluoride. (Chemicals used in IR chemical lasers). |
| HFCNR | High Frequency Combat Net Radio. |
| HFE | Human Factors Engineering. |
| HgCdTe | Mercury Cadmium Telluride. |
| HHB | Headquarters and Headquarters Battery. |
| HIBEX | High-Acceleration Boost Experiment. |
| HIBREL | High Brightness Relay. |
| HIC | Human-in-Control. |
| HICOM | High Command (Navy term). |
| HICTB | Human-in-Control Test Bed. |
| HIDACZ | High Density Aerospace Control Zone. |
| HIDAR | High Data Rate. |
| High Earth Orbit (HEO) | An orbit about the earth at an altitude greater than 3,000 nautical miles (about 5,600 kilometers). |
| High Endoatmosphere | That portion of the earth's atmosphere, generally above 40 km altitude. |
| High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor (HEDI) | OBSOLETE. Interceptor concept designed to engage RVs within the (upper or high endo) atmosphere. (Predecessor to Endo-Exoatmospheric Interceptor (E ² I).) |

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| High Density Aerospace Control Zone (HIDACZ) | Airspace designated in an airspace control plan or airspace control order, in which there is a concentrated employment of various weapons and users. A HIDACZ has defined dimensions, that usually coincide with geographical features or navigational aides. Access to a HIDACZ is normally controlled by the maneuver commander. The maneuver commander can also direct a more restrictive weapons status within the HIDACZ. |
| Higher Authority Interface | Policy, strategy, doctrine, readiness conditions, and rules of engagement from higher authorities for use by the defense system in conducting system operations including specific orders specifying actions such as testing, defense enabling, pre-delegation of authority, etc. Also the reporting of situation assessment and system readiness to higher authority. |
| High Order Language (HOL) | A programming language that requires little knowledge of the computer on which a program will run, can be translated into several different machine languages, allows symbolic naming of operations and addresses, provides features designed to facilitate expression of data structures and program logic, and usually results in several machine instructions for each program statement. |
| HIL | Human In-the-Loop. |
| HIMAD | High to Medium Altitude Air Defense. |
| HIMEZ | High Altitude Missile Engagement Zone. |
| HIP | Hot Isostatic Processing. |
| HIRAM | High Resolution Infrared Auroral Measurements. |
| HISEM | High Speed Environmental Multi-burst Model. |
| HIT | (1) Heterojuncture Internal Photomissive. (2) Homing Interceptor Technology. |
| HK | Hard Kill. |
| HKV | Hit to Kill Vehicle. |
| HLD | Hardware Description Language. |
| HLLV | Heavy Lift Launch Vehicle. |
| HMC&M | Hazardous Material Control and Management. |
| HMI | Human Machine Interface. |
| HMMWV | High Mobility Mutli-purpose Whealed Vehicle (USA term) (pronounced Hum Vee). |
| HMPC | Hazardous Maintenance Procedure Code. |
| HMSC | Hughes Missile System Corporation. |
| HOB | Height of Burst. |
| HOE | OBSOLETE. Homing Overlay Experiment. (Predecessor program to Exoatmospheric Reentry Vehicle Interceptor Subsystem (ERIS).) |
| HOL | High Order Language. |

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| Homing All-the-Way Killer (HAWK) | <p>(1) Upgrades to the HAWK interceptor and radar system to provide the Marine Corps with a mobile point theater ballistic missile defense capability.</p> <p>(2) A mobile air defense artillery, surface-to-air missile system that provides non-nuclear, low to medium altitude air defense coverage for ground forces. Designated as MIM-23.</p> |
| Homing Device | A device, mounted on a missile, to aid its guidance to a target. The homing device uses sensors to detect the position of, or to help predict the future position of a target, and then directs the missile to intercept it. The homing device usually provides frequent target position updates during the flight of the missile. |
| Homing Guidance | A system by which a missile steers itself towards a target by means of a self-contained mechanism which is activated by some distinguishing characteristics of the target, such as an infrared signature. |
| HOMS | Homing Overlay Mission Simulation. |
| HOST | Hardened Optical Sensor Testbed. |
| Host Installation | A designated DoD facility that provides non peculiar SDS support of SDS elements. |
| Hostile Environment | Those environments that result from a BMD system engagement of an enemy threat or collateral conditions resulting from deliberate hostilities. Hostile environment categories currently applicable to National Missile Defense are Nuclear, Battle Debris, and Electronic Warfare. |
| Hostile Track | The classification assigned to a track that, based upon established criteria, is determined to be an enemy threat. |
| Host Interface | The interface between a communications processor and a host computer. |
| Host Nation Support | Civil and/or military assistance rendered by a nation to foreign forces within its territory during peacetime, crisis or emergencies, or war based on agreements concluded between nations. |
| hp | Horsepower. |
| HPA | High Power Amplifier. |
| HPC | High Performance Computing. |
| HPCC | High Performance Computing and Communications. |
| HPG | Homopolar Generator. |
| HPI | High Power Illuminator (Hawk). |
| HPIR | High Power Illuminator Radar. |
| HPL | High Power Laser. |
| HPM | High Power Microwave. |
| HQ | Headquarters. |

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| HQMC | Headquarters, Marine Corps. |
| HRDS | High Resolution Display System. |
| HREPS | Heavy Replicas. |
| HRR | High Range Resolution. |
| HRSA | HICTB Requirements, Support and Analysis. |
| HSDB | High Speed Data Bus (TelComm/Computer term). |
| HSFB | High Speed Fleet Broadcast (Navy term). |
| HSI | Human Systems Integration. |
| HSV | Huntsville, Alabama. |
| HTICIA | High Technology Crime Investigation Association. |
| HTI | Horizontal Technology Initiative. |
| HTK | Hit-to-Kill. |
| HTMIAC | High Temperature Materials Information Analysis Center. |
| HTML | Hypertext Markup Language. |
| HTPB | Hydroxy-Terminated Poly Butadiene. |
| HTS | (1) High Temperature Super-conducting. (2) Hawaii Tracking Station. |
| HTSA | Host Tenant Support Agreement. |
| HTSS | Hardened- sub-miniature Telemetry and Sensor System. |
| HTTP | Hypertext Transfer Protocol. |
| HUD | Heads Up Display. |
| Human Factors | A body of scientific facts about human characteristics. The term covers all biomedical and psychosocial considerations; it includes, but is not limited to, principles and applications in the areas of human engineering, personnel selection, training, life support, job performance aids, and human performance evaluation. |
| Human Factors Engineering | The design of man-made devices, systems, and environments to enhance their use by people. Also called human engineering, human factors, and ergonomics. |

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| Human-in-Control | Human-in-Control provides for the positive control of automated system processes. This is accomplished by requiring human action to provide essential high-level commands such as initiate, terminate, and interrupt. With regards to BMD, 10 USC 2431, Section 224 states that: "No agency of the Federal Government may plan for, fund, or otherwise support the development of command and control systems for strategic defense in the boost or post-boost phase against ballistic missile threats that would permit such strategic defenses to initiate the directing of damaging or lethal fire except by affirmative human decision at an appropriate level of authority." (USSPACECOM) |
| Human Intelligence (HUMINT) | A category of intelligence derived from information collected and provided by human sources. |
| Human Systems Integration | The human considerations (human factors engineering, manpower, personnel, training, and safety and health hazards) that are integrated into the design effort for the defense system to improve total system performance and reduce costs of ownership by focusing attention on the capabilities and limitations of the soldier, sailor, airman, or Marine. |
| HUMINT | Human Intelligence. |
| HVAA | High Value Airborne Assets. |
| HVAC | Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning. |
| HVG | Hypervelocity Gun. |
| HVL | Hypervelocity Launcher (Gun). |
| HVM | Hypervelocity Missile. |
| HVP | Hypervelocity Projectile. |
| HVT | Half-Value Thickness. |
| HW | Hardware. |
| HW/SW | Hardware/Software. |
| HWCI | Hardware Configuration Item. |
| HWIL | See Hardware-in-the-Loop. |
| HWILT | Hardware-in-the-loop Test. |
| HLYE | Hypersonic Low Temperature. |
| Hypervelocity Gun (HVG) | A gun that can accelerate projectiles to 5 km per second or more; for example, an electromagnetic or rail gun. |
| Hypervelocity Missile (HVM) | A missile that can operate at a velocity greater than 4 km per second. |
| HYWAYS | Hybrids with Advanced Yields for Surveillance. |
| Hz | Hertz (cycles per second). |

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| I&CO | Installation and Checkout. |
| I&I | Installation and Integration. |
| I&PA | Integration and Performance Analysis. |
| I&T | Integration and Test. |
| I&W | Indications and Warning. |
| I-CASE | Integrated Computer-Aided Systems Engineering. |
| I-HAWK | Improved HAWK. |
| I-MOSC | Integrated Mission Operations Support Center (USAF term). |
| I/F | Interface. |
| I/O | Input/Output. |
| I/R | Interchangeability/Reparability. |
| I4 | International Information Integrity Institute. |
| IA | Information Architecture. |
| IA&I | Industrial Affairs and Installations. |
| IA&T | Installation (Integration), assembly, and test. |
| IAD | Integrated Air Defense. |
| IADS | Integrated Air Defense System. |
| IAEA | International Atomic Energy Agency. |
| IAG | International Agreement Generator. |
| IAI | Israel Aircraft Industries. |
| IAP | (1) Integrated Action Plan. (2) Integrated Avionics Package. |
| IAS | Israeli Architecture Study. |
| IAT | Integrated Assembly Test. |
| IATACS | Improved Army Tactical Communications System. |
| IATCO | Integration, Assembly, Test & Check Out. |
| IAW | In Accordance With. |
| IBA | Industrial Base Assessment. |
| IBC | Impurity Band Conduction. |
| IBCSi:As | Impurity Band Conduction Arsenic Doped Silicon. |

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| IBDL | Intra-Battery Data Link. |
| IBID | Integrated BMC ³ Infrastructure Demonstration |
| IBIS | Israeli Boost-Phase Intercept System. |
| IBM | International Business Machines Corporation. |
| IBPA | Industrial Base/Producibility Analysis. |
| IBR | Integrated Baseline Review (DD 5000 term). |
| IBS | Integrated Bridge System, a part of the Integrated Control System (ICS) for US naval ships. |
| IBSS | Infrared Background Signature Survey. |
| IC | (1) Intelligence Community. (2) Integrated Circuit. |
| ICA | (1) Independent Cost Analysis. (2) Independent Cost Assessment. |
| ICADS | Integrated Correlation and Display System. |
| ICAF | Industrial College of the Armed Forces. |
| ICAO | International Civil Aviation Organization. |
| ICAS | Integrated Condition Assessment System, a part of the Integrated Control System (ICS) for US naval ships. |
| ICASE | Integrated Computer Assisted Software Engineering. |
| ICBM | See Intercontinental Ballistic Missile. |
| ICC | (1) Information and Coordination Central (PATRIOT). (2) Item Category Code (ILS term). |
| ICCIP | Inter-Center Council of Information Processing. |
| ICCITS | Inter-Center Council on Information Technology Security. |
| ICCN | Inter-Center Council on Networking. |
| ICD | Interface Control Document/Drawing. |
| ICE | Independent Cost Estimate. |
| ICEDEFFOR | Iceland Defense Force (NATO). |
| ICM | Improved Conventional Munitions. |
| ICN | Installation Completion Notification. |
| ICO | Interface Control Officer (JFACC term). |
| ICOE | Initiations, Commitments, Obligations, Expenditures. |

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| ICP | (1) Interface Change Proposal. (2) Inventory Control Point (ILS term). (3) Interface Change Proposal. (4) Interface Control Process. |
| ICR | Integrated Contracting Report. |
| ICS | (1) Integrated Control System, a computerized monitoring, command, and control system for US naval ships. (2) Interface Control Specification. |
| ICU | Interface Control Unit. |
| ICWG | Interface Control Working Group. |
| ID | (1) Interactive Discrimination. (2) Identification. |
| IDA | Institute for Defense Analysis. |
| IDASC | Improved Direct Air Support Center (USMC term). |
| IDB | Integrated Data Base. |
| IDD | Interface Design Document. |
| IDEA | Integrated Dose Environmental Analysis. |
| IDECM | Integrated Defensive Electronics Countermeasures (USN/USAF term). |
| Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) | A system using electromagnetic transmissions to which equipment carried by friendly forces automatically responds, for example by emitting pulses, thereby distinguishing themselves from enemy forces. |
| IDG | Institute for the Dynamics of Geo-spheres. |
| IDHS | Intelligence Data Handling System. |
| IDIP | Integrated Development and Initial Production. |
| IDR | Initial Design Review. |
| IDS | (1) Interface Design Standards. (2) Intrusion Detection System. |
| IE | (1) Independent Evaluation. (2) Integration Exercise. |
| IED | Intrinsic Event Discrimination. |
| IEE | Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. |
| IEI | Integrated Engineering Infrastructure. |
| IEMP | Induced Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| IEP | Integrated Evaluation Plan. |
| IER | Independent Evaluation Report. |
| IESG | Internet Engineering Steering Group. |

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| IETF | Internet Engineering Task Force. |
| IEV | Integrated Experimental Version. |
| IEW | Intelligence and Electronic Warfare. |
| IFA | Integrated Financial Analysis. |
| IFF | Identification, Friend or Foe. |
| IFHV | In-Flight Homing View. |
| IFICS | In-Flight Interceptor Communications System. IFICS provides the communications link between the ground and the space based NMD assets. The generic term IFICS replaces the obsolete design specific communications system term GEP. |
| IFOG | Interferometric Fiber Optic Gyroscope. |
| IFOV | Instantaneous Field of View. |
| IFSR | In-Flight Status Report |
| IFT | Integrated Flight Test. |
| IFTU | In-Flight Target Update. |
| IG | Inspector General. |
| IGEMP | Internally Generated Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| IGES | Initial Graphics Exchange Standard. |
| IGS | Inertial Guidance System. |
| IGSM | Interim Ground Station Module (JSTARS). |
| IGT | Integrated Ground Test. |
| IGU | Inertial Guidance Unit. |
| II | Impulse Intensity. |
| IIP | Interoperability Improvement Program. |
| IIPT | Integration Integrated Product (Process) Team. |
| IIR | (1) Intelligence Information Report. (2) Imaging Infrared. |
| IIS | International Institute for Strategic Studies (UK). |
| IIT | Interceptor Integration Test. |
| IITF | Information Infrastructure Task Force. |
| IJSOW | Improved Joint Stand Off Weapon. |

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| ILA | Inter-Laboratory Authorization (Contracting term). |
| ILC | Initial Launch Capability. |
| Ilities | The operational and support requirements a program must address (e.g., availability, vulnerability, producibility, reliability, maintainability, logistics supportability, etc.). |
| Illumination | Non-interfering impingement of electromagnetic energy on Red, Blue, or Gray satellites and Red ballistic missiles in test. |
| ILS | Integrated Logistics Support. |
| ILSM | ILS Manager. |
| ILSMT | ILS Management Team |
| ILSO | ILS Office. |
| ILSP | Integrated Logistics Support Plan. |
| ILSWG | ILS Working Group. |
| IM | Information Management. |
| Imagery | Collectively, the representations or objects reproduced electronically or by optical means on film, electronic display devices, or other media. |
| Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) | Intelligence derived from the exploitation of collection by visual photography, infrared sensors, lasers, electro-optics, and radar sensors (such as synthetic aperture radar) wherein images of objects are reproduced optically or electronically on film, electronic display devices, or other media. |
| Imagery Correlation | The mutual relationship between the different signatures on imagery from different types of sensors in terms of position and the physical characteristics signified. |
| Imaging | The process of obtaining a high quality image of an object. |
| IMC | (1) Interagency Management Council (GSA term). (2) Internal Management Control. |
| IMDB | Imagery Management. |
| IMDO | Israeli Missile Defense Organization. MDA counterpart in the Israeli Ministry of Defense. |
| IMINT | Imagery Intelligence. |
| IMIP | Industrial Modernization Incentives Program. |
| Immediate Kill Mode | A kill mode in which the target is immediately catastrophically destroyed by impact with the KV or KED. |
| Impact Point Prediction (IPP) | Prediction of the point on the earth's surface where a specific RV will impact, usually specified in terms of the circular error probable. The estimate includes the perturbing effects of the atmosphere and resultant uncertainties. |

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| Implicit Coordination | Many independent battle managers (computers) use the same algorithms to derive a common calculated result. Decisions resulting from these calculations will be identical even though the calculated results may not be identical. Decisions or results are not communicated between Battle Managers. |
| Impulse | A mechanical jolt delivered to an object. Physically, impulse is a force applied for a period of time, and the System Internationale Unit of impulse is the Newton-second (abbreviated N-s). (See Impulse Intensity.) |
| Impulse Intensity (II) | Mechanical impulse per unit area. The System Internationale unit of impulse intensity is the Pascal-second (abbreviated Pa-s). A conventionally used unit of impulse intensity is the "tap", which is one dyne-second per square centimeter; hence, 1 tap = 0.1 Pa-s. |
| Impulse Kill | The destruction of a target, using directed energy, by ablative shock. The intensity of directed energy may be so great that the surface of the target violently and rapidly boils off delivering a mechanical shock wave to the rest of the target and causing structural failure. |
| IMPWG | Information Policy Working Group. |
| IMS | Integrated Master Schedule. |
| IMU | Inertial Measurement Unit. |
| IN | (1) Air Force component intelligence officer (staff). (2) Instructor. (3) Impulse Noise. |
| In | Inch. |
| IN LINAC | Induction Linear Accelerator. |
| In-Flight Target Update (FTU) | A report to in-flight interceptor weapons. The IFTU provides updated, predict-ahead target position, time, and velocity for use within the interceptor's control suite to make midcourse corrections to intercept the target. |
| Inclination | The inclination of an orbit is the (dihedral) angle between the plane containing the orbit and the plane containing the earth's equator. An equatorial orbit has an inclination of 0° for a satellite traveling eastward or 180° for a satellite traveling westward. An orbit having an inclination between 0° and 90° and in which a satellite is traveling generally eastward is called a prograde orbit. An orbit having an inclination of 90° passes above the north and south poles and is called a polar orbit. An orbit having an inclination of more than 90° is called a retrograde orbit. |
| Incremental Funding | The provision (or recording) of budgetary resources for a program or project based on obligations estimated to be incurred within a fiscal year when such budgetary resources will cover only a portion of the obligations to be incurred in completing the program or project as programmed. This differs from full funding, where budgetary resources are provided or recorded for the total estimated obligations for a program or a project in the initial year of funding. |
| Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) | A system using electromagnetic transmissions to which equipment carried by friendly forces automatically responds, for example by emitting pulses, thereby distinguishing themselves from enemy forces. |

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| Imagery Correlation | The mutual relationship between the different signatures on imagery from different types of sensors in terms of position and the physical characteristics signified. |
| Independent Cost Analysis | An analysis of program cost estimates conducted by an impartial body disassociated from the management of the program. (See Title 10, United States Code, Section 2434, "Independent Cost Estimates; Operational Manpower Requirements.") |
| Independent Cost Estimate (ICE) | A cost estimate prepared by an impartial body outside the chain of authority responsible for acquiring or using the goods or services. |
| Independent Evaluation Report (IER) | Documents the independent evaluation of the system and is based on test data, reports, studies, and simulations. The IER contains the independent evaluator's assessment of key issues, supporting analyses, major findings, and a position on the future capability of the system to fulfill approved requirements. The IER is provided to the DAB to support the MS III decision production decision. An IER may also be used to support LRIP decisions. (U.S. Army) |
| Independent Research and Development (IR&D) | Effort by industry that is not sponsored by, or required in performance of, a contract and which consists of projects falling within the areas of basic and applied research, development, and systems and other concept formulation studies. Also, discretionary funds which industry can allocate to projects. (See FAR 31.001.) |
| Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) | Verification and validation performed by a contractor or Government agency that is not responsible for developing the product or performing the activity being evaluated. IV&V is an activity that is conducted separately from the software development activities. |
| Indium Antimonide | Infrared sensing material. |
| Individual Acceptance Test | A test of predetermined critical items to verify their operational characteristics prior to assembly into subsystems. Waivers to this requirement, such as using the end item acceptance tests, are not recommended as production expediency. |
| Induced Environments | Induced environments are defined at the system level as the disturbances in the natural environments caused by BMD system influences on other BMD assets (Self-Induced, e.g., GBR radar energy impacting and effecting a GBI in flight) or the influence of other systems external to BMD on BMD assets (Externally-Induced, e.g., high power electric line electromagnetic field effects on C ² E electronic equipment). |
| Induced Radioactivity | Radioactivity produced in certain materials as a result of nuclear reactions, particularly the capture of neutrons, which are accompanied by the formation of unstable (radioactive) nuclei. In a nuclear explosion, neutrons can induce radioactivity in the weapon materials, as well as in the surroundings (e.g., by interaction with nitrogen in the air and with sodium, manganese, aluminum, and silicon in soil and sea water). |

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| Industrial Resource Analysis (IRA) | A quick-turnaround or a detailed analysis of industrial and/or specific factory capabilities to determine the availability of production resources required to support SDS. These resources include capital (including machine tools and special tooling/test equipment), materiel, and manpower needed to meet the range of SDS requirements. IRA includes the results of feasibility studies, producibility analyses, and technology assessments. Shortfalls discovered in IRAs are assessed for risk levels, based on the reasons for the risks, and become issues listed in the MDA Producibility Programming and Issues Resolution Strategies (PPIRS) document. |
| Inertial Guidance | A guidance system designed to project a missile over a predetermined path, wherein the path of the missile is adjusted after launching by devices wholly within the missile and independent of outside information. The system measures and converts accelerations experienced to distance traveled in a certain direction. |
| Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU) | A guidance mechanism designed to project a missile over a predetermined path, wherein the path of the missile is adjusted after launching by devices wholly within the missile and independent of outside information. The unit measures and converts accelerations experienced to distance traveled in a certain direction. |
| INETS | Integrated Effects Tests for Survivability. |
| INEWS | Integrated Electronic Warfare System (Navy term). |
| INF | Intermediate-range Nuclear Force (Treaty term). Also the name of U.S./USSR Treaty. |
| In-Flight Target Update | A data report, which contains updated, predict-ahead target position, time, and velocity for interceptor weapons to use in making midcourse correction. (USSPACECOM) |
| Information Architecture (IA) | A description of the information that is needed to support command and control decision making and battle management, where it comes from, the processing that must be performed to provide it, and the resulting behavior. The description provides the invariant framework for interoperability, operational and design flexibility, coping with the unexpected, extensibility, and reusability. |
| Information Resources Management | The planning, budgeting, organizing, directing, training, promoting, controlling, and management activities associated with the burden, collection, creation, use, and dissemination of information by agencies and includes the management of information and related resources, such as FIP resources. |
| Information Security (INFOSEC) | Those measures and administrative procedures for identifying, controlling, and protecting against unauthorized disclosure of classified information or unclassified controlled information, which includes export-controlled technical data and sensitive information. Such measures and procedures are concerned with security education and training, assignment of proper classifications, downgrading and declassification, safeguarding, and monitoring. |
| Infrared (IR) | Electromagnetic radiations of wavelength between the longest visible red (7,000 Angstroms or 7×10^4 millimeter) and about 1 millimeter. (See Electromagnetic Radiation.) |
| Infrared (IR) Electro-Optics | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the wavelength spectrum slightly longer than visible but shorter than radio. |

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| Infrared Imagery | That imagery produced as a result of sensing electromagnetic radiations emitted or reflected from a given target surface in the infrared position of the electromagnetic spectrum. |
| Infrared Sensor | A sensor designed to detect the electromagnetic radiation in the wavelength region of 1 to 40 microns. |
| Initial Operational Capability (IOC) | The first attainment of the capability to employ effectively a weapon, item of equipment, or system of approved specific characteristics, and which is manned or operated by a trained, equipped, and supported military unit or force. |
| Initial Operational Test and Evaluation (IOT&E) | All operational test and evaluation conducted on production or production representative articles, to support the decision to proceed beyond low-rate initial production. It is conducted to provide a valid estimate of expected system operational effectiveness and operational suitability. |
| INMARAT | International Maritime Satellite (a UHF communications satellite). |
| INS | (1) Internal Navigation System. (2) Insert code. |
| InSb | Indium Antimonide. |
| INSCOM | U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command. |
| INSICOM | Integrated Survivability Experiments. |
| Integ | Integrated. |
| Integrated Contracting Report (ICR) | A quarterly report of BMD contracts, which define the roles, relationships, and interfaces among contracts, contractors, and programs, and provides a mechanism for strengthening MDA contracting oversight (formerly known as Integrated Contracting Plan or ICP). |
| Integrated Fire Control System | A system, which performs the functions of target acquisition, tracking, data computation, and engagement control, primarily using electronic means assisted by electromechanical devices. |
| Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) | <p>(1) A disciplined, unified, and iterative approach to the management and technical activities necessary to integrate support considerations into system and equipment design; develop support requirements that are related consistently to readiness objectives, to design, and to each other; acquire the required support; and provide the required support during the operational phase at minimum cost.</p> <p>(2) A composite of all the support considerations necessary to assure the effective and economical support of a system for its life cycle. It is an integral part of all other aspects of system acquisition and operation.</p> |
| Integrated Logistics Support (ILS) Elements | <p><u>Maintenance Planning.</u> The process conducted to evolve and establish maintenance concepts and requirements for the lifetime of a materiel system.</p> <p><u>Manpower and Personnel.</u> The identification and acquisition of military and civilian personnel with the skills and grades required operating and supporting a materiel system over its lifetime at peacetime and wartime rates.</p> <p><u>Supply Support.</u> All management actions, procedures, and techniques used to determine requirements to acquire, catalog, receive, store, transfer, issue, and dispose of secondary items. This includes provisioning for initial support as well as replenishment supplies support.</p> |

Support Equipment. All equipment (mobile or fixed) required to support the operation and maintenance of a materiel system. This includes associated multi-use end items, ground-handling and maintenance equipment, tools, meteorology and calibration equipment, test equipment, and automatic test equipment. It includes the acquisition of logistics support for the support and test equipment itself.

Technical Data. Recorded information regardless of form or character (such as manuals and drawings) of a scientific or technical nature. Computer programs and related software are not technical data; documentation of computer programs and related software are. Also excluded are financial data or other information related to contract administration.

Training and Training Support. The processes, procedures, techniques, training devices, and equipment used to train civilian and active duty and reserve military personnel to operate and support a materiel system. This includes individual and crew training; new equipment training; initial, formal, and on-the-job training; and logistic support planning for training equipment and training device acquisitions and installations.

Computer Resources Support. The facilities, hardware, software, documentation, manpower, and personnel needed to operate and support embedded computer systems.

Facilities. The permanent, or semi-permanent, or temporary real property assets required to support the materiel system, including conducting studies to define types of facilities or facility improvements, locations, space needs, utilities, environmental requirements, real estate requirements, and equipment.

Packaging, Handling, Storage, and Transportation. The resources, processes, procedures, design considerations, and methods to ensure that all system, equipment, and support items are preserved, packaged, handled, and transported properly, including environmental considerations, equipment preservation requirements for short- and long-term storage, and transportability.

Design Interface. The relationship of logistics-related design parameters, such as reliability and maintainability, to readiness and support resource requirements. These logistics-related design parameters are expressed in operational terms rather than inherent values and specifically related to system readiness objectives and support costs of the materiel system.

Integrated Logistics Support Plan (ILSP)

The formal planning document for logistics support. It is kept current through the program life and sets forth the plan for operational support, provides a detailed ILS program to fit with the overall program, provides decision-making bodies with necessary ILS information to make sound decisions in system development and production, and provides the basis for ILS procurement packages/specifications RFPs, SOWs, source selection evaluation, terms and conditions, and CDRLs.

Integrated Priority List

A list of a combatant commander's highest priority requirements, prioritized across Service and functional lines. The list defines shortfalls in key programs that, in the judgment of the combatant commander, adversely affect the capability of the forces to accomplish their assigned mission. The integrated priority list provides the combatant commander's recommendations for programming funds in the Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System process. Also called IPL.

Integrated Program Assessment (IPA)

A document prepared by the supporting staff or review forum of the milestone decision authority to support Milestone I, II, III, and IV reviews. It provides an independent assessment of a program's status and readiness to proceed into the next phase of the acquisition cycle.

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| Integrated Program Summary (IPS) | A DoD Component document prepared and submitted to the milestone decision authority in support of Milestone I, II, III, and IV reviews. It succinctly highlights the status of a program and its readiness to proceed into the next phase of the acquisition cycle. |
| Integrated Tactical Warning and Attack Assessment (ITW/AA) | ITW/AA is the integration of ballistic missile warning, space warning, and atmospheric warning with intelligence information for synthesis of all attack warning information, strategic and tactical. |
| Integrated Warfare | The conduct of a military operation in any combat environment wherein opposing forces employ non-conventional weapons in combination with conventional weapons. |
| Integration | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The combination of separate systems, capabilities, functions, etc. in such a way those individual elements can operate singly or in concert without adversely affecting other elements. (USSPACECOM) (2) Act of putting together as the final end item various components of a system. |
| INTEL | Intelligence. |
| Intelligence | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The product, resulting from the collection, evaluation, analysis, integration and interpretation of all available information concerning foreign countries or areas. (2) Information and knowledge about an adversary obtained through observation, investigation, analysis, or understanding. |
| Intelligence Indicators | Classified or unclassified actions or information obtainable by an adversary that, when properly interpreted, can provide information about friendly capabilities and intentions. |
| Intelligence Operations Center (IOC) | An organization term for all intelligence activities in Cheyenne Mountain AFB. The IOC includes the Consolidated Intelligence Watch (CIW), Operational Intelligence Elements, and the Joint SPACECOM Intelligence Center (JSIC) Cheyenne Mountain Node (JCN). |
| Intelligence Preparation of the Battlespace | An analytical methodology employed to reduce uncertainties concerning the enemy, environment, and terrain for all types of operations. Intelligence preparation of the battle space builds an extensive database for each potential area in which a unit may be required to operate. The database is then analyzed in detail to determine the impact of the enemy, environment, and terrain on operations and presents it in graphic form. Intelligence preparation of the battle space is a continuing process. Also called IPB. |
| Intelligence Report (INTREP) | A specific report of information usually on a single item made at any level of command in tactical operations and disseminated as rapidly as possible in keeping with the timeliness of the information. |
| Intelligence Threat | An identification of known and potential adversary capabilities to collect and exploit information from a given or similar operation. |

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| Intensity | The amount of energy of any radiation incident upon (or flowing through) unit area, perpendicular to the radiation beam, in unit time. The intensity of thermal radiation is generally expressed in calories per square centimeter per second falling on a given surface at any specific instant. As applied to nuclear radiation, the term intensity is sometimes used, rather loosely, to express the exposure (or dose) rate at a given location. |
| Interactive Responses | Interactive response data on tracked objects to assist in their classification. |
| Interceptor Cluster | A group of objects, which are within divert capability of a deployed interceptor. |
| Interceptor Track | A function or ability of a sensor to accurately detail an interceptor's position and velocity in three dimensions. |
| Interceptor Track Range (Max) | The maximum range at which a sensor can perform the interceptor track function on a single interceptor in a normal (non-man-made) environment. |
| Interchangeability | A condition which exists when two or more items possess such functional and physical characteristics as to be equivalent in performance and durability, and are capable of being exchanged one for the other without alteration of the items themselves or of adjoining items, except for adjustment, and without selection for fit and performance. |
| Interconnection | The linking together of interoperable systems. |
| Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) | A ballistic missile with a range from about 3,000 to 8,000 nautical miles. The term ICBM is used only for land-based systems to differentiate them from submarine-launched ballistic missiles. (See SLBM.) |
| Interface | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A shared boundary defined by common physical interconnection characteristics, signal characteristics, and meanings of interchanged signals. (2) A device or equipment making possible interoperation between two systems, e.g., a hardware component or a common storage register. (3) A shared logical boundary between two software components. (4) A common boundary or connection between persons, or between systems, or between persons and systems. |
| Interface Control Document (ICD) | <p>(1) A document that describes the requirements of the characteristics that must exist at a common boundary between two or more equipment or computer software products. An ICD for a BMDS element or component consists of an Interface Control Specification (ICS) and an Interface Design Document (IDD). (MDA Lexicon)</p> <p>(2) The technical documentation, generated by each party to an interface control agreement, that presents that party's interface and interfacing requirements. The ICD may be in the form of a drawing or a specification.</p> |
| Interface Requirements Document (IRD) | A document that sets forth the interface requirements for a system or system component. |

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| Interference | The phenomenon of two or more waves of the same frequency combining to form a wave in which the disturbance at any point is the algebraic or vector sum of the disturbances due to the interfering waves at that point. |
| Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (IRBM) | A ballistic missile having a range capability of 1,500 to 3,000 nautical miles. |
| International Agreement Generator (IAG) | Software system, managed by OSD, which must be used to author DoD international Agreements. |
| International Cooperative Logistics | Cooperation and mutual support in the field of logistics through the coordination of policies, plans, procedures, development activities, and the common supply and exchange of goods and services arranged on the basis of bilateral and multilateral agreements with appropriate cost reimbursement provisions. |
| International Logistics | The negotiating, planning, and implementation of supporting logistics arrangements between nations, their forces, and agencies. It includes furnishing logistic support to, or receiving logistic support from, one or more friendly foreign governments, international organizations, or military forces, with or without reimbursement. It also includes planning and actions related to the intermeshing of a significant element, activity, or component of the military logistics systems or procedures of the United States with those of one or more foreign governments, international organizations, or military forces on a temporary or permanent basis. It includes planning and actions related to the utilization of United States logistics policies, systems, and/or procedures to meet requirements of one or more foreign governments, international organizations, or forces. |
| International Logistic Support | The provision of military logistic support by one participating nation to one or more participating nations, either with or without reimbursement. |
| Interoperability | The ability of systems, units, or forces to provide services to or accept services from other systems, units, or forces and to use the services so exchanged to operate effectively together. |
| INTERPOL | International Criminal Police Organization. |
| INTLCT | Integrated Electronics. |
| Intruder Operation | An offensive operation by day or night over enemy territory with the primary object of destroying enemy aircraft in the vicinity of their bases. |
| INU | Inertial Navigation Unit. |
| Inventory Control Point | An organizational unit or activity within a DoD supply system that is assigned the primary responsibility for the materiel management of a group or items either for a particular Service or for the DoD as a whole. Materiel inventory management includes cataloging direction, requirements computation, procurement direction, distribution management, disposal direction, and, generally, rebuild direction. |
| Inverse Square Law | The law that states when thermal or nuclear radiation is uniformly emitted from a point source, the amount received per unit area at any given distance from the source, assuming no absorption, is inversely proportional to the square of that distance. |

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| Inverse Synthetic Aperture Radar (ISAR) | A type of radar similar to synthetic aperture radar, which uses information from the motion of targets to provide high resolution. |
| IO | (1) Information Operations. (2) Integrated Optic. |
| IOC | (1) Initial Operational Capability. (2) Intelligence Operations Center. (3) Integrated Optics Chip. |
| IOM | Inert Operational Missile. |
| IONDS | Integrated Operational Nuclear Detonation Detection System (US). |
| Ionization | The process of producing ions by the removal of electrons from, or the addition of electrons to atoms or molecules. |
| Ionizing Radiation | Electromagnetic radiation (gamma rays, x-rays, extreme ultraviolet (EUV)) or particulate radiation (alpha particles, beta particles, neutrons, etc.) capable of producing ions, e.g., electrically charged particles, directly or indirectly, in its passage through matter. (Nuclear Radiation.) |
| Ionosphere | The region of the atmosphere, extending from roughly 70 to 500 kilometers altitude, in which ions and free electrons exist in sufficient quantities to reflect electromagnetic waves. |
| IOSS | Interagency OPSEC Support Staff. |
| IOT&E | Initial Operational Test and Evaluation. |
| IOU | Input/Output Unit. |
| IP | (1) Instructor Pilot. (2) Initial Point. (3) Initial Position. (4) Internet Protocol. (5) Interconnect Protocol. |
| IPA | Integrated Program Assessment. |
| IPB | Intelligence Preparation of the Battlefield or Battlespace. |
| IPC | Information Policy Committee. |
| IPD | Integrated Product (Process) Development. |
| IFE | Industrial Plant Equipment. |
| IPL | Integrated Priority List. |
| IPM | Integration Program Manager. |
| IPMI | Integration Program Management Initiative. |
| IPP | (1) Impact Point Prediction. (2) Industrial Preparedness Program. |
| IPPD | Integrated Process and Product Development. |
| IPR | See In-Progress Review. (Also called Interim Program Review). |

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| IPRR | Initial Production Readiness Review. |
| IPRWG | Intellectual Property Rights Working Group. |
| IPS | Integrated Program Summary. |
| IPSRU | Inertial Pseudo-Star Reference Unit. |
| IPT | (1) Integrated Product Team. (2) Integrated Process Team. (3) Integrated Planning Team. |
| IQT | Initial Qualification Training (ILS term). |
| IR | (1) Infrared. (2) Information Requirement. (3) Incident Report. (4) Information Rate. (5) Initial Review (NMD BMC2 term). (6) Isotope Radar. |
| IR Electro-Optics | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the wavelength spectrum slightly longer than visible but shorter than radio. |
| IR&D | Independent Research and Development. (Also called IRAD). |
| IR/Vies | Infrared Visual. |
| IRA | Industrial Resource Analysis. |
| IRAD | Independent Research and Development. |
| IRAS | Infrared Astronomical Satellite. |
| IRBM | Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile. |
| IRBS | (1) Infrared Background Sensor. (2) Intermediate-Range Booster System. |
| IRCM | Infrared Countermeasures. |
| IRD | Interface Requirements Document. |
| IRFP | International Request for Proposals (Contracting term). |
| IRFPA | Infrared Focal Plane Array. |
| IRG | Independent Review Group. |
| IRIA | Infrared Information Analysis Center. |
| IRIG | Inter-Range Instrumentation Group. |
| IRINT | Infrared Intelligence. |
| IRIS | Infrared Instrumentation System. |
| IRLA | Item Repair Level Analysis (ILS term). |
| IRM | Information Resources Management. |
| IRMAC | Information Resource Management Advisory Committee. |

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| IRMC | Information Resource Management College. |
| IRR | Internal Requirements Review. |
| IRRAS | Integrated Reliability and Risk Analysis System. |
| IRRS | Information Resources Requirements Study. |
| IRS | Interface Requirements Review. |
| IRSS | Infrared Sensor System (EAGLE). |
| IRST | Infrared Search and Track. |
| IRTF | Internet Research Task Force. |
| IS | Information System. |
| IS&T | (1) Invite, Show and Test. (2) Innovative Science and Technology. (3) Integrated Science & Technology. |
| ISA | Inter-service Agreement. |
| IS&T | (1) Invite, Show and Test. (2) Innovative Science and Technology. |
| ISAR | Inverse Synthetic Aperture Radar. |
| ISAS | Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (Japan). |
| ISC | (1) Information Systems Command. (2) Irvine Sensors Corporation. |
| ISDN | Integrated Services Digital Network. |
| ISE | (1) Integrated SATKA Experiments. (2) Integrated Space Experiment. |
| ISE&I | Israeli System Engineering and Integration. |
| ISG | Industry Support Group. |
| ISM | (1) Industrial Security Manual. (2) Integrated Structure Model. |
| ISMG | International Simulation & Modeling Group. |
| ISMO | Information Security Management Office. |
| ISO | International Standards Organization. |
| ISOO | Information Security Oversight Office. |
| Isotropic | Independent of direction; referring to the radiation of energy, it means "with equal intensity in all directions" (e.g., omni directional). |

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| Isotropic Nuclear Weapon | A nuclear explosive, which radiates x-rays and other forms of radiation with approximately equal intensity in all directions. The term “isotropic” is used to distinguish them from nuclear directed energy weapons. |
| ISP | Integrated Support Plan. |
| ISR | Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance. |
| ISS | (1) Information System Security. (2) Infrared Surveillance System. |
| ISSA | Information System Security Association. |
| ISSAA | Information Systems and Software Acquisition Agency. |
| ISSC | Information Systems Security Committee. |
| ISSM | Information System Security Manager. |
| ISSO | Information System Security Officer. |
| ISSTA | International Symposium on Spread Spectrum Techniques and Applications. |
| Issue Cycle | A process followed during OSD review of the POM. It begins in early June and extends into July. |
| Issue Papers | OSD documents defining issues raised during review of the POM. |
| IST | (1) Innovative Science and Technology. (2) Integrated System Test. |
| ISTC | Integrated System Test Capability. |
| ISTEF | Innovative Science and Technology Experiment Facility. |
| ISTF | Installed System Test Facility. |
| ISV | Interceptor Sensor Vehicle. |
| ISWG | Integration Support Working Group. |
| IT | Information Technology. |
| ITAC | Intelligence Threat Analysis Center. |
| ITAR | International Traffic in Arms Regulations. |
| ITB | (1) Integrated Test Bed. (2) Israeli Test Bed. |
| ITCE | International Traffic in Arms Regulations. |
| ITD | Integration Technology Demonstration. |
| ITDAP | (1) Integrated Test Data Analysis Plan. (2) Integrated Test Design and Assessment Plan. |
| Item Manager | An individual within the organization of an inventory control point or other such organization assigned management responsibilities for one or more specific items of materiel. |

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| ITERS | Improved Tactical Events Reporting System. |
| ITL | Integrate, Transfer, Launch |
| ITMSC | Information Technology Management Systems Council. |
| ITMT | Integrated Technical Management Team. |
| ITO | Instructions-to-Offerers (FAR term). |
| ITP | Integrated Test Plan. |
| ITPB | Information Technology Policy Board. |
| ITR | Information Technology Resources. |
| ITS | Information Technology Service. |
| ITSD | Information Technology Services Directorate. |
| ITT | ITT Corporation. |
| ITV | (1) Integrated Technology Validation. (2) Instrumented Test Vehicle |
| ITW | Integrated Tactical Warning. |
| ITW/AA | Integrated Tactical Warning and Attack Assessment. |
| IUI | Integrated User Interface. |
| IV | Interceptor Vehicle. |
| IV&V | Independent Verification and Validation. |
| IVHS | Intelligent Vehicle Highway System. |
| IVIS | Inter-Vehicular Information System (USA term). |
| IW | Information Warfare. |
| IWCD | Integrated Wavefront Control Demonstration. |
| IWEB | Information Warfare Executive Board. |
| IWG | Interagency Working Group. |
| IWS | Indications and Warning System. |
| IWSM | Integrated weapons system management. |
| IXS | Information Exchange System. |

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| J&A | Justification and Approval. |
| J-SEAD | Joint Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses. |
| JAAT | Joint Air Attack Team. |
| JADO | Joint Air Defense Operations. |
| JAE | Joint Acquisition Executive. |
| JAIC | Joint Air Intelligence Center (JFACC term). |
| JAMES | Joint Automated Message Editing System (USN term). |
| Jammers | Radio transmitters accompanying attacking RVs and tuned to broadcast at the same frequency as defensive radar. The broadcasts add “noise” to the signals reflected from the RVs and received by the radar. Susceptibility to jamming generally decreases with increasing radar frequency, with decreasing altitude, and with increasing radar power. |
| JAO | Joint Area of Operations. |
| JAOC | Joint Air Operations Center (JFACC term). |
| JASSAM | Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile (USAF term). |
| JAST | Joint Advanced Strike Aircraft (USAF/USN program). |
| JBS | Joint Broadcast Service (ASD(C3I) term). |
| JCAE | Joint Committee on Atomic Energy (US). |
| JCEOI | Joint Communications-Electronic Operation Instructions. |
| JCM | Joint Conflict Model. |
| JCS | Joint Chiefs of Staff (US). |
| JCSM | Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum. |
| JCTN | Joint Composite Tracking Network. |
| JDA | Japan Defense Agency. |
| JDAM | Joint Direct Attack Munitions (USAF B1-B weapon). |
| JDC | (1) Joint Doctrine Center. (2) Joint Deployment Community. |
| JDISS | Joint Deployable Intelligence Support System. |
| JDN | Joint Data Net. |
| JEA | Joint Effectiveness Analysis (formerly COEA). |
| JEC | Joint Economic Committee (US). |
| JEIO | Joint Engineering and Integration Office. |

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| JEM | Joint Exercise Manual. |
| JETTA | Joint Environment for Testing, Training, and Analysis. |
| JEWC | Joint Electronic Warfare Center. |
| JEZ | Joint Engagement Zone. |
| JFCC | Joint Forces Command Center. |
| JFET | Junction Field Effect Transistor. |
| JFFC | Joint Forces [Weapons] Fire Coordinator (JFACC term). |
| JFLC | Joint Force Land Component. |
| JFMC | Joint Forces Maritime Component. |
| JFSC | Joint Forces Staff College, Norfolk, VA. |
| JFSOC | Joint Forces Special Operations Component. |
| JG-APP | Joint Group on Acquisition Pollution Prevention. |
| JHU | Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD |
| JHU/APL | Johns Hopkins University/Applied Physics Laboratory, Laurel, MD. |
| JIC | (1) Joint Intelligence Center. (2) Jet Interaction Controls. |
| JICPAC | Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific (JFACC term). |
| JIEO | Joint Interoperability and Engineering Organization. |
| JINTACCS | Joint Interoperability of Tactical Command and Control Systems. |
| JIOP | Joint Interface Operational Procedures. |
| JIOP-MTF | Joint Interface Operational Procedures – Message Text Forms. |
| JIOPTL | Joint Integrated Prioritized Target List (JFACC term). |
| JITC | Joint Interoperability Test Center. |
| JLC | Joint Logistics Commanders. |
| JLOTS | Joint Logistics Over-The-Shore. |
| JM&S | Joint Modeling and Simulation. |
| JMC | (1) Joint Movement Center. (2) Joint Military Command. |
| JMCCOC | Joint MILSTAR Communications Control and Operations Concept. |
| JMCIS | Joint Maritime Command Information System. |

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| JMDN | Joint Missile Defense Network. Encompasses all mission-oriented Information Technology Resources (ITR) networks, facilities and systems operated or funded by MDA in support of missile defense programs and operations. A major component of the JMDN is the Ballistic Missile Defense Network (BMDN), operated by the JNTF. |
| JMEM | Joint Munitions Effectiveness Manual. |
| JMENS | Joint Mission Element Needs Statement. |
| JMNS | Joint Mission Needs Statement. |
| JMO | Joint Maritime Operations. |
| JMSNS | Justification for Major Systems New Start. |
| JMSWG | (1) Joint Multi-TADIL Standards Working Group. (2) Joint Interoperability Message Standards Working Group. |
| JNAAS | JNIF Advisory and Assistance Service. |
| JNESSY | JNIC Joint National Integration Center Electronic Security System. |
| JNTF | OBSOLETE. See JNIC. |
| JNICOMC | Joint National Integration Center Operations and Maintenance Contractor. |
| JNICRDC | Joint National Integration Center Research and Development Contractor. |
| JNICUSLA | Joint National Integration Center Unclassified Standalone and Laptop Access. |
| JOB | Joint Operations Board. |
| JOC | Joint Oversight Council. |
| JOCAS | Job Order Cost Accounting System. |
| Joint | Activities, operations, organizations, etc., in which elements of more than one Service of the same nation participate. When all services are not involved, the participating Services shall be identified, e.g., Joint Army-Navy). |
| Joint Doctrine | Fundamental principles that guide the employment of forces of two or more Services in coordinated action toward a common objective. It will be promulgated by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in coordination with the combatant commands, Services, and Joint Staff. See also Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff. |
| Joint Doctrine Working Party | A forum to include representatives of the Services and combatant commands with the purpose of systematic address of joint doctrine and joint tactics, techniques, and procedures (JTTP) issues such as project proposal examination, project scope development, project validation, and lead agent recommendation. The Joint Doctrine Working Party meets under the sponsorship of the Director, Operations Plans and Interoperability. |
| Joint Electronic Warfare Center (JEWEC) | Electronic Security Command (ESC) team at Kelly AFB, TX, responsible for investigating and locating the cause of MIJI either against satellites or ground systems. |

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| Joint Force | A general term applied to a force composed of significant elements, assigned or attached, of the Army, the Navy or Marine Corps, and the Air Force, or two or more of these Services, operating under a single commander authorized to exercise operational control. See also Joint Force Commander. |
| Joint Force Air Component Commander (JFACC) | The commander within a unified command, subordinate unified command, or joint task force responsible to the establishing commander for making recommendations on the proper employment of air forces, planning and coordinating air operations, or accomplishing such operational missions as may be assigned. The joint force air component commander is given the authority necessary to accomplish missions and tasks assigned by the establishing commander. The JFACC will normally be the commander with the preponderance of air forces and the requisite command and control capabilities. |
| Joint Force Commander (JFC) | A general term applied to a commander authorized to exercise combatant command (command authority) or operational control over a joint force. Also called JFC. |
| Joint Force Land Component Commander (JFLCC) | The commander within a unified command, subordinate unified command, or joint task force responsible to the establishing commander for making recommendations on the proper employment of land forces, planning and coordinating land operations, or accomplishing such operational missions as may be assigned. The joint force land component commander is given the authority necessary to accomplish missions and tasks assigned by the establishing commander. The JFLCC will normally be the commander with the preponderance of land forces and the requisite command and control capabilities. |
| Joint Force Special Operations Component Commander (JFSOCC) | The commander within a unified command, subordinate unified command, or joint task force responsible to the establishing commander for making recommendations on the proper employment of special operations forces and assets, planning and coordinating maritime operations, or accomplishing such operational missions as may be assigned. The JFSOCC is given the authority necessary to accomplish missions and tasks assigned by the establishing commander. The JFSOCC will normally be the commander with the preponderance of special operations forces and the requisite command and control capabilities. |
| Joint National Test Facility (JNTF) | A large, modeling, simulation and test facility located on Falcon AFB in Colorado which serves as the central control, coordinating, and computing center for the NTB and as the primary integration and test facility of the BMD SE&I contractor. (Former NTF) |
| Joint Operational Planning and Execution System (JOPES) | A continuously evolving system that is being developed through the integration and enhancement of earlier planning and execution systems: Joint Operation Planning System and Joint Deployment System. It provides the foundation for conventional command and control by national and theater level commanders and their staffs. It is designed to satisfy their informational needs in the conduct of joint planning and operations. JOPES includes joint operation planning policies, procedures, and reporting structures supported by communications and automated data processing systems. JOPES is used to monitor, plan, and execute mobilization, deployment, employment, and sustainment activities associated with joint operations. |

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| Joint Operating Procedures (JOPs) | These documents identify and describe detailed procedures and interactions necessary to carry out significant aspects of a joint program. Subjects for JOPs may include Systems Engineering, Personnel Staffing, Reliability, Survivability, Vulnerability, Maintainability, Production, Management Controls and Reporting, Financial Control, Test and Evaluation, Training, Logistics Support, Procurement and Deployment. The JOPs are developed and negotiated by the Program Manger and the participating Services. |
| Joint Operations Area | That area of conflict in which a joint force commander conducts military operations pursuant to an assigned mission and the administration incident to such military operations. Also called JOA. |
| Joint Program | Any defense acquisition system, subsystem, component, or technology program that involves formal management or funding by more than one DoD Component during any phase of a system's life-cycle. |
| Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) | A council, chaired by the Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, that conducts requirements analyses, determines the validity of mission needs and develops recommended joint priorities for those needs it approves, and validates performance objectives and thresholds in support of the Defense Acquisition Board. Council members include the Vice Chiefs of the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. |
| Joint SPACECOM Intelligence Center (JSIC) | A USSPACECOM Intelligence Center responsible for producing operational intelligence for USSPACECOM missions and for space intelligence production for the DoD and intelligence community. Delegated Space Intelligence production includes: Space Order of Battle (OB), Space Object Identification (SOI), and Satellite Reconnaissance Advance Notices (SATRAN). Located at CMAFB. |
| Joint Strategic Defense Planning Staff (JOSDEPS) | A special staff located at USSPACECOM Headquarters responsible for integrated strategic defense planning and for integration of strategic defensive and strategic offensive operations. The USCINCSPACE serves as Director, Joint Strategic Defense Planning Staff. |
| Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff (JSTPS) | A JCS organization located at Offutt AFB responsible for planning, developing, coordinating, and producing the Single Integrated Operations Plans (SIOP). Also responsible for producing the National Strategic Target List (NSTL). The Commander in Chief, USSTRATCOM is also the Director, Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff. |
| Joint Suppression of Enemy Air Defense | A broad term that includes all suppression of enemy air defenses activities provided by one component of the joint force in support of another. Also called J-SNEAD. |
| Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS) | A joint service, jam-resistant, secure communications system that permits the interchange of essential tactical information between aircraft, surface vessels, and mobile or fixed-base land stations. |
| Joint Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (JTTP) | The actions and methods, which implement joint doctrine and describe how forces will be employed in joint operations. The Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, promulgates them in coordination with the combatant commands, Services and Joint Staff. Also called JTTP. |

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| Joint Test and Evaluation | T&E conducted jointly by two or more DoD components for systems to be acquired by more than one component or for a component's systems which have interfaces with equipment of another component. |
| Joint Test and Evaluation Program | An OSD program for Joint T&E, structured to evaluate or provide information on system performance, technical concepts, system requirements or improvements, systems interoperability, improving or developing testing methodologies, or for force structure planning, doctrine, or procedures. |
| JON | Job Order Number. |
| JOP | Joint Operating Procedures. |
| JOPES | Joint Operational Planning and Execution System. |
| JOPS | Joint Operations Planning System. |
| JOR | Joint Operational Requirements. |
| JORD | Joint Operational Requirements Document. |
| JOSDEPS | Joint Strategic Defense Planning Staff. |
| JOSS | JTF Operational Support System (JIEO term). |
| JOTS | Joint Operational Tactical System (USN term). |
| JP | Joint Publication. |
| JPL | Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, CA. |
| JPM | Joint Program Manager. |
| JPN | Joint Planning Net. |
| JPO | Joint Program Office. |
| JPOC | Joint Program Optic Cobra. |
| JPOI | Joint Project -- Ornate Impact |
| JPON | Joint Project -- Optic Needle. |
| JPRN | Joint Precision Reporting Net. |
| JPSD | Joint Precision Strike Demonstration. |
| JPT | Joint Planning Tool. |
| JRB | Joint Review Board (JROC term). |
| JRC | Joint Reconnaissance Coordinator (JFACC term). |
| JRCC | Joint Rescue Coordination Center (JFTF term). |
| JRMB | Joint Resources Management Board. |

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| JROC | Joint Requirements Oversight Council. |
| JROC SSG | JROC Strategic Systems Group. |
| JRSC | Jam Resistant Secure Communications. |
| JRTC | Joint Readiness Training Center. |
| JS | Joint Staff. |
| JS&MDWC | Joint Space and Missile Defense Warfare Center. |
| JSC | (1) Joint Security Commission. (2) Joint Steering Committee (French/US term). |
| JSCP | Joint Strategic Capabilities Plan. |
| JSEAD | Joint Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (Joint Forces term). |
| JSET | (1) Joint System Engineering Team (MDA/USN term). (2) Joint Service Evaluation Team. |
| JSF | Joint Strike Fighter (USAF, USN, USMC, UK RAF project). |
| JSIC | Joint SPACECOM Intelligence Center. |
| JSIPS | Joint Service Imagery Processing System (TelComms/Computer term). |
| JSMB | Joint Space Management Board. |
| JSOC | Joint Special Operations Command. |
| JSOR | Joint Services Operating Requirement. |
| JSPD | Joint Strategic Planning Document. |
| JSPS | Joint Strategic Planning System. |
| JSS | Joint Surveillance System. |
| JSST | Joint Space Support Team. |
| JSTARS | Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System. |
| JSTPS | Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff. |
| JT | (1) Joint Test (2) Joint Targeting |
| JT&E | Joint Test and Evaluation. |
| JTA | Joint Technical Architecture (JCS term). |
| JTAGS | Joint Tactical Ground Station. |
| JTAMDO | Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense Organization. |
| JTASC | Joint Training Analysis and Simulations Center. |

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| JTB | JFACC (Afloat) Targeting Board (JFACC term). |
| JTBP | Joint Theater Battle Picture. |
| JTCB | Joint Targeting Coordination Board (JFACC term). |
| JTE | Joint Targeting Element (JFACC term). |
| JTF | Joint Task Force. |
| JTFEX | Joint Task Force Exercise. |
| JTIDS | Joint Tactical Information Distribution System. |
| JTL | Joint Target List. |
| JTMD | Joint Theater Missile Defense. |
| JTMDP | Joint Theater Missile Defense Plan. |
| JTPO | Joint Terminal Project Office [of MILSTAR Comms Sys]. |
| JTOC | Joint Targets Oversight Council. |
| JTR | Joint Travel Regulations. |
| JTRP | Joint Telecommunication Resources Board. |
| JTSG | Joint Targeting Steering Group (JFACC term). |
| JTT | Joint Tactical Terminal. |
| JTTP | Joint Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures. |
| JVX | Joint Services Advanced Vertical Lift Aircraft. |
| JWAN | Joint Wide Area Net. |
| JWARS | Joint Warfighting System 9 (computer model). |
| JWC | Joint Warfare Center. |
| JWG | Joint Working Group. |
| JWICS | Joint Worldwide Intelligence Communications Network. |
| JWID | Joint Warrior Interoperability Demonstration |
| JWSTP | Joint Warfighting Science and Technology Plan. |

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| K | (1) Kelvin. (2) Kilo. |
| K Factor | The relative measure of a sensor's ability to distinguish one object from another. Theoretically (but not in practice) it is the distance between the mean locations of two observed objects given normal distributions and standard deviations for both objects. |
| KA | Kill Assessment. |
| KAPP | Key Asset Protection Program. |
| KB | Kilobyte. |
| Kbps | Kilobyte per second. |
| KBS | Knowledge Based System (UKMOD). |
| KBSF | Knowledge Based Sensor Fusion. |
| KDEC | Kinetic Energy Weapon Digital Emulation Center, Huntsville, AL. |
| KDS | Kwajalein Discrimination System. |
| KE | See Kinetic Energy. |
| KE ASAT | Kinetic Energy Anti-Satellite Weapon. |
| KED | Kill Enhancement Device. |
| Keep-Out Zone | A volume around a space asset, which is off limits to parties not owners of the asset. Keep-out zones could be negotiated or unilaterally declared. The right to defend such a zone by force and the legality of unilaterally declared zones under the Outer Space Treaty remain to be determined. |
| KEI | Kinetic Energy Intercept. |
| KENN | Statistical pattern recognition tool. |
| KEV | Kinetic Energy Vehicle. |
| KEW | Kinetic Energy Weapon. |
| KEWC | Kinetic Energy Weapon, Chemical (propulsion). |
| KEWE | Kinetic Energy Weapon, Electromagnetic (propulsion). |
| KEWG | Kinetic Energy Weapon, Ground. |
| KEWO | Kinetic Energy Weapon, Orbital. |
| Key | A type of dataset used for encryption or decryption. In cryptography, a sequence of symbols that controls the operations of encryption and decryption. |
| Kg | Kilogram. |
| KHILS | Kinetic Kill Vehicle Hardware in-the-Loop Simulator, Eglin AFB, FL. |

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| KHIT | Kinetic Kill Vehicle Hardware Integrated Test. |
| KIDD | Kinetic Impact Debris Distribution. |
| Kill Assessment (KA) | An evaluation of information to determine the result of a ballistic missile/RV intercept for the purpose of providing information for defense effectiveness and re-engagements. (USSPACECOM) |
| Kill Enhancement Device | A device that improves an interceptor's lethality. |
| Kinematic Battlespace | The planned engagement region in space of an interceptor given the sensor timeline, kinematic capabilities of the interceptor, engagement timeline, and operational constraints. |
| Kinetic Energy (KE) | The energy from the momentum of an object, i.e., an object in motion. |
| Kinetic Energy Weapon (KEW) | A weapon that uses kinetic energy, or energy of motion to kill an object. Examples of weapons, which use kinetic energy, are a rock, a bullet, a non-explosively armed rocket, and an electromagnetic rail gun. |
| Kinetic Kill Vehicle (KKV) | A weapon using a non-explosive projectile moving at very high speed to destroy a target on impact. The projectile may include homing sensors and on-board rockets to improve its accuracy, or it may follow a preset trajectory (as with a shell launched from a gun). |
| Kinetic Kill Vehicle Integrated Technology Experiment (KITE) | A series of test flights at WSMR to demonstrate HEDI technologies. |
| KITE | (1) Kuiper Infrared Technology Experiment. (2) Kinetic Kill Vehicle Integrated Technology Experiment. |
| KKV | Kinetic Kill Vehicle. |
| KKVWS | Kinetic Kill Vehicle Weapon System. |
| KL | Kill Level. |
| Km | Kilometer. |
| Km/h | Kilometer per hour. |
| Km/sec | Kilometer per Second. |
| KMCC | Kwajalein Mission Control Center. |
| KMR | Kwajalein Missile Range. |
| KMRSS | Kwajalein Missile Range Safety System. |
| KPP | Key Performance Parameters. |

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| Kr | Krypton. |
| KREMS | Kiernan Reentry Measurement System. |
| KSC | Kennedy Space Center, FL. |
| Kt | Kiloton. |
| KTF | Kauai Test Facility, Barking Sands, HI. |
| KTP | (1) Key Technical Partner. (2) Key Test Partner (3) Key Technical Parameters. |
| Kts | Knots. |
| KV | Kill Vehicle. |
| kw | Kilowatt. |
| KW | Kinetic Warhead. |

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| L&TH | Lethality and Target Hardening. |
| L1SS | Level 1 System Simulator. |
| L2SS | Level 2 System Simulator - NTF. |
| LAA | Limited Access Area. |
| LAAD | Low Altitude Air Defense. |
| LAAFB | Los Angeles Air Force Base, CA. |
| LABCOM | Laboratory Command. |
| LABM | Local Area Battle Manager. |
| LABP | Look Ahead Battle Planner |
| LAC | Low Authority Control. |
| LACE | Laser Atmospheric Compensation Experiment (an SDIO/NRL satellite launched February 1990 and turned off July 1993). |
| LACM | Land Attack Cruise Missile. |
| LADAR | Laser Detection and Ranging. |
| Laddering Down | A hypothetical technique for overcoming a terminal phase missile defense. Successive salvos of salvage-fused RVs attack. The detonations of one salvo disable local ABM abilities so that following salvos are able to approach the target more closely before being, in turn, intercepted. Eventually, by repeating the process, the target is reached and destroyed. |
| LADL | Lightweight Air Defense Launcher (USA TBMD term). |
| LADS | Low Altitude Demonstration System. |
| LAFB | Langley AFB, VA. |
| LAMP | Large Advanced Mirror Program. |
| LAN | Local Area Network. |
| Landsat | Land Satellite (NASA program's satellite). |
| LANL | Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM. |
| LANTRINS | Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared Night System. |
| LAO | Limited Attack Option. |
| LAPL | Lead Allowance Parts List (Navy term). |
| LARC | Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA. |

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| Large Optics | The technology of constructing and employing mirrors over 1 m aperture to direct and control high power beam weapons/systems with large coverage, or to provide high resolution or high sensitivity for detection and/or imaging. |
| LASA | Large Aperture Seismic Array. |
| Lasant | A material that can be stimulated to produce laser light. Many materials can be used as lasants; these can be in solid, liquid, or gaseous form (consisting of molecules including excimers or atoms) or in the form of plasma (consisting of ions and electrons). Lasant materials useful in high energy lasers include carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, deuterium fluoride, hydrogen fluoride, iodine, xenon chloride, krypton fluoride, and selenium, to mention but a few. |
| LASE | LIDAR Acquisition and Sizing Experiment. |
| Laser | An active electron device that converts input power into a very narrow, intense beam of coherent visible or infrared light; the input power excites the atoms of an optical resonator to a higher energy level, and the resonator forces the excited atoms to radiate in phase. Derived from Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation and classified from Class I - Class IV according to its potential for causing damage to the eye. |
| Laser Designator | A device that emits a beam of laser energy to mark a specific place or object. |
| Laser Detection and Ranging (LADAR) | A technique analogous to radar, but which uses laser light rather than radio or microwaves. The light is bounced off a target and then detected, with the return beam providing information on the distance and velocity of the target. |
| Laser Guided Weapon | A weapon that uses a seeker to detect laser energy reflected from a laser marker/designated target and, through signal processing, provides guidance commands to a control system. The control system then guides the weapon to the point from which the laser energy is being reflected. |
| Laser Imaging Radar | A technology whereby a laser beam can be used in a way similar to the use of a radar beam to produce a high-quality image of an object. |
| Laser Optics | Technology associated with the use and control of laser beams with flux greater than 1 watt/cm ² . |
| Laser Seeker | A device based on a direction sensitive receiver that detects the energy reflected from a laser designated target and defines the direction of the target relative to the receiver. See also laser guided weapon. |
| Laser Target Designating System | A system that is used to direct (aim or point) laser energy at a target. The system consists of the laser designator or laser target marker with its display and control components necessary to acquire the target and direct the beam of the laser energy thereon. |
| Laser Tracker | A device that locks on to the reflected energy from a laser marked/designated and defines the direction of the target relative to itself. |
| Laser Weapons | Devices, such as photon generators, which produce a narrow beam of coherent radiated power greater than 1 MW. |
| LASERCOM | Laser Communications. |
| LATS | Long Wave Infrared Advanced Technology Seeker/Sensor. |

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| Launch Azimuth | Missile launch location measured in degrees clockwise from the local north-pointing longitude line at the launch site. (USSPACECOM) |
| Launch Detection | Initial indication by any one of a variety of sensors that a booster has been launched from some point on the surface of the earth, with initial characterization of the booster type. (USSPACECOM) |
| Launch Point Determination | With computer methods, uses missile track observation to estimate the point on the earth's surface from which the missile was launched, expressed in terms of circular error probable. |
| Launch Under Attack (LUA) | Execution by National Command Authorities of Single Integrated Operational Plan forces subsequent to tactical warning of strategic nuclear attack against the United States and prior to first impact. |
| Launch Verification | Confirmation of a detection of a booster launch by receiving a report from a sensor separate and independent of the sensor that initially detected a specific booster launch. |
| Layered Defense | A defense that consists of several sets of weapons that operates at different phases in the trajectory of a ballistic missile. Thus, there could be a first layer (e.g., boost phase) of defense with remaining targets passed on to succeeding layers (e.g., midcourse, terminal). |
| lb | Pound. |
| LBL | Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, Berkeley, CA. |
| LBM | Localized Battle Management/Manager(s). |
| LBTS | Land Based Test Site. |
| LCC | (1) See Life-Cycle Cost. (2) Launch Control Center. |
| LCCE | (1) Life-Cycle Cost. (2) Launch Control Center. (3) Land Component Commander (JCS term). |
| LCCS | Life-Cycle Contractor Support. |
| LCF | Launch Control Facility. |
| LCM | (1) Life Cycle Management. (2) Lightweight Communications Module (USAF TelComms/Computer term). |
| LCN | Logistics Control Number (ILS term). |
| LCOM | Logistics Composite Model. |
| LCN | Logistics Control Number (ILS term). |
| LCS | Laser Crosslink System. |
| LDC | Less Developed Country. |
| LDS | (1) Layered Defense System. (2) Lexington Discrimination System. (3) Limited Defense System. |

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| LE | Lethality Enhancer (PAC-3). |
| Lead Component/Service | The DoD Component designated by SECDEF to be responsible for management of a system acquisition involving two or more DoD Components in a joint program. |
| LEAF | Law Enforcement Access Field. |
| Leakage | The allowable threat objects passing through a BMD system expressed as a percentage of the threat. To ensure overall system performance, permitted leakage is "budgeted" among individual BMD phases and functions. |
| Leakage (Max) | The maximum allowable threat objects passing through a BMD system expressed as a percentage of the design-to threat. To ensure overall system performance, permitted leakage is "budgeted" among individual BMD phases and functions. |
| LEAP | Lightweight Exoatmospheric Projectile. |
| LEASAT | Leased Satellite. |
| Least Privilege | This principle requires that each subject in a system be granted the most restrictive set of privileges (or lowest clearance) needed for the performance of authorized tasks. The application of this privilege limits the damage that can result from accident, error, or unauthorized use. |
| LED | (1) Low Endoatmospheric Defense. (2) Light Emitting Diode. |
| LEDI | Low Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor. |
| LEDS | (1) Low Endoatmospheric Defense System. (2) Link Eleven Display System (USN term). |
| LEI | Low Endoatmospheric Interceptor. |
| LEIP | Link Eleven Improvement Program (USN term). |
| LEL | Low Energy Laser. |
| LELWS | Low Energy Laser Weapon System. |
| LEM | Logistics Element Manager (ILS term). |
| LEO | Low Earth Orbit. |
| LETS | LWIR Environment and Threat Simulation. |
| Level of Effort (LOE) | Effort of a general or supportive nature that does not produce definite end products or results, e.g. contract man-hours. |
| Leverage | (1) The advantage gained by boost-phase intercept, when a single booster kill may eliminate many RVs and decoys before they are deployed. This could provide a favorable cost-exchange ratio for the defense and would reduce stress on later tiers of the SDS. (2) In general, the power to act or influence to attain goals. |
| LF | (1) Landing Force. (2) Low Frequency. |

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| LFIE | Live Flight Integration Exercise. |
| LFOV | Limited Field of View. |
| LFS | Loral Federal System, Gaithersburg, MD. |
| LFT&E | Live Fire Test and Evaluation. |
| LGB | Laser Guided Bomb. |
| LGM | (1) Laser Guided Missile. (2) Loop Group Multiplexer. |
| LGSM | Light Ground Station Module (USA CECOM term). |
| LHO | Amphibious Assault Ship. |
| Li | Lithium. |
| LIC | Low Intensity Conflict. |
| LIDAR | Light Detection and Ranging. |
| Life Cycle | (1) The total phases through which an item passes from the time it is initially developed until the time it is either consumed or disposed of as being excess to all known materiel requirements. (2) (Software). All the states a software or software related product passes through from its inception until it is no longer useful. |
| Life-Cycle Cost (LCC) | The total cost to the Government of acquisition and ownership of that system over its useful life. It includes the cost of development, acquisition, support and, where applicable, disposal. |
| Life-Cycle Management | Process for administering an automated information system or hardware support system over its whole life, with emphasis on strengthening early decisions which shape costs and utility. |
| Life-Cycle Model | A framework containing the processes, activities, and tasks involved in the development, operation, and support of the system, spanning the life of the system from the definition of its requirements to the termination of its use. |
| Life Cycle of a Weapon System | All phases of the system's life including research, development, test and evaluation, production, deployment (inventory), operations and support, and disposal. |
| Life Jacket | The life support storage container for a Brilliant Pebbles singlet. The life jacket contains subsystems that perform power, communications, and environmental protection functions. |
| Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) | A precision probing instrument used to measure concentrations of different gasses or particulates in a given amount of atmosphere. |
| Light Replicas (LREP) | Decoys that, by virtue of shape, closely approximate an RV's signature with little off-load penalty. |
| LIMIDIS | Limited Distribution. |

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| Limited Attack | An attack on the U.S. and its allies, which provides a stressing timeline, and is geographically distinct. Not an all-out attack or mass wave. |
| Limited Defense System (LDS) | The development of systems, components, and architectures for a deployable anti-ballistic missile system (as described in section 232(a)(1) of the 1991 Missile Defense Act, as revised) capable of providing a highly effective defense of the United States against limited ballistic missile threats, including accidental or unauthorized launches or Third World attacks, but below a threshold that would bring into question strategic stability. |
| Limited Operational Capability (LOC) | A point in time when the first set of sensors and weapons can be employed to provide a limited protection system. |
| Limited Production | The initial production of a system in limited quantity. Part of an acquisition strategy to be used in test and evaluation for verification of design maturity, manufacturing process final proofing, and product engineering and to verify a factories capabilities prior to a decision to proceed with production. Decision usually made near the end of EMD or at Milestone IIIA or equivalent. (Also called Low-Rate Initial Production or Pilot Production.) |
| Limited Test Ban Treaty | The bilateral Treaty signed and ratified by the United States and the (former) U.S.S.R. in 1963, which prohibits nuclear tests in all locations except underground, and prohibits nuclear explosions underground if they cause radioactive debris to be present outside the territorial limits of the state under whose jurisdiction or control the test would be conducted. |
| LIN | Line Item Number. |
| Linac | Linear Accelerator. |
| Line Item (Budget) | A specific program end item with its own identity (e.g., B-1B Bomber). |
| Line of Sight (LOS) | The line from sensor to target necessary for the commencement of the detection, acquisition, track, and identification of a target. |
| Line Replaceable Unit (LRU) | An essential support item removed and replaced at field level to restore end item to an operationally ready condition. (Also called Weapon Replacement Assembly and Module Replaceable Unit). |
| Link-16 | TADIL-J. |
| Link Quality Evaluation | This testing of links to create bit error estimates and monitors natural or induced link interference. |
| LIP | Lethality Improvement Plan. |
| Liquid Fuel Booster (LFB) | Target booster being developed to mate with current reentry vehicles and emulate the short/medium range threat. |
| LIS | Laser Isotope Separation. |
| LITINT | Literature Intelligence. |

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| Live Fire Test And Evaluation (LFT&E) | Survivability testing and lethality testing required before full-scale production. Must be conducted on ACAT I and II programs for: (a) A covered system (a conventional weapon system designed to provide some degree of protection to the user in combat); (b) a major munition or missile program; (c) a product improvement program that will significantly affect the survivability of a covered system. |
| LIVEX | Live Exercise. |
| LIWA | Land Information Warfare Activity. |
| LJ | Life Jacket (BE term). |
| LL | (1) Lincoln Laboratory, Lexington, MA. (2) Legislative Liaison. |
| LLM | Long Lead Material. |
| LLNL | Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA. |
| LLTIL | Long-Lead-Time Items List (ILS term). |
| LLUM | Low background LWIR Uniform Mercury Cadmium Telluride (HgCdTe). |
| LM | (1) Lockheed Martin, a defense industry contractor. (2) Logistics Manager (ILS term). |
| LM/GES | Lockheed Martin/Government Electronic Systems. |
| LMA | Lockheed Martin Astronautics, a defense industry contractor. |
| LMANS | Lockheed Martin Aeronautic and Naval Systems. |
| LMC | Late Midcourse. |
| LMFBR | Liquid-Metal Fast Breeder Reactor. |
| LMIS | Logistics Management Information System. |
| LNA | Low Noise Amplifier. |
| LNC | Local Network Controller. |
| LNE | Low Noise Exciter (Electronics Engineering term). |
| LNO | Liaison Officer. |
| LO | (1) Local Oscillator (Electronics Engineering term). (2) Low Observables (LODE-related term). |
| LOA | Letter of Agreement. |
| LOAD | Low Altitude Defense. |
| LOC | (1) Lines of Communication. (2) Lines of Code. (3) Limited Operational Capability. |

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| LOCAAS | Low Cost Autonomous Attack System (USAF term). |
| Local Assessment of Engagement | The assessment of an engagement by high-resolution fire control sensors. |
| Local Environment | The ISTC Local Environment contained within each node simulates the element to the degree necessary to generate a realistic input to the Element Processor of Element Processor Emulation and provide a realistic response to the Element Processor or Element Processor Emulation. |
| Lock On | Signifies that a tracking or target-seeking system is continuously and automatically tracking a target in one or more coordinates (e.g., range, bearing, elevation). |
| LODE | Laser Optics Demonstration Experiment. |
| LODTM | Large Optics Diamond Turning Machine. |
| LOE | (1) Level of Effort. (2) Letter of Evaluation (AF). |
| LOF | Lifejacket Orbital Flight (BE term). |
| Lofted Trajectory | Trajectory with an apogee greater than the minimum-energy trajectory to the same range. |
| LOG | Logistics. |
| LOG.WIPT | Logistics Working-level IPT |
| LOGAM II | Logistics Analysis Model II. |
| LOGFAC | Logistics Feasibility Analysis Capability. |
| LOGFOR | Logistics Force. |
| Logistics | The science of planning and carrying out the movement and maintenance of forces. In its most comprehensive sense, it includes those aspects of military operations which deal with: (1) design and development, acquisition, storage, movement, distribution, maintenance, evacuation, and disposition of materials; (2) movement, evacuation, and hospitalization of personnel; (3) acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation, and disposition of facilities; and (4) acquisition or furnishing of services. |
| Logistics Support | The supply and maintenance of materiel essential to proper operation of a system in the force. |
| Logistics Supportability | The degree to which planned logistics support (including test, measurement, and diagnostic equipment; spares and repair parts; technical data; support facilities; transportation requirements; training; manpower; and software support) allow meeting system availability and wartime usage requirements. |

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| Logistics Support Analysis (LSA) | The selective application of scientific and engineering efforts undertaken during the acquisition process, as part of the systems engineering process, to assist in: causing support considerations to influence design; defining support requirements that are related optimally to design and to each other; acquiring the required support; and providing the required support during the operational phase at minimum cost. |
| Logistics Support Analysis Record (LSAR) | A formal tool under MIL-STD 1388-2A that uses records/forms to document operations and maintenance requirements, RAM, task analyses, technical data, support/test equipment, facilities, skill evaluation, supply support, ATE and TPS, and transportability. LSAR is the basis for training, personnel, supply provisioning and allowances construction, support equipment acquisition, facilities construction and preparation, and for maintenance. |
| LOGPLAN | Logistics Plan. |
| LOGSIM | Logistics Simulation Model. |
| LOI | (1) Letter of Instruction. (2) Letter of Intent. |
| LOMEZ | Low Altitude Missile Engagement Zone. |
| Long Lead Items | Those components of a system for which the times to design and fabricate are the longest, and, therefore, to which an early commitment of funds may be desirable in order to meet the earliest possible date of system completion. |
| Long Range Air Launched Target (LRALT) | Two-stage, air launched ballistic missile target being developed for MBRV-4. |
| Long Wavelength Infrared (LWIR) | Thermal radiation emitted by a source in the electromagnetic spectrum encompassing infrared wavelengths of 6 to 30 microns. |
| LOR | Level of Repair Analysis (ILS term). |
| LORA | Level of Repair Analysis (ILS term). |
| LOS | (1) Line of Sight. (2) Large Optical Segment. |
| LOTS | Logistics Over-The-Shore. |
| LOW | Launch on Warning. |
| Low Altitude Demonstration System (LADS) | Part of the SBIRS Low Program Definition and Risk Reduction (PDRR) program phase. The LADS will consist of a flight experiment and extensive ground demonstrations by Boeing North American. The LADS flight experiment will be launched in late FY99 to demonstrate the sensor performance of a SBIRS Low concept and collect phenomenology data. |
| Low Earth Orbit (LEO) | These satellites are at altitudes between 100 and 400 nautical miles. They have short duration revolutions (about 90 minutes), short visibility envelopes (2.5 minutes up to 10 minutes over a tracking station), short life spans, and are most subject to orbital perturbations due to atmospheric drag and earth gravitational anomalies. |
| Low Endoatmosphere | That portion of the earth's atmosphere, generally below 40 km altitude. |

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| Low-Rate Initial Production (LRIP) | The production of a system in limited quantity to provide articles for operational test and evaluation, to establish an initial production base, and to permit an orderly increase in the production rate sufficient to lead to full-rate production upon successful completion of operational testing. |
| LOWKATRER | Low Weight Kinetic Energy Active Tracker. |
| LOWTRAN | Atmospheric and Interstellar Background Signature Model. |
| LPAR | Large Phased Array Radar. |
| LPD | Low Probability of Detection. |
| LPE | (1) Liquid Phase Epitaxy. (2) Launch Point Estimate. |
| LPI | Low Probability of Intercept. |
| LPS | Limited Protection System. |
| LR | Long Range. |
| LRA | (1) Line-Replaceable Assembly. (2) Launch and Recovery Element. |
| LRB | Liquid Rocket Booster. |
| LRC | Lewis Research Center, Cleveland, OH. |
| LRE | (1) Latest Revise Estimate. (2) Launch and Recovery Element. |
| LREP | Light Replicas. |
| LRF | Laser Range Finder. |
| LRINF | Longer Range Intermediate Nuclear Forces. |
| LRIP | See Low-Rate Initial Production. |
| LRIP-OT | Low Rate Initial Production – Operational Testing. |
| LRTBM | Long Range TBM. |
| LRTNF | Long-range Theater Nuclear Force. |
| LRU | (1) Line Replaceable Units. (2) Line Replacement Units. |
| LS | Launching Stations (PATRIOT). |
| LSA | Logistics Support Analysis. |
| LSAP | Logistics Support Analysis Program. |
| LSAR | Logistics Support Analysis Record. |
| LSART | LSA Review Team (ILS term). |
| LSAT | Laser Satellite. |

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| LSAWG | LSA Working Group. |
| LSE | Lifetime Support Engineering (ILS term). |
| LSEA | Lifetime Support Engineering Activity (ILS term). |
| LSI | Large Scale Integration (circuits). |
| LSRS | Loral Space and Range Systems, Sunnyvale, CA. |
| LST | (1) Laser Spot Tracker. (2) Landing Ship, Tank. |
| LSTS | Launcher Station Test Site. |
| LTA | Lead Time Analysis. |
| LTBT | Limited Test Ban Treaty. |
| LTD | Laser Target Designator. |
| LTH | Lethality and Target Hardening. |
| LTS | Low Temperature Superconductor |
| LTV | Launch Test Vehicle. |
| LU | Launch and Update. |
| LUA | Launch Under Attack. |
| LUP | Limited U.S. Protection. |
| LUT | Limited User Test. |
| LUT/OA | Limited User Test/Operational Assessment. |
| LVS | Loral Vought Systems, a defense industry contractor. |
| LVT | Low Volume Terminal (USN/NATO/Telecomm term). |
| LW | Laser Weapons. |
| LWAN | Local Wide Area Net. |
| LWIR | See Long Wavelength Infrared. |
| LWIR FPA (PET) | Long Wavelength Infrared Focal Plane Array (Pilot-line Experiment Technology). |
| LYTBT | Low-Yield Threshold Test Ban Treaty. |
| LZ | Landing Zone. |

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| m | (1) Meter. (2) Minute. |
| M | (1) Model. (2) Million. (3) Mega. |
| M&LC | Missile and Launch Control. |
| M&P | Manpower and Personnel. |
| M&S | (1) Materials and Structures. (2) Modeling and Simulation. |
| M-T-M | Model – Test – Model. |
| M/LWIR | Medium/Long Wavelength Infrared. |
| M/P | Manpower/Personnel. |
| MAA | Mission Area Analysis. |
| MAAG | Military Assistance Advisory Group. |
| MAB | Missile Assembly Building. |
| MAC | (1) OBSOLETE. Military Airlift Command. See AMC. (2) Maintenance Allocation Chart. |
| MACCK | Multi-Application Command and Control Kit (GD term for IVIS follow-on). |
| MACCS | Marine Corps Air Command and Control System. |
| MACOM | Major Army Command. |
| MAD | (1) Mission Area Deficiency. (2) Mutually Assured Destruction. |
| MADCAP | Mosaic Array Data Compression and Analysis Program. |
| MADS | Modified Air Defense System. |
| MAE | Medium Altitude Endurance. |
| MAGTF | Marine Air-Ground Task Force. |
| Main Beam | The primary directional EMR emitted from radar transmitters. |
| Maintainer | An individual responsible for retaining the major defense system in or restoring it to a specified condition. Maintenance activities include inspection, testing, servicing, classification as to serviceability, repair, rebuilding, and reclamation. |
| Maintenance Concept/Plan | A description of maintenance considerations and constraints for system/equipment under development. A preliminary maintenance concept is developed and submitted as part of the preliminary system operational concept for each alternative solution candidate by the operating command with the assistance of the implementing and supporting commands. A major driver in design of the system/equipment and support planned for it. |

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| Maintenance Operations | The corrective and preventive maintenance operations that do not require a deployment decision; it includes correction and subsequent validation testing and the update of relevant status configuration, maintenance, and inventory databases. |
| Maintenance Planning | The process conducted to evolve and establish maintenance concepts and requirements for the lifetime of a material system; one of the principal elements of ILS. |
| MAIS | Mobile Automated Instrumentation Suite (USA term). |
| MAISRC | Major Automated Information System Review Council |
| MAJCOM | Major Command (USAF). |
| Major Automated Information System Review Council (MAISRC) | The Senior DoD information management acquisition review board chaired by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Command, Control, Communication, and Intelligence. See DoD Directive 8120.2. |
| Major Defense Acquisition Program | An acquisition program that is not a highly sensitive classified program (as determined by the Secretary of Defense) and that is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designated by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology as a major defense acquisition program, or 2. Estimated by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology to require: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) An eventual total expenditure for research, development, test, and evaluation of more than \$200 million in fiscal year 1980 constant dollars (approximately \$300 million in fiscal year 1990 constant dollars), or b) An eventual total expenditure for procurement of more than \$1 billion in fiscal year 1980 constant dollars (approximately \$1.8 billion in fiscal year 1990 constant dollars). |
| Major Modification | A modification that in and of itself meets the criteria of acquisition category I or II or is designated as such by the milestone decision authority. Major modifications require a Milestone IV decision unless the decision to modify results from one of the alternatives considered as part of the Milestone I decision process. Upgrades are part of the Milestone 0 decision process. |
| Major System | A combination of elements that will function together to produce the capabilities required to fulfill a mission need, including hardware, equipment, software, or any combination thereof, but excluding construction or other improvements to real property. A system shall be considered a major system if it is estimated by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology to require: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An eventual total expenditure for research, development, test, and evaluation of more than \$75,000,000 in fiscal year 1980 constant dollars (approximately \$115,000,000 in fiscal year 1990 constant dollars), or 2. An eventual total expenditure for procurement of more than \$300,000,000 in fiscal year 1980 constant dollars (approximately \$540,000,000 in fiscal year 1990 constant dollars). |
| MAM | Maintenance Assist Modules. |
| MAMDT | Mean Active Maintenance Downtime (ILS term). |

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| Mandatory Access Control | A means of restricting access to objects based on the sensitivity (as represented by a label) of the information contained in the objects and the formal authorization of subjects to access information of such sensitivity. |
| Maneuverable Reentry Vehicle (MARV) | A reentry vehicle capable of performing preplanned flight maneuvers during the reentry phase. The reentry vehicles deploy fins or other aerodynamic surfaces when they enter the atmosphere, allowing them to turn and dodge rather than fall ballistically. They have no ability to maneuver in space. |
| MANPER | Manpower and Personnel ILS term). |
| Manpower Authorizations | The billets in the manpower requirements structure that are planned to be filled. |
| Manpower Estimate Report (MER) | An estimate of the number of personnel who will operate, maintain, support, and train for the acquisition upon full operational deployment. The Services prepared the estimates, and the SECDEF submits them to Congress 30 days prior to approval for EMD or production. |
| Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Safety (MPTS) | The human dimension of the complete defense weapon system. The term MPTS also encompasses the concepts and disciplines of human factors engineering and health hazard prevention. |
| Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Safety (MPTS) Profiles | A description of human dimensions and constraints involving a major system throughout the system life cycle. This includes, but is not limited to, descriptions and categorizations of occupations, aptitudes, individual skills and demographics, training system characteristics and components, potential system hazards, and other issues affecting the performance and welfare of operators, maintainers, and personnel that support existing, modified or new systems. |
| MANPRINT | Manpower and Personnel Integration (US Army). |
| MANTECH | Manufacturing Technology. |
| Manufacturing (or Production) Engineering | Pre-production planning and operation analysis applied to specific product designs. The functions of planning, specifying, and coordinating the application of required factory resources including: performing analyses of production operations, processes, and systems; applying new manufacturing methods, tooling, and equipment; controlling the introduction of engineering changes, and employing cost control and quality techniques from the factory viewpoint. |
| Manufacturing Operations, Development, and Integration Laboratory (MODIL) | An SDS-peculiar integration mechanism to link product technology development concurrently with manufacturing process and control development for a cost-reducing effective SDS development. |
| Manufacturing Technology (MANTECH) | Manufacturing technology refers to any action which has as its objective the timely establishment or improvement of the manufacturing processes, techniques, or equipment required to support current and projected programs, and the assurance of the ability to produce, reduce lead time, ensure economic availability of end items, reduce costs, increase efficiency, improve reliability, or to enhance safety and anti-pollution measures. MANTECH, per se, is the specific DoD program in this area. |

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| MAOC | Modular Air Operations Center (JFACC term). |
| MAOPR | Minimum Acceptable Operational Performance Requirements. |
| MAP | Minimum Acquisition Program. |
| MAR | Monthly Assessment Report (BMDO/POC term). |
| MARCO | Marine Corps. |
| Marine Air Command and Control System | A US Marine Corps tactical air command and control system that provides the tactical air commander with the means to command, coordinate, and control all air operations within an assigned sector and to coordinate air operations with other Services. It is composed of command and control agencies with communications-electronics equipment that incorporates a capability from manual through semiautomatic control. |
| Mark/Markup | Line by line review and approval/disapproval/modification of the defense budget by congressional committees. |
| MARS | Multi-warfare Assessment and Research System. |
| MARSYSCOM | US Marine Corps Systems Command, Quantico, VA |
| MARV | Maneuverable Reentry Vehicle. |
| MARVIS | Mid-Apogee Reentry Vehicle Intercept System. |
| MAS | Mutual Assured Survival. |
| MASINT | Measurement and Signature Intelligence. |
| MASPAR | Massive Parallel Processors (TMD-GBR). |
| Mass Raid | Many Red ballistic missiles launched toward CONUS from several launch areas. A mass ASAT raid consists of several ASATs attacking Blue satellites. |
| MAST | Measurement and Simulation Technology-formerly Synthetic Scene Generation Model (SSGM). |
| Matching Ballistic Reentry Vehicle (MBRV) | Four reentry vehicle designs (MBRV 1-4) developed to serve as threat representative theater targets. |
| Matching Target Reentry Vehicle (MTRV) | Threat representative reentry vehicle developed for GMD Program by Sandia Labs. Planned for use on IFT 9-14. |
| Material Fielding Plan | Plan to ensure smooth transition of system from developer to user. |
| Materials Science | The science of developing/altering and applying materials to obtain a resultant molecular structure with desirable physical properties and performance characteristics. (See Structures.) Also includes applying state-of-the-art advanced materials in the design of new SDS components and end items. |
| MATHSFA | Manufacturing and Testing of LWIR Hardened Seeker FPA Assemblies. |

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| Matra BAE Dynamics | European missile manufacturer formed in 1996 from British Aerospace Dynamics and Matra of France. |
| MATT | Mutli-mission Advanced Tactical Terminal. |
| MATT Radio | UHF radio receiver for TRAP, TOPS, and TIBS. |
| MATTR | Mid And Terminal Tiers Review. |
| MAX | Maximum. |
| Maximum Attrition | Maximum attrition is employed in a target-rich environment to destroy the maximum number of RVs, regardless of the type, by using all available or allocated interceptors. This option may not satisfactorily defend specific or required assets. |
| MB | Megabyte. |
| MBA | Multi-Beam Antenna. |
| MBE | Molecular Beam Epitaxy. |
| MBFR | Mutual and Balanced Force Reduction. |
| Mbps | Megabits per second. |
| MBRV | Maneuvering Ballistic Reentry Vehicle. |
| MC | (1) Mission Control. (2) See Midcourse phase. (3) Mission Capable (ILS term). (4) Military Committee. |
| MCA | Micro Channel Architecture (TelComm/Computer term). |
| MCAS | Marine Corps Air Station. |
| MCASS | MTACCS Common Application Support Software. |
| MCBM | Midcourse Battle Manager. |
| MCC | Mission Control Complex/Center/Console. |
| MCCC | Mobile Consolidated Command Center. |
| MCCDC | Marine Corps Combat Development Center. |
| MCCR | Mission Critical Computer Resources. |
| MCE | Mission Control Element. |
| MCG | Midcourse Guidance. |
| MCI | Midcourse Interceptor. |
| MCLOR | Marine Corps LORA Model (USMC ILS term). |
| MCM | Multi-Chip Module. |

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| MCOTEA | Marine Corps Operational Test and Evaluation [Command]. |
| MCP | (1) Materiel Change Package (US Army term). (2) Military Construction Program. |
| MCPDM | Marine Corps Program Decision Making. |
| MCRDAC | Marine Corps Research, Development & Acquisition Command. |
| MCS | (1) Maneuver Control System. (2) Midcourse Sensor. |
| MCSS | (1) Midcourse Surveillance System. (2) Military Communications Satellite System. |
| MCT | Mercury Cadmium Telluride (cf. HgCdTe). |
| MCTE | Mission, Course of Action, Task, and Element Control Directives. |
| MCTL | Militarily Critical Technologies List. |
| MCTR | Missile Control Technology Regime. |
| MCV | Mission Capable Vehicle. |
| MD | Missile Defense. |
| MDA | (1) Missile Defense Agency. (2) Missile Defense Act. (3) Milestone Decision Authority. (4) McDonnell-Douglas Aerospace. |
| MDAHWG | Missile Defense Ad Hoc Working Group. |
| MDAP | Major Defense Acquisition Program. |
| MDART | Missile Defense Activities Review Team. |
| MDBIC | Missile Defense Barrel Integration Center. |
| MDC | Midcourse Data Center, Advanced Research Center, Huntsville, AL. |
| MDCI | Multi-Discipline Counterintelligence. |
| MDDC | Missile Defense Data Center, USASSDC, Huntsville, AL. |
| MDP | Manufacturing Data Package. |
| MDR | (1) Medium Data Rate (TelComms/Computer term). (2) Milestone Decision Review. (3) Multi-national Defense Research. |
| MDSC | Missile Defense Scientific and Technical Information Center. |
| MDSTC | Missile Defense and Space Technology Center. |
| MDT | Maintenance Down Time. |
| MDTD | Mean Downtime Documentation (ILS term). |
| MDTOA | Mean Downtime for Outside Assistance (ILS term). |

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| MDTOR | Mean Downtime for Other Reasons (ILS term). |
| MDTT | Mean Downtime for Training (ILS term). |
| MDW | Mass Destruction Weapons. |
| ME/VA | Mission Essential/Vulnerable Area |
| MEA | Mission Effectiveness Analysis (JFACC term). |
| MEADS | See Medium Extended Air Defense System. |
| Mean Time Between Failures (MTBF) | A measure of the reliability of an item. Defined as the total functioning life of an item divided by the total number of failures within the population during the measurement interval. The definition holds for time, rounds, miles, events, or other measures of unit life. MTBF is a basic measure of reliability. |
| Mean Time To Repair (MTTR) | The total elapsed time for corrective maintenance divided by the total number of corrective maintenance actions during a given period of time. A basic measure of maintainability. |
| Mean Time to Restore System (MTTRS) | A measure of the system maintainability parameter related to availability and readiness. The total corrective maintenance time associated with downing events, divided by the total number of downing events, during a stated period of time. (Excludes time for off-system maintenance and repair of detached components.) |
| MEASAT | Malaysia East Asia Satellite. |
| Measure of Effectiveness (MOE) | The quantitative expression (sometimes modified by subjective judgment) of the success of a system in achieving a specified objective. |
| MEC | Mission Essentially Code (ILS term). |
| Medium Earth Orbit (MEO) | Space vehicles characterized by orbits between 400 and 10,000 nautical miles, longer duration revolution (2 to 12 hours), longer visibility envelopes (10 minutes up to approximately 1 hour), and generally longer lifetimes. This region contains the Van Allen radiation belts where electronic components need special protection. |
| Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS) | A lightweight, highly transportable, low-to-medium altitude air defense and theater missile defense system designed to protect critical fixed and maneuverable corps assets. MEADS superseded the Corps SAM program in 1995. |
| Medium Power Lasers | Lasers that radiate power less than 1 MW, normally used to detect, identify, track, and designate a target vehicle. |
| Medium Range Ballistic Missile (MRBM) | A ballistic missile with a range from about 600 to 1,500 nautical miles. |
| Medium Wavelength Infrared (MWIR) | Thermal radiation emitted by a source in the electromagnetic spectrum encompassing infrared wavelengths of 3 to 6 microns. |

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| MEF | Marine Expeditionary Force. |
| MEILSR | Minimum Essential ILS Requirements (NSA term). |
| MEL | (1) Maintenance Expenditure Limit. (2) Mobile Erector Launcher. |
| MEM | (1) Mission Effectiveness Model. (2) Mission Equipment Modernization. |
| Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) | <p>(1) In contract administration, an agreement between a program manager and a Contract Administration Office, establishing the scope of responsibility of the Contract Administration Office with respect to the cost and schedule surveillance functions and objectives, and/or other contract administration functions on a specific contract or program.</p> <p>(2) Any written agreement in principle as to how a program will be administered.</p> |
| Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) | Official agreements concluded between the NATO countries' defense ministries but ranking below government level international treaties. De facto, all partners generally recognize such agreements as binding even if no legal claim could be based on the rights and obligations laid down in them. |
| MEO | Medium Earth Orbit. |
| MER | Manpower Estimate Report. |
| Mercury Cadmium Telluride (HCT) | Infrared sensing material. |
| MES | Military Essential Support. |
| MESAR | Multifunction Electronically Scanned Adaptive Radar (UK). |
| MESFET | Metal Schottky-Gate Field Effect Transistor. |
| Mesosphere | The portion of the atmosphere from about 30 to 80 kilometers above the earth. |
| Methods Engineering | The technique that subjects each operation of a given piece of work to close analysis to eliminate every unnecessary element or operation and to approach the quickest and best method of performing each necessary element or operation. It includes the improvement and standardization of methods, equipment, and working conditions; operator training; the determination of standard times; and occasionally devising and administering various incentive plans. |
| METO | Minimum Effort Task Order. |
| METOIA | Minimum Effort Task Order Impact Assessment. |
| METOP | Minimum Effort Task Order Plan. |
| METOR | Minimum Effort Task Order Requirement. |
| Metric | (Software). An indicator, which measures some specific attribute of the software development process. |

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| Metrology | The science of measurement, including the development of measurement standards and systems for absolute and relative measurement. Used to determine conformance to technical requirements including the development of standards and systems for absolute and relative measurements. |
| MeV | Million Electron Volts. |
| MEZ | Missile Engagement Zone. |
| MFAR | Modular Multifunction Phased Array Radar. |
| MFEL | Medical Free Electron Laser. |
| MFG | Master Frequency Generator. |
| MFL | Multiple Folded Ladar. |
| MFLOPS | Million Floating Point Operations Per Second. |
| MFP | Major Force Program. |
| MFR | Memorandum For Record. |
| MFS | MFS Communications Company, Incorporated. |
| MFSIM | Multifunction Simulation (PATRIOT), Huntsville, AL. |
| MGEP | Mobile Ground Entry Point. |
| MGLI | Midcourse Ground Launched Interceptor. |
| MGMT | Management. |
| MGTS | Mobile Ground Telemetry Station. |
| MHD | Magneto-Hydro-Dynamic. |
| MHE | (1) Material Handling Equipment. (2) Mobile Hauling Equipment. |
| MHV | Miniature Homing Vehicle. |
| mi | Statue mile (5,280 feet). |
| MIC | Management Information Center (MDA). |
| MICOM | U.S. Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, AL. |
| MIDAS | Missile Defense Alarm System (US). |
| Mid-Course Defense Segment (MDS) | The portion of the BMDS that defeats ballistic missiles during the period of flight between boost and atmospheric reentry. |
| Midcourse Guidance | The guidance applied to a missile between termination of the boost phase and the start of the terminal phase of flight. |

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| Midcourse (MC) Phase | That portion of a ballistic missile's trajectory between the boost phase and the reentry phase when reentry vehicles and penaids travel at ballistic trajectories above the atmosphere. During this phase, a missile releases its warheads and decoys and is no longer a single object, but rather a swarm of RVs and penaids falling freely along present trajectories in space. |
| Midcourse Space Experiment (MSX) | Designed to provide demonstrations of midcourse acquisition and tracking from space, technology integration of optics, focal plane arrays, signal processing, etc., and collect background phenomenology measurements and target signature measurements. |
| Midgetman | US ICBM. |
| MIDI | Musical Instrument Digital Interface. |
| MIDS | Multi-Functional Information System (USN/NATO/Telecomm term). |
| MIIRD | Mission Issue Identification and Resolution Document. |
| MIJI | Meaconing, Intrusion, Jamming, and Interference. |
| MIL | Man-in-the-Loop. |
| MIL-HDBK | Military Handbook. |
| MIL-STD | Military Standard. |
| MILCON | Military Construction. |
| Milestone Decision Authority | The individual designated in accordance with criteria established by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology to approve entry of an acquisition program into the next phase. |
| Milestones (MS) | Major decision points that separate the phases of an acquisition program. |
| Military Capability | The ability to achieve a specified wartime objective (win a war or battle, destroy a target set). It includes four major components: a). Force Structure – Numbers, size and composition of the units that comprise our Defense forces; b) Modernization – Technical sophistication of forces, units, weapon systems, and equipment; c) Readiness – The ability of forces, units, weapon systems, or equipment to deliver the outputs for which they were designed; d) Sustainability – The ability to maintain the necessary level and duration of operational activity to achieve military objectives. Sustainability is a function of providing for and maintaining those levels of ready forces, materiel, and consumables necessary to support military effort. |
| Military Operational Requirements | The formal expression of a military need, the response to which results in development or acquisition of items, equipment, or systems. |
| Military Requirement | An established need justifying the timely allocation of resources to achieve a capability to accomplish approved military objectives, missions, or tasks. |
| Military Satellite (MILSAT) | A satellite used for military purposes, such as navigation or intelligence gathering. |

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| Military Strategy Selection | The determination of: (1) what targets to defend and their priorities in order to achieve the selected national strategy, and (2) the type of attackers (and/or their corridors) to be intercepted. |
| Military Utility | The military worth of a system performing its mission in a competitive environment, including versatility (or potential) of the system. It is measured against the operational concept, operational effectiveness, safety, security, and cost/worth. Military utility estimates form a rational basis for making management decisions. |
| MILOGS | Marine Integrated Logistics System (USMC term). |
| MILSAT | Military Satellite. |
| MILSATCOM | Military Satellite Communications. |
| MILSPACE | Military Space |
| MILSPEC | Military Specification. |
| MILSTAR | Military Strategic and Tactical Relay (satellite system). |
| MILSTRIP | Military Standard Requisitioning and Issue Procedures. |
| MIME | Multipurpose Internet Mail Extension. |
| MIN | Minimum |
| min | Minute. |
| Mini-DAMA | Miniature Demand Assigned Multiple Access. |
| Miniature Homing Vehicle (MHV)/ Miniature Vehicle (MV) | An air-launched direct-ascent ("pop-up") kinetic energy anti-satellite weapon. |
| Minimum Acceptable Operational Requirement | The value for a particular parameter that is required to provide a system capability that will satisfy the validated mission need. Also known as the performance threshold. |
| Minimum Energy Trajectory | The trajectory that produces maximum range for a given amount of energy. |
| Minimum Required Accomplishments | Necessary tasks that must be completed during an acquisition phase prior to the next milestone decision review. Applies to all acquisition categories and highly sensitive classified programs. |
| Minuteman | US ICBM. |
| MIP | Maintenance Index Page (Navy ILS term). |
| MIPA | Missile Procurement Army (Appropriation). |
| MIPR | Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request. |

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| MIPS | (1) Marine Integrated Personnel System (USMC term). (2) Master Integrated Program Schedule. (3) Million Instructions Per Second (ADP term). |
| MIPT | Management IPT. |
| MIRACL | Mid Infrared Advanced Chemical Laser. |
| MIRS | Management Information and Reporting System. |
| MIRV | Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicle. |
| MIS | Management Information System. |
| MISREP | Mission Report (JFACC term). |
| MISSI | Multilevel Information Systems Security Initiative. |
| Missile Defense National Team (MDNT) | A collaborative enterprise of the missile defense community that is focused on executing a single program of research and development work to develop a Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS). It is comprised of personnel from Government, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs), Scientific, Engineering and Technical Assistance (SETA) providers and major industry contractors. |
| Missile Defense National Team, Battle Management, Command and Control, and Communications (MDNTB) | The component of the MDNT led by MDA/BC that is focused on Battle Management, Command and Control, and Communications (BM/C2/C). The MDNTB industry contribution is composed of a single team of major defense contractors (Boeing, General Dynamics, Lockheed Martin [Team Lead], Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and TRW). This industry team is referred to as the MDNTB (I) and is a unique sub-group of personnel from the industry companies that provides a confidential consolidation of experience in the development, integration, and production of missile defense systems. |
| Missile Defense National Team, Systems Engineering & Integration (MDNTS) | The component of the MDNT led by MDA/SE that is focused on Systems Engineering and Integration (SE&I). The MDNTS industry contribution is composed of a single team of major defense contractors (Boeing [Team Lead], General Dynamics, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, and TRW). This industry team is referred to as the MDNTS (I) and is a unique sub-group of personnel from the industry companies that provides a confidential consolidation of experience in the development, integration, and production of missile defense systems. |
| Missile Defense Warning Condition | A situation of peril declared by the competent military commander, that a ballistic missile attack is probable (Missile Defense Warning Yellow), imminent or in progress (Missile Defense Warning Red), or improbable (Missile Defense Warning White). |
| Missile Destruct | Intentional destruction of a missile or similar vehicle for safety or other reasons. |
| Missile Guidance System | A system that evaluates flight information, correlates it with target data, determines the desired flight path of a missile, and communicates the necessary commands to the missile flight control system. |

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| Missile Intercept Zone | That geographical division of the destruction area where surface-to-air missiles have primary responsibility for destruction of airborne objects. |
| Missile Release Line | The line at which an attacking aircraft could launch an air-to-surface missile against a specific target. |
| Missile Warning Center (MWC) | Located in CMAFB, the MWC is operated by USSPACECOM to fulfill ballistic missile TW/AA responsibilities of USCINCSpace to external users to whom there are commitments. The MWC manages the ballistic missile sensors and reporting system in support of timely, accurate, and unambiguous warning of missile attack worldwide. MWC personnel, in coordination with other centers, validate and confirm report events. The Launch Correlation Unit (LCU) of the MWC ensures all domestic and cooperative launches are coordinated and reported so that they are not construed as hostile in accordance with the "Agreement on Measures to Reduce the Risk of Outbreak of Nuclear War" between the US and USSR. |
| Mission | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The task, together with the purpose, which clearly indicates the action to be taken and the reason therefore. (2) In common usage, especially when applied to lower military units, a duty assigned to an individual or unit; a task. (3) Missions are statements of the objective to be accomplished for a given situation. Missions will describe the situation and will include who, what, when, where, why, and how the BMD system will perform. They contain employment direction and procedures to BMD forces for a given situation to achieve specific defense objectives. (USSPACECOM) |
| Mission Area | A segment of the defense mission as established by the Secretary of Defense. Each DoD component has a mission area (i.e. Navy - sea control) for which it must equip its forces. |
| Mission Area Analysis (MAA) | Continuous analysis of assigned mission responsibilities in the several mission areas to identify deficiencies in the current and projected capabilities to meet essential mission needs, and to identify opportunities for the enhancement of capability through more effective systems and less costly methods. |
| Mission Capable (MC) | Material condition of an aircraft indicating it can perform at least one and potentially all of its designated missions. Mission capable is further defined as the sum of full mission capable and partial mission capable. Also called MC. |
| Mission Critical Computer Resources | Automated data processing equipment or services if the function, operation, or use: (1) involves intelligence activities; (2) involves cryptologic activities related to national security; (3) involves command and control of military forces; (4) involves equipment which is an integral part of a weapon or weapons system; or (5) is critical to direct fulfillment of military or intelligence missions. |
| Mission Critical System | A system whose operational effectiveness and operational suitability are essential to successful completion or to aggregate residual combat capability. If this system fails, the mission likely will not be completed. Such a system can be an auxiliary or supporting system, as well as a primary mission system. |
| Mission Element | A segment of a mission area critical to the accomplishment of the mission area objectives and corresponding to a recommendation for a major system capability as determined by the DoD Component. |

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| Mission Need Analysis | Assesses alternatives in an operational context, identifying what force capabilities would be gained by pursuing any of a designated set of alternatives. Assesses the strengths and weaknesses of a military force when confronting a postulated threat in a specified scenario or set of circumstances. |
| Mission Need Statement (MNS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A non-system specific statement of operational capability needs, prepared IAW format in DoD 5000.2-M. Developed by DoD components and forwarded to the Joint Requirements Oversight Council (JROC) for validation and approval (major efforts), or just notification (minor efforts). The JROC also assesses all MNSs for joint service potential. MNSs go to the milestone decision authority for a determination on whether or not to convene a Milestone 0 review. (2) A statement of operational capability required to perform an assigned mission or to correct a deficiency in existing capability to perform the mission. |
| Mission Reliability | The probability that the system will perform mission essential functions for a period of time under the conditions stated in the mission profile. |
| MIST | Mosaic Infrared Sensor Technology. |
| MIT | Massachusetts Institute of Technology. |
| MIT/LL | Massachusetts Institute of Technology / Lincoln Laboratory, Bedford, MA. |
| MIW | Mine Warfare. |
| MK | Mark (version). |
| MKV | (1) Miniature Kill Vehicle. (2) Multiple Kill Vehicles. |
| MLCP | Mission Launch Control Processor. |
| MLDT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Mean Logistics Delay Time (ILS term). (2) Missile Downlink Transmitter (USA term). |
| MLF | Multi-Lateral Force. |
| MLI | Multi-layer Insulation. |
| MLRS | Multiple Launch Rocket System. |
| MLS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Microwave Landing System (FAA airways term). (2) Multi-Level Security (COMSEC term). |
| MLV | (1) Missile Launch Vehicle. (2) Medium Life Vehicle. |
| MLWIR | Medium-Long Wavelength Infrared. |
| Mm | Millimeter. |
| MM | Maintenance Manual. |
| MM III | Minuteman III ICBM. |
| MMH | Maintenance Man-hours (ILS term). |

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| MMI | Man-Machine Interface. |
| MMIC | Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuit. |
| MMIPT | Milestone Management IPT (THAAD Program term). |
| MMKV | Multiple Miniature Kill Vehicles |
| MMM | Multi-Mode Missile. |
| MMPM | MEECN Message Processing Mode. |
| MMR | Monthly Management Review. |
| MMS | Multi-Mode Seeker. |
| MMS-CP | Missile Management Station – Control Panel (US Army term). |
| MMU | Man Maneuvering Unit. |
| MMW | Millimeter Wave. |
| MN-ED | Materiel Need – Engineering Development (US Army term). |
| MNS | Mission Need Statement. |
| MOA | (1) Memorandum of Agreement. (2) Military Operating Area. |
| MOA/U | Memorandum of Agreement/Understanding. |
| MOAB | Missile Optimized Anti-Ballistic. |
| MOB | Main Operations Base. |
| Mobile Ground Entry Point (MGEP) | The subset of GEPs, which are transportable. GEPs provide the communications interfaces between the SDS space orbital/sub-orbital elements and the C ² E. |
| MOC | Mobile Operations Center. |
| MOCVD | Metal Organic Chemical Vapor Deposition. |
| Mock-up | A model, built to scale, of a machine, apparatus, or weapon. It is used in examining the construction of critical clearances, in testing a new development, or in teaching personnel how to operate or maintain the actual item. |
| MOD | (1) Ministry of Defense. (2) Modification. |
| Modem | Modulator-Demodulator (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| Modes | Situational conditions or categories under which selective Rules of Engagement apply. Examples include: Peacetime: Day to day operation when training, exercises, and routine maintenance and operations occur. Prior to crisis or war. Crisis: The transition state between peacetime and war. War: Self-explanatory. |
| MODIL | See Manufacturing Operations, Development, and Integration Laboratory. |

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| Modularity | The degree to which a system, computer program (or component) is composed of discrete components such that a change to one component has minimal impact on other components. |
| MOE | See Measure of Effectiveness. |
| MOL | Minimum Operating Level. |
| MOLNIYA Orbit | This is a highly eccentric orbit with high apogee (.71 to .74) in the northern hemisphere and low perigee in the southern hemisphere. For a specific set of orbital parameters, this orbit has a changing velocity and altitude, which, when combined with the earth's rotation, keeps the orbiting satellite within view for very long periods (96 percent) above a designated point on earth. |
| MOM | Measure of Merit. |
| Mono Track | Data on the location and movement of an object in space that can be derived by a single sensor. |
| Monostatic Radar | A radar system in which the receiver and transmitter are collocated. |
| MOP | Memorandum of Policy. |
| MOPA | Master Oscillator Power Amplifier. |
| MOPP | Mission-Oriented Protective Posture. |
| MOR | Memorandum of Record. |
| MORA | MILSTAR Operator Requirements Analyst. |
| MOS | Metal Oxide Semiconductor. |
| Moscow BMD System | The Soviet exoatmospheric system using the Dog House and Cat House phased-array radars for long-range acquisition. The system might also use the Hen House early warning radars for long-range acquisition. Target and interceptor tracking is performed by mechanically steered dish antennas. |
| MOSHED | Multi-planar Organic Scintillator High Energy Detector. |
| MOSTT | Mosaic Optical Sensor Technology Testbed. |
| MOTIF | Maui Optical Tracking and Identification Facility, HI. |
| MOTR | Multiple Object Tracking Radar. |
| MOTS | Military Off the Shelf. |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding. |
| MPA | (1) Main Political Administration (USSR term). (2) Maintenance Planning Analysis (ILS term). |
| mph | Miles per hour. |
| MPL | Multiple Pulse Laser. |

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| MPOS | Million Operations Per Second. |
| MPP | Massively Parallel Processor. |
| MPRS | Mission Planning Rehearsal System. |
| MPS | (1) Multiple Protective Shelters (once to be used for basing MX). (2) Main Propulsion System. |
| MPT | Manpower, Personnel, and Training. |
| MPTS | Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Safety. |
| MR | (1) Milliradian. (2) Mobile Reserve. (3) Maintenance Ratio (ILS term) (4) Missile Round (US Army term) |
| MRB | Material Review Board. |
| MRBM | Medium Range Ballistic Missile. |
| MRC | (1) Maintenance Requirements Card (Navy ILS term). (2) Major Regional Conflict/Contingency. |
| MRCTS | Missile Round Cable Test Set. |
| MRD | Mission Requirements Document. |
| MRDA | Mission Requirements and Definition Analysis. |
| MRJ | A specific SETA contractor. |
| MRL | Multiple Rocket Launcher. |
| MROC | (1) Mobile Regional Operations Center. (2) Multiple Required Operational Capabilities. |
| MRP | Missile Round Pallet. |
| MRR | Mission Readiness Review (AFMC term). |
| MRSA | Material Readiness Support Agency (US. Army). |
| MRSS | Mobile Range Safety System. |
| MRTFB | Major Range and Test Facility Base. |
| MRV | Maneuverable Reentry Vehicle. |
| MRVIS | Mid-Apogee Reentry Vehicle Intercept System. |
| ms | Milliseconds. |
| MS | Milestones. |
| MS I | Milestone I (DD 5000 term). |
| MS II | Milestone Two (DD 5000 term). |

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| MS III | Milestone Three (DD 5000 term). |
| MS IV | Milestone Four (DD 5000 term). |
| MS-DOS | Microsoft Disk Operating System. |
| MSAG | Multi-functional Self-Aligned Gate. |
| MSC | (1) Military Sealift Command. (2) Mission Support Configuration. (3) Major Subordinate Command. |
| MSD | Modular Security Device. |
| MSE | (1) Mobile Subscriber Equipment (PATRIOT). (2) Multiple Simultaneous Engagements. |
| MSEL | Master Scenario Events List. |
| MSFC | Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, AL. |
| MSG | Message. |
| MSGDB | Message Database. |
| MSI | Multi-Spectral Imagery. |
| MSIC | Missile and Space Intelligence Center (DIA), Redstone Arsenal, AL. |
| MSL | (1) Mean Sea Level. (2) Master Station Log. |
| MSLS | Multi-Service Launch System (Minuteman). |
| MSPS | Mega Sample Per Second. |
| MSR | Missile Site Radar. |
| MSS | (1) Midcourse Surveillance System. (2) Multi-Satellite System. (ARPA). (3) Management Support System. (4) Modeling and Simulation Support. |
| MSSS | Maui Space Surveillance Site. |
| MSTI | Miniature Sensor Technology Integration satellite. |
| MSTS | (1) Midcourse Surveillance and Tracking System. (2) Multi Source Tactical System. |
| MSU | Mass Storage Unit (TelComm/Computer term). |
| MSWG | Milestone Working Group. |
| MSX | Midcourse Space Experiment. |
| Mt. | Megaton. |
| MT | Metric Ton. |

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| MTACCS | Marine Tactical Air Command and Control System. |
| MTB(EME) | Mean Time Between (Equipment Malfunction Event). |
| MTBCF | Mean Time Between Critical Failures ((ILS term). |
| MTBF | Mean Time Between Failures. |
| MTBFS | MTBF Software (ILS term). |
| MTBM | Mean Time Between Maintenance (ILS term). |
| MTBMA | Mean Time Between Maintenance Actions (ILS term). |
| MTBR | Mean Time Between Removals (ILS term). |
| MTCR | Missile Technology Control Regime. |
| MTD | (1) Maintenance Task Distribution (ILS term). (2) Material Test Directorate. (3) Missile Technology Demonstration (USAF program). |
| MTDS | Minimum Technical Data Set (ACDP term). |
| Mtg | Meeting. |
| MTI | Moving Target Indicator. |
| MTM | Maneuvering Tactical Missile. |
| MTMC | Military Traffic Management Control. |
| Mtn | Mountain. |
| MTOE | Modified Table of Organization and Equipment. |
| MTOP | Management Task Order Plan. |
| MTS | Missile Tracking Sensor. |
| MTTR | Mean Time To Repair. |
| MTTRS | Mean Time to Restore System. |
| MTTV | Maneuvering Tactical Target Vehicle. |
| MTU | Military Training Unit (ILS term). |
| MTV | Maneuvering Target Vehicle. A Hera target booster with a Pershing II reentry vehicle. |
| MTWS | MAGTF Tactical Warfare Simulation. |
| MUE | Mission Unique Equipment. |

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| Multi-Service Doctrine | Fundamental principals that guide the employment of forces of two or more Services in coordinated action toward a common objective. It is ratified by the two or more Services, and is promulgated in multi-Service publications that identify the participating Services. See also Joint Doctrine. |
| Multi-Spectral Imagery | The image of an object obtained simultaneously in a number of discrete spectral bands. |
| Multi-Year Appropriation | Congressional appropriation available for incurring obligations for a definite period in excess of one fiscal year; i.e., for two or more years. (See Multi-Year Procurement.) |
| Multi-Year Procurement (MYP) | A procurement of more units than the current year requirement. The total purchase is divided into segments, which are annually budgeted and funded; however, the contractor is protected from cancellations through clauses in contracts. |
| Multilateration | A type of multi-static radar usually employing one transmitter and several receivers for target detection and tracking. |
| Multilevel Device | A device that is used in a manner that it simultaneously permits access by users with different security clearances and needs-to-know, but prevents users from obtaining access to information for which they lack authorization. |
| Multilevel Secure | A class of system containing information with different classifications that simultaneously permits access by users with different security clearances and needs-to-know, but prevents users from obtaining access to information for which they lack authorization. |
| Multilevel Security Mode | (ADP Security) A mode of operation using an operating system, which provides a capability, that permits various levels and categories or compartments of material to be concurrently stored and processed in an ADP system. |
| Multiple Independently Targetable Reentry Vehicle (MIRV) | A reentry vehicle carried by a delivery system that can place one or more reentry vehicles over each of several separate targets. |
| Multiple Intercept Defense | Capability to make two or more intercepts per target or targets defended. |
| Multiple Phenomenology | Observations of potential targets by means of different physical principles and different sensor systems. In the case of sensor systems, the use of multiple phenomenologies makes it more difficult for an adversary to deceive them. |
| Multiple Reentry Vehicle | A reentry vehicle of a delivery system, which places more than one reentry vehicle over an individual target. |
| Multiple Silo Defense | Capability to defend two or more silos. |
| Multi-service T&E | T&E conducted by two or more DoD Components for systems to be acquired by more than one DoD Component, or for a DoD Component's systems that have interfaces with equipment of another DoD Component. |

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| Multi-static Radar | A radar system with a transmitter and several receivers all separated. A special case is bi-static radar. An advantage of multi-static radar over mono-static radar is that even if transmitters, which might be detected by the enemy when operating, are attacked, receivers in other locations might not be noticed and might thereby escape attack. |
| MULTS | Mobile Universal Link Translator System (NATO term). |
| MUS | Mission Unique Software. |
| MUX | Multiplex. |
| mV | Millivolt. |
| MV | Miniature Vehicle. |
| MW | (1) Mega-Watt (millions of watts). (2) Microwave. (3) Missile Warning. |
| MWC | Missile Warning Center. |
| Mwe | Megawatt (electrical energy). |
| MWIR | Medium Wavelength Infrared. |
| MWS | Modular Workstation (ADP term). |
| Mwt | Megawatt (thermal energy). |
| MX | Formerly an experimental missile; newest addition to U.S. ICBM arsenal; also called "Peacekeeper." |
| MY | Man Year. |

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| N | (1) Neutron. (2) North. |
| N/A | (1) Not Applicable. (2) Not Available. |
| N/SP CC | NORAD/US SPACECOM Commander. |
| NAAF | Neutral Airframe Adaptive Flare. |
| NACMA | NATO ACCS Management Agency. |
| NACSEM | National Communications Security Emanations Memoranda. |
| NACSI | National Communications Security Instruction. |
| NACSIM | National Communications Security Information Memoranda. |
| NAD | Navy Area Defense (lower tier). |
| NADC | Naval Air Development Center. |
| NADGE | NATO Air Defense Ground Environment. |
| NADIR | Network Anomaly Detection Intrusion Reported. |
| NAE | Navy Acquisition Executive. |
| NAF | (1) Non-appropriated Fund. 2. Naval Air Facility. |
| NAI | Named Areas of Interest. |
| NAIC | National Air Intelligence Center (DIA), Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. |
| NAM | Non-aligned Movement. |
| NAMEADMSA | NATO MEADS Management Agency. |
| NAOC | National Airborne Operations Center (formerly NEACP). |
| NAP | NDS Augmentation Package. |
| NAS | (1) National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC. (2) Naval Air Station. |
| NASA | National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Washington, DC. |
| NASDA | National Space Development Agency (Japan). |
| NASP | National Aerospace Plane. |
| NATINAD | NATO Integrated Air Defense. |
| National Airborne Operations Center (NAOC) | One of four specially equipped Boeing 747s that during a national emergency would allow the President and top military leaders to stay airborne for up to 12 hours while linked to ground and space forces. Formerly NEACP. |
| National Command Authorities (NCA) | The President and the Secretary of Defense or their duly deputized alternates or successors. |

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| National Military Command Center (NMCC) | The primary location for JCS command and control of all U.S. and Combined Forces. Located at the Pentagon, Arlington, VA. |
| National Military Command System (NMCS) | The priority component of the Worldwide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS) designed to support the National Command Authorities and Joint Chiefs of Staff in the exercise of their responsibilities. The NMC provides the means by which the President and the Secretary of Defense can receive warning and intelligence upon which accurate and timely decisions can be made, the resources of the Military Departments applied, military mission assigned, and by which direction can be given to the combatant command commanders or commanders of commands established by the NCA. The NMCS must be capable of providing information so that appropriate and timely responses can be selected and directed by the NCA and implemented. In addition, the NMCS supports the Joint Chiefs of Staff in carrying out their responsibilities. |
| National Missile Defense (NMD) System | OBSOLETE. A ground-based anti-ballistic missile system designed to protect the U.S. against limited ballistic missile threats. It consists of four elements: ground-based interceptors (GBI); a ground-based radar (GBR); a battle management command, control, and communications (BM/C ³) system; and a constellation of Space and Missile Tracking System (SMTS) (a.k.a. Brilliant Eyes) satellites. |
| National Reconnaissance Office (NRO) | A Department of Defense Agency tasked to ensure that the United States has the technology, spaceborne, and airborne assets needed to acquire intelligence worldwide, including support to such functions as monitoring arms control agreements, indications and warning, and the planning and conducting of military operations. This mission is accomplished through research and development, acquisition, and operation of spaceborne and airborne intelligence data collection systems. |
| National Strategy Selection | The determination of when it is in the national interest to activate and employ defense resources (i.e., the balance between responsiveness and crisis control), and given an activation/employment decision, what should be the basic objective (e.g., force survival, survival of selected population centers, etc.). |
| National Test Bed (NTB) | A number of geographically separated simulation and test facilities that are linked through communications to simulate various portions of the ballistic missile defense (BMD) system for testing and validating operational and technical concepts and technologies. |
| National Test Bed Joint Program Office (NTBJPO) | (OBSOLETE) A Joint Service organization established to manage the NTF and execute the NTB program for MDA. |
| National Test Facility (NTF) | A large, modeling, simulation and test facility located on Falcon AFB in Colorado which serves as the central control, coordinating, and computing center for the NTB and as the primary integration and test facility of the BMD SE&I contractor. |
| National Warning Center (NWC) | Center in CMAFB, which activates the radio, TV, and sirens that warn the U.S. population of impending ballistic missile attack. Also assists with national disaster relief, forest fires, and other events assigned. |
| NATO | North Atlantic Treaty Organization. |
| NATOPS | Naval Air Training and Operating Procedures Standardization. |

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| Natural Ground and Atmospheric Environments | The environments, which exist in the sensible atmosphere and on the surface of the earth. These include meteorological, seismic, biological and related natural conditions. This environment is applicable to ground-based assets and ground-launched interceptors in the atmospheric portions of flight, and it effects the propagation of radar and communications signals. |
| Natural Space Environment | The natural environment, which exists above the sensible atmosphere. Space begins approximately 100 km and above. This environment is applicable to orbiting spacecraft, to interceptors in the exoatmospheric portions of flight, and it affects the propagation of radar and communications signals. |
| NAVAIDS | Navigational Aids. |
| Naval Space Command (NAVSPACE-COM) | The naval component of USSPACECOM. Responsible for day-to-day operation of FLTSATCOM, NAVSPASUR, etc. Responsible for BMD elements that may be operated by the Navy. Located in Dahlgren, VA. |
| Naval Space Operations Center (NAVSPOC) | Existing Navy component command center at Dahlgren, VA, responsible for logistical and administrative support of forces assigned to them. |
| NAVDSOC | Navy Defense System Operations Center. |
| NAVFAC | Navy Facilities Engineering Command. |
| NAVFOR | Navy Forces. |
| NAVMACS | Navy Modular Automated Communications System (USN term). |
| NAVMIC | Naval Maritime Intelligence Center, Suitland, MD. |
| NAVOSH | Navy Occupational Safety and Health. |
| NAVSAT | Navigation Satellite. |
| NAVSPACE | Naval Space Command. |
| NAVSPACECOM | Naval Space Command. |
| NAVSPASUR | Naval Position of SPASUR. |
| NAVSPOC | Naval Space Operations Center. |
| NAVSTAR | Navigational satellite, part of the Global Positioning System (GPS). |
| Navy FAAWC | Navy Force Anti-Air Warfare Commander. |
| NAWC | Naval Air Warfare Center. |
| NAWC WPNS | Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division, China Lake, CA. |
| NBC | Nuclear, Biological, Chemical. |
| NBS | National Bureau of Standards. |

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| NBTS | Neutral Beam Test Stand. |
| NC | Numerically Controlled (CAM computer term). |
| NCA | National Command Authorities. |
| NCC | NORAD Command Center, Colorado Springs, CO. |
| NCCOSC | Naval Command, Control, and Ocean Surveillance Center, San Diego, CA. |
| NCCS | Navy Command and Control System. |
| NCDCS | Narrow Band Coherent Data Collection System. |
| NCDD | New Customer Development Database. |
| NCO | Non-Commissioned Officer (USA/USAF/USMC term). |
| NCP | NORAD Command Post. |
| NCS | (1) National Communications System. (2) Net Control Station. (3) Naval Control of Shipping. |
| NCSC | National Computer Security Center. |
| NDC | Naval Doctrine Command. |
| NDD | NMD System Development Director. |
| NDE | Non-Destructive Evaluation. |
| NDEW | Nuclear Directed Energy Weapon. |
| NDEWG | Nuclear Directed Energy Weapon - Ground-Based. |
| NDI | (1) Non-Developmental Item. (2) Non-Destructive Inspection. |
| NDP | National Disclosure Policy. |
| NDS | (1) National Defense Stockpile (2) National Defense System. |
| NDT | Non-Destructive Test. |
| NDU | National Defense University, Washington, DC. |
| NEA | (1) Northeast Asia. (2) Northeast Asia campaign scenario. |
| NEACP | National Emergency Alternate Command Post (E-4 aircraft). |
| Near Real Time | Pertaining to the timeliness of data or information that has been delayed by the time required for electronic communication and automatic data processing. This implies that there are no significant delays. |
| NEC | (1) National Economics Council. (2) Navy Enlisted Code. |
| NECC | Navy EHF Communications Controller. |

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| Negate Early Warning | The use of any technique that precludes the use of, renders useless, or degrades an early warning capability. |
| Negation | RV destruction or other actions, which prevent damage to the defended area from conventional, nuclear, chemical, or biological effects. |
| NEMP | Nuclear Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| NEP | (1) Nuclear Electric Propulsion. (2) Nuclear Environment Protection. |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act. |
| NEPSTP | Nuclear Electric Propulsion Space flight Test Program. |
| NERF | Naval Emitter Reference File (USN term). |
| NESEAD | Naval Electronic Systems Engineering Activity Detachment (USN term). |
| Neutral Particle Beam (NPB) | An energetic beam of neutral particles that is generally used to damage electronics. |
| NEV | Network Experimental Version. |
| NEW | Net Explosive Weight. |
| NFL | New Foreign Launch. |
| NG | National Guard. |
| NH&S | Nuclear Hardening and Survivability. |
| NHA | Next-Higher Assembly. |
| NHMT | Nuclear-Hardened Mosaic Technology. |
| NHTF | National Hover Test Facility, Edwards AFB, CA. |
| NIAG | NATO Industrial Advisory Group. |
| NIC | National Intelligence Council. |
| NID | Naval Intelligence Database (USN term). |
| NIE | National Intelligence Estimate. |
| NIH | National Institute of Health. |
| NII | National Information Infrastructure. |
| NIITF | National Information Infrastructure Task Force. |
| NILE | NATO Improved Link Eleven. |
| NILES | NATO Improved Link Eleven System. |
| NIMA | National Imagery and Mapping Agency, Fairfax, VA. |

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| NIPS | NTCS Intelligence Processing Service (USN term). |
| NISC | OBSOLETE. Naval Intelligence Support Center. (Now Naval Maritime Intelligence Center (NAVMIC)). |
| NISP | National Industrial Security Program. |
| NISPOM | NISP Operating Manual. |
| NIST | National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD. (Formerly NBS (National Bureau of Standards)). |
| NITES | Naval Integrated Tactical Environmental Subsystem (USN term). |
| Nitze Criteria | A reference to Paul Nitze, the Reagan Administration's chief arms control negotiator, and his vocalization of the goal of the SDS as the achievement of raising the attack price where the defense cost is measured at the margin, not the total cost. Congress established the Nitze criteria as conditions of deploying an SDS in Section 222 of the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 1986. |
| NIU | NATO Interface Unit. |
| NIWA | Naval Information Warfare Activity. |
| NK | North Korea. |
| NKEW | Nuclear Kinetic Energy Weapon. |
| NL | The Netherlands. |
| NLO | Nonlinear Optical. |
| NLOS | (1) Non-Line of Sight. (2) Nonlinear Optical System. |
| NLT | (1) Navy Lower Tier (Missile Defense). (2) Not Later Than. |
| nm | (1) Nautical Mile (6,080 feet). (2) Nanometer. |
| NMA | NATO Military Authority. |
| NMC | Not Mission Capable. |
| NMCC | National Military Command Center. |
| NMCS | National Military Command System. |
| NMD | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense. |
| NMD 3+3 | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense Three Plus Three (program). |
| NMD GBR | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense Ground-Based Radar. |
| NMD IIPT | OBSOLETE. NMD Integration Integrated Product Team (NMD Program term). |
| NMD JPO | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense Joint Program Office. |
| NMD/TRP | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense Technology Readiness Program. |

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| NMDPO | OBSOLETE. National Missile Defense Program Office (US Army term). |
| NMM | NMD Maturity Matrix. |
| NMSD | National Military Strategy Document. |
| NNAG | NATO Naval Armaments Group. |
| NNK | Non-Nuclear Kill. |
| NNPA | Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act. |
| NNWS | Non-Nuclear Weapon States. |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Washington, DC. |
| Node | A set of equipment and processes, which performs the communications functions at the end of the data links which interconnect those elements, which are resident on the network. |
| NOI | Notice of Intent (environmental term). |
| NOIC | Naval Operational Intelligence Center. |
| Noise | In the most general terms, noise is the undesired part of the process being observed or measured. Its complement, the desired part, is usually referred to as the signal. |
| Non-Developmental Item (NDI) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Any item of supply that is available in the commercial marketplace; or (2) Any previously developed item of supply that is in use by a department or agency of the United States, a state or local government, or a foreign government with which the United States has a mutual defense cooperation agreement; or (3) Any item of supply described in definition 1 or 2, above, that requires only minor modification in order to meet the requirements of the procuring agency; or (4) Any item of supply that is currently being produced that does not meet the requirements of definition 1, 2, or 3, above, solely because the item is not yet in use or is not yet available in the commercial marketplace. |
| Non Material Solution | Solutions to mission needs (warfighting, deficiencies) that can be satisfied by changes in doctrine, tactics, operational concepts, training, or organization. |
| Non-Nuclear Kill (NNK) | A kill that does not involve a nuclear detonation. |
| NONAP | Non-linear Adaptive Processor (Navy term). |
| Nonrecurring Costs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Costs that are not proportional to the number of units produced. (2) A one time cost that will occur on a periodic basis for the same organization. Nonrecurring costs include preliminary design effort; design engineering; and all partially completed reporting elements manufactures for tests. (3) Training of service instructor personnel. |
| NOP | Nuclear Operations. |

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| NOR | Notice of Revision. |
| NORAD | See North American Aerospace Defense Command. |
| NORAD Command Post (NCP) | A center in CMAFB responsible for controlling ACC, Canadian, and other assigned forces for designated atmospheric missions in defense of North America. |
| NORSAR | Norwegian Seismic Array. |
| North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) | A binational command of Canadian and U.S. forces responsible for defense of North America from bomber and ALCM/SLCM attack. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| NORTHCOM | Northern Command, Offut AFB, NE |
| NORTHAG | Northern Army Group (NATO). |
| NOS | Network Operating System. |
| NOSC | OBSOLETE. Naval Ocean Systems Center, San Diego, CA. See NCCOSC. |
| NPB | Neutral Particle Beam. |
| NPBSE | NPB Space Experiment. |
| NPG | Nuclear Planning Group. |
| NPI | New Program Integration. |
| NPR | National Performance Review. |
| NPT | Non-Proliferation Treaty. |
| NRaD | Naval Research and Development Division (NCCOSC), San Diego, CA. |
| NRC | (1) National Research Council. (2) Network Reliability Council. (3) Nuclear Regulatory Commission. (4) Nichols Research Corporation. |
| NREN | National Research and Education Network. |
| NRL | (1) Nuclear Referral List. (2) Naval Research Laboratory, Washington, DC. |
| NRLA | Network Repair-Level Analysis. |
| NRO | National Reconnaissance Office. |
| NRSC | Network Reliability Steering Committee. |
| NRT | Near Real Time. |
| NS/EP | National Security/Emergency Preparedness. |

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| NSA | National Security Agency. |
| NSA/CSS | NSA Central Security Service. |
| NSC | (1) National Security Council. (2) National Security Center. |
| NSCID | National Security Council Intelligence Directive. |
| NSD | National Security Directive. |
| NSDD | OBSOLETE. National Security Decision Directive. Replaced by National Security Directive (NSD). |
| NSDM | National Security Decision Memorandum. |
| NSEN | NMD System Engineering Notebook. |
| NSF | National Science Foundation. |
| NSFS | Naval Surface Fire Support. |
| NSG | Naval Security Group. |
| NSIA | National Security Industrial Association, Washington, DC. |
| NSIE | Network Security Information Exchange. |
| NSN | National Stock Number (ILS term). |
| NSNF | Non-Strategic Nuclear Forces. |
| NSOC | (1) National Signals Intelligence Operations Center. (2) Navy Satellite Operations Center. |
| NSP | Not Separately Priced. |
| NSSC | National Space Surveillance Center, CMAFB. |
| NSSD | National Security Study Directive. |
| NSTAC | National Security Telecommunications and Information System Security Committee. |
| NSTC | National Science and Technology Council (EOP term). |
| NSWC | Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, VA. |
| NSWC/DD | Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren, VA. |
| NSWC/PHL | Naval Surface Weapons Center, Port Hueneme Division. |
| NTACS | Navy Tactical Air Control System. |
| NTB | National Test Bed. |
| NTB/WAN | OBSOLETE. National Test Bed/Wide Area Network. |

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| NTBI | OBSOLETE. National Test Bed Integration. |
| NTBIC | OBSOLETE. National Test Bed Integration Contract. |
| NTB-JPO | OBSOLETE. National Test Bed Joint Project Office. |
| NTBN | OBSOLETE. National Test Bed Network. |
| NTC | National Training Center, located at Ft. Irwin, CA. A large maneuver area that serves as the Army's primary training center for Army maneuver forces. Friendly forces are pitted against "enemy" forces to validate proposed procedures and doctrine. |
| NTIC | (1) Navy Tactical Intelligence Center. (2) National Technical Information Center. |
| NTF | National Test Facility. |
| NTM | National Technical Means. |
| NTU | New Threat Upgrade. |
| NTW | OBSOLETE. Navy Theater-Wide. Now referred to as the Sea-Based Midcourse Segment of BMDS. |
| NTWD(S) | OBSOLETE. Navy Theater-Wide Defense (System). |
| Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Contamination (NBCC) | <p>The deposit and/or absorption of residual radioactive material or biological or chemical agents on or by structures, areas, personnel, or objects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Nuclear Contamination</u>. Residual radioactive material resulting from fallout or rainout, and residual radiation from a system produced by a nuclear explosion, and persisting longer than one minute after burst. • <u>Biological Contamination</u>. Microorganisms and toxins that cause disease in humans, plants, or animals or cause deterioration of material. • <u>Chemical Contamination</u>. Chemical substances intended for use in military operations to kill, seriously injure, incapacitate, or temporarily irritate humans. |
| Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Contamination Survivability | <p>The capability of a system and its crew to withstand a NBCC environment and relevant decontamination without losing the ability to accomplish the assigned mission. A NBCC survivable system is hardened against NBCC and decontaminates; it can be decontaminated, and it is compatible with individual protective equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Hardness</u>. The capability of material to withstand the materiel -damaging effects of NBCC and relevant decontamination. • <u>Decontamination</u>. The process of making personnel and materiel safe by rendering harmless or removing radioactive, chemical, or biological material. • <u>Compatibility</u>. The capability of a system to be operated, maintained, and re-supplied by persons wearing individual protective equipment, in all climates for which the system is designed, and for the period specified in the operational requirements document. |
| Nuclear Cloud | See Radioactive Cloud. |
| Nuclear Directed Energy Weapon (NDEW) | A directed energy weapon for which the source of energy is a specially designed nuclear device. |

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| Nuclear Environment | The environment, which results from the detonation of nuclear weapons. Some components of this environment are directly emitted by the nuclear weapon and other collateral effects are created by the interaction of the emitted nuclear radiation with the earth's atmosphere, the earth's surface and the earth's magnetic field. The nuclear environment consists of radiation, blast, shock, thermal, electromagnetic pulse (EMP), emissions from radioactive debris, trapped electrons, and disturbances to the atmosphere and to the propagation paths for radar and communications. The nuclear environment exists in the exoatmospheric, atmospheric and ground BMD operational regimes. |
| Nuclear Hardness | A quantitative description of the resistance of a system or component to malfunction (temporary and permanent) and/or degraded performance induced by a nuclear weapon environment. Resistance to physical quantities such as overpressure, peak velocities, energy absorbed, and electrical stress measures hardness. Hardness is achieved through adhering to appropriate design specifications and is verified by one or more test and analysis techniques. |
| Nuclear Radiation | Particulate and electromagnetic radiation emitted from atomic nuclei in various nuclear processes. The important nuclear radiations, from the weapons standpoint, are alpha and beta particles, gamma rays, and neutrons. All nuclear radiations are ionizing radiations, but the reverse is not true; x-rays, for example, are included among ionizing radiations, but they are not nuclear radiations since they do not originate from atomic nuclei. (See Ionizing Radiation and X-Rays.) |
| Nuclear Survivability Characteristics | A quantitative description of the system features needed to meet its survivability requirements. Such system features include those design, performance, and operational capabilities used to limit or avoid the hostile environment, architectures that minimize the impact of localized damage to the larger wartime mission, as well as physical hardening to environment levels, which cannot be mitigated otherwise. Survivability characteristics include proliferation, redundancy, avoidance, reconstitution, deception, and hardening. |
| NUDET | Nuclear Detonation. |
| NUICCS | NORAD and USSPACECOM Integrated Command and Control System. |
| NUT | Navy Upper Tier (Missile Defense). |
| NVG | Night Vision Goggles. |
| NVIS | Near Vertical Incidence System (SINCGARS term). |
| NVMEN | Non-Volatile Memory (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| NWC | (1) National Warning Center. (2) National War College. (3) Naval War College. (4) Nuclear Weapons Council. (5) Naval Weapons Center. |
| NEW | Nuclear Weapons Effect. |
| NWFZ | Nuclear Weapons Free Zone. |
| NWP | Naval Warfare Publication. |
| NWS | National Weather Service. |
| NWSC | Naval Weapons Support Center. |

NWSUS

Navy WWMCCS Site Unique Software.

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| OAMP | Optical Airborne Measurement Program. |
| O&M | Operations and Maintenance. |
| O&O Plan | Operational & Organizational Plan (Army). |
| O&S | Operations and Support. |
| O-Level | Organizational Level (ILS term). |
| O/A | On or About. |
| OA | (1) Operational Assessment. (2) Operational Availability. (3) Options Assessment (BM/C3 Program term c. 1994-6). |
| OAA | Other Agreements Authority (OSD term). |
| OAB | Outer air battle. |
| OAC | Operating Agency Code. |
| OAMP | Optical Airborne Measurement Program. |
| OA0 | OA0 Corporation, Greenbelt, MD. |
| OAR | Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Operation Plans Assessment Report. |
| OAS | Organization of American States. |
| OASA | Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army. |
| OASD | Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense. |
| OASD (C3I) | Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (C3I) |
| OASP | On-Array Advanced Signal Processing. |
| OB | Operating Budget. |
| OBAN | Operating Budget Account Number. |
| OBDP | Onboard Data Processor. |
| OBE | Overtaken By Events. |
| OBJ | Object. |
| Object-Oriented | A software development approach that organizes software as a collection of objects containing both data structure and behavior. |
| Object-Oriented Analysis | The process by which a real-world problem is examined in terms of a collection of objects to understand requirements, without planning the implementation. |
| Object Rate (Max) | The maximum rate (per second) that a sensor can acquire RVs, decoys, AOs, or fractionated missile/PBV debris. |

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| Objects in FOV (Max) | The maximum number of RVs, decoys, AOs, or fractionated missile/PBV debris that a sensor can acquire at one time. |
| Obligation | A duty to make a future payment of money. The duty is incurred as soon as an order is placed, or a contract is awarded. The placement of an order is sufficient. An obligation “legally” encumbers a specified sum of money that will require outlays or expenditures in the future. |
| Obligation Authority | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A congressional authorization to procure goods and services within a specified amount by appropriation or other authorization. (2) The administrative extension of such authority, as by apportionment of funding. (3) The amount of authority so granted. |
| Obscurant | A material (e.g., smoke or chaff) used to conceal an object from observation by a radio or optical sensor. Smoke may be used to conceal an object from observation by an optical sensor, and chaff may be used to conceal an object from observation by a radio sensor (e.g., radar). |
| Observable | A measurable target attribute. |
| OBSV | Observation. |
| OC | Operations Center. |
| OCA | Offensive Counter-air. |
| OCD | Operational Concept Document. |
| OCI | Organizational Conflict of Interest. |
| OCM | Overt Countermeasure. |
| OCONUS | Outside CONUS. |
| OCR | Optical Character Reader. |
| OCS | (1) Operational Control System. (2) Ozone Depleting Chemical. |
| OCU | Operators Console Unit (THAAD). |
| OD | Optical Disk (PATRIOT). |
| OD PA&E | Office of the Director, Program Analysis and Evaluation. |
| ODA | Optical Discrimination Algorithms/Architecture. |
| ODASD | Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense. |
| ODCS | Office, Deputy Chief of Staff. |
| ODCSINT | Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence. |
| ODCSOPS | Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans (DAHQ term). |
| ODDI | Office of the Director of Defense Information. |

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| ODES | Operational and Developmental Experiments Simulator. |
| ODISC4 | Office of the Director of Information Systems for C4. |
| OEC | (1) Operational Evaluation Command (US Army term). (2) Other Early Capability. |
| OECD | Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. |
| OEM | Original Equipment Manufacturer. |
| Offense/Defense Coordination | The coordination of the strategic defense system operations with unified/specified strategic offense commands to achieve overall U.S. and Allied strategic mission objectives. |
| Off the Shelf | Procurement of existing system or equipment without an RDT&E program or with minor development to make the system suitable for DoD needs. May be commercial system/equipment or one already in DoD inventory. See Non-Developmental Item. |
| Off-the-Shelf Item | An existing item, system, or equipment, determined by a material acquisition decision process review (DoD, Military Component, or subordinate organization as appropriate) to be available for acquisition, without an RDT&E program or with mission development, to satisfy an approved requirement. |
| Offensive Counter Air Operation | An operation mounted to destroy, disrupt, or limit enemy air power as close to its source as possible. |
| OFP | Operational Flight Program. |
| OFS | Operational Flight Simulation. |
| OGA | Other Government Agencies. |
| OI | Operating Instruction. |
| OIG | Operations Interface Group. |
| OIPT | Overarching Integrated Product (Process) Team. |
| OIS | Orbital Insertion Stage. |
| OIW | Offensive Information Warfare. |
| OJCS | Office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. |
| OJT | On-the-Job Training. |
| OLA | Office of Legislative Affairs (Navy). |
| OLC² | Operational Level Command and Control. |
| OLE | Object Linking and Embedding (TelComm/Computer term). |
| OLS | Operational Line Scan System. |
| OLSP | Operational Logistics Support Plan (Navy term). |

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| OM | Operating (Operations) Manual. |
| OMA | Office of Military Application (US). |
| OMB | Office of Management and Budget. |
| OMC | Operations and Maintenance Contractor. |
| OMG | Operational Maneuver Group. |
| OMI | Operations Maintenance and Integration. |
| OMNCS | Office of the Manager, National Communications System. |
| OMSCWG | Operational Message Space Command Working Group. |
| OMT | Other Military Targets. |
| OMU | Orbital Maneuvering Unit. |
| OMV | Orbital Maneuvering Vehicle. |
| ON | Optic Needle. |
| On-Line | A unit that is operational, not dormant, but is not participating with on-going functions. |
| ONI | Office of Naval Intelligence. |
| ONR | Office of Naval Research, Arlington, VA. |
| OOD | Object-Oriented Design. |
| OODB | Object-Oriented Database. |
| OOMS | On-Orbit Maintenance/Serviceing. |
| OOTW | Operations Other Than War. |
| OP | (1) Optical Processing. (2) Orthogonal Polarization. |
| OP RQ/TEST IPT | Operational Requirements and Testing IPT (MEADS Program term). |
| OPA | Optical Parametric Amplification. |
| OPANAL | Name of agency for the prohibition of nuclear weapons in Latin America. |
| OPCC | OBSOLETE. Offut Processing and Correlation Center. (Now Alternate Processing and Correlation Center (APCC).) |
| OPCOM | Operational Command (NATO). |
| OPCON | Operational Control. |
| OPCW | Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons. |
| OPEC | Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. |



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| Operate Commands | Commands and data distributed throughout the SDS to operate the system. |
| Operating Budget | An operating budget is the annual budget of an activity stated in terms of Budget Classification Code, functional/sub-functional categories, and cost accounts. It contains estimates of the total value of resources required for the performance of the mission, including reimbursable work or services for others. It also includes estimates of workload in terms of total work units identified by cost accounts. |
| Operating Costs | Those program costs necessary to operate and maintain the capability. These costs include Military Personnel, and Operations and Maintenance. |
| Operating System | Software that controls the execution of computer programs. It may provide scheduling, debugging, input and output control, accounting, storage assignment, data management, and related service. Sometimes called supervisor, executive, monitor, or master control program depending on the computer manufacturer. |
| Operation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The intentional changing of an object in any of its physical or chemical characteristics. (2) The assembly or disassembly of parts or objects. (3) The preparation of an object for another operation, transportation, inspection, or storage. (4) Planning, calculating, or the giving or receiving of information. (5) Military action using deployed forces. 6 (6) A military action or the carrying out of a strategic, tactical, service, training, or administrative military mission; the process of carrying on combat, including movement, supply, attack, defense, and maneuvers needed to gain the objectives of any battle or campaign. |
| Operation and Organizational Plan (O&O Plan) | Describes how an Army system will be integrated into the force structure, deployed, operated and supported in peacetime and wartime. |
| Operation Order | A directive issued by a commander to subordinate commanders for the purpose of effecting the coordinated execution of an operation. Also called OPORD. |
| Operation Plan (OPLAN) | Any plan, except for the Single Integrated Operational Plan, for the conduct of military operations. Plans are prepared by combatant commanders in response to requirements established by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and by commanders of subordinate commands in response to requirements tasked by the establishing unified commander. Operation plans are prepared in either a complete format of an OPLAN or as a concept plan (CONPLAN). a) OPLAN. An operation plan for the conduct of joint operations that can be used as a basis for development of an operation order (OPORD). An OPLAN identifies the forces and supplies required to execute the CINC's Strategic Concept and a movement schedule of these resources to the theater of operations. The forces and supplies are identified in time-phased force deployment data files. OPLANs will include all phases of the tasked operation. b) CONPLAN. An operation plan in an abbreviated format that would require considerable expansion or alteration to convert it into an OPLAN or OPORD. A CONPLAN contains the CINC's Strategic Concept and those annexes and appendixes deemed necessary by the combatant commander to complete planning. |



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| Operational Assessment | An evaluation of operational effectiveness and operational suitability made by an independent operational test activity, with user support as required, on other than production systems. The focus of an operational assessment is on significant trends noted in development efforts, programmatic voids, areas of risk, adequacy of requirements, and the ability of the program to support adequate operational testing. Operational assessments may be made at any time using technology demonstrators, prototypes, mockups, engineering development models, or simulations but will not substitute for the independent operational test and evaluation necessary to support full production decisions. |
| Operational Availability | The degree, expressed in terms of 1.0 as the highest, to which one can expect equipment or weapon systems to work properly when required. The equation is uptime over uptime plus downtime, expressed as Ao. It is the quantitative link between readiness objectives and supportability. |
| Operational Concept | An end-to-end stream of activities that defines how force elements, systems, organizations, and tactics combined to accomplish a military task. |
| Operational Control (OPCON) | Transferable command authority that may be exercised by commanders at any echelon at or below the level of combatant command. Operational control is inherent in Combatant Command (command authority) and is the authority to perform those functions of command over subordinate forces involving organizing and employing commands and forces, assigning tasks, designating objectives, and giving authoritative direction necessary to accomplish missions assigned to the command. Operational control should be exercised through the commanders of subordinate organizations; normally this authority is exercised through the Service component commanders. Operational control normally provides full authority to organize commands and forces and to employ those forces, as the commander in operational control considers necessary to accomplish assigned missions. Operational control does not, in and of itself, include authoritative direction for logistics or matters of administration, discipline, internal organization, or unit training. |
| Operational Effectiveness | The overall degree of mission accomplishment of a system when used by representative personnel in the environment planned or expected (e.g., natural, electronic, threat, etc.) for operational employment of the system considering organization, doctrine, tactics, survivability, vulnerability, and threat (including countermeasures, initial nuclear weapons effects, nuclear, biological, and chemical contamination (NBCC) threats). |
| Operational Evaluation | The test and analysis of a specific end item or system, insofar as practicable under Service operating conditions, in order to determine if quantity production is warranted considering: a) the increase in military effectiveness to be gained; and b) its effectiveness as compared with currently available items or systems, consideration being given to: (1) personnel capabilities to maintain and operate the equipment; (2) size, weight, and location considerations; and (3) enemy capabilities in the field. |
| Operational Level of War | The level of war at which campaigns and major operations are planned, conducted, and sustained to accomplish strategic objectives within theaters or areas of operations. Activities at this level link tactics and strategy by establishing operational objectives needed to accomplish the strategic objectives, sequencing events to achieve the operational objectives, initiating actions, and applying resources to bring about and sustain these events. These activities imply a broader dimension of time or space than do tactics; they ensure the logistic and administrative support of tactical forces, and provide a means by which tactical successes are exploited to achieve strategic objectives. |



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| Operational Mode | The configuration of the defense system element or segment. Refers to the operational environment of system, i.e., test configuration or training configuration. |
| Operational Readiness | The capability of a unit/formation, ship, weapon system or equipment to perform the missions or functions for which it is organized or designed. May be used in a general sense or to express a level or degree of readiness. |
| Operational Reliability | The reliability of a system or software subsystem in its actual use environment. Operational reliability may differ considerably from reliability in the non-operational or test environment. |
| Operational Requirement | Navy document, which describes major characteristics of the alternative selected by OPNAV. It is submitted as originating document for all Navy new starts (less than major programs)--ACATs II, III, IV. |
| Operational Requirements Document (ORD) | Documents the user's objectives and minimum acceptable requirements for operational performance of a proposed concept or system. DoDI 5000.1 and DoD 5000.2-M have standardized format across all DoD components. |
| Operational Suitability | The degree to which a system can be placed satisfactorily in field use with consideration given to availability, compatibility, transportability, interoperability, reliability, wartime usage rates, maintainability, safety, human factors, manpower supportability, logistics supportability, natural environmental effects and impacts, documentation, and training requirements. |
| Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) | That T&E conducted to estimate a system's military utility, operational effectiveness, and operational suitability, as well as the need for any modifications. It is accomplished by operational and support personnel of the types and qualifications expected to use and maintain the system when deployed, and is conducted in as realistic an operational environment as possible. |
| Operationally Ready | 1. Capable of performing the missions or functions for which organized or designed (as applied to a unit, ship or weapon system). Incorporates both equipment readiness and personnel readiness. 2. Available and qualified to perform assigned missions or functions (as applied to personnel). |
| Operations and Support (O&S) Costs | Those resources required to operate and support a system, subsystem, or a major component during its useful life in the operational inventory. |
| Operations Profile | An identification of all participants in an operation, their actions, and the time those actions occur in the operation. Includes assessment of operational procedures to ascertain whether stereotyped or predictable patterns are discernible. |
| Operations Security (OPSEC) Survey | The method of evaluating the protection afforded a given operation. It is composed of multiple functional outlines that identify possible weaknesses or inefficiencies of an operation that could, if exploited, degrade operational effectiveness. |
| OPEVAL | Operational Evaluation (Navy). |
| OPINE | Operation in Nuclear Environment. |
| OPINTEL | Operational Intelligence Processor. |

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| OPLAN | Operation Plan. |
| OPM | Office of Personnel Management. |
| OPNAV | Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. |
| OPNAVINST | Chief of Naval Operations Instruction. |
| OPNS | Operations. |
| OPO | Optical Parametric Oscillation. |
| OPORD | Operation Order. |
| OPP | Other Physical Principles. |
| OPR | Office of Primary Responsibility. |
| Ops | Operations (employment). |
| OPS | Operations. |
| OPSDEPS | Service Operations Deputies. |
| OPSEC | Operations Security. |
| OPSMOD | Operations Module. |
| OPTEC | Operational Test and Evaluation Command, Alexandria, VA. (U.S. Army) |
| OPTEMPO | Operating Tempo. |
| OPTEVFOR | Operational Test and Evaluation Force. (U.S. Navy) |
| Optic Cobra | CENTCOM Joint TMD Warfighter Exercise. |
| Optical Airborne Measurement Program (OAMP) | A program involving an aircraft-mounted research platform to conduct surveillance experiments that can be used to design future defensive systems. (Also known as Cobra Eye.) |
| Optical Coating | Layers of materials that alter/protect the physical/electronic properties of the material to which they are applied. |
| Optical Processing | A type of analog processing, in which the behavior of light beams, passed through optical systems, is used in problem solving. |
| OR | (1) Operations Research. (2) Operational Requirement (Navy). (3) Operational Readiness. (4) Operational Reliability. |
| OR/SA (ORSA) | Operations Research/Systems Analysis. |
| ORACL | Overtone Research Advanced Chemical Laser. |
| ORACL HYLTE | Overtone Research Advanced Chemical Laser Hypersonic Low Temperature. |

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| Orbital Elements | Any set of several parameters (e.g., semi-major axis, eccentricity, inclination, etc.) used to specify the position and motion of a satellite. Six independent orbital elements are required to unambiguously specify the position of a satellite in a Keplerian orbit at a particular time. |
| Orbital Maneuvering Vehicle (OMV) | NASA program to provide capability to perform satellite on-orbit servicing. Operates from shuttle and Space Station. |
| Orbital Suborbital Program (OSP) | A strategic target booster system used by the GMD Program that uses the Minuteman II booster stack. |
| Orbiting Debris | Term referring to all earth-orbiting objects except active satellites. |
| ORC | Operational Readiness Condition. |
| ORCA | Operational Requirements Continuity Assessment. |
| ORD | See Operational Requirements Document. |
| ORDALT | Ordnance Alteration. |
| Order of Battle | The identification, strength, command structure, and disposition of the personnel, units, and equipment of any military force. |
| Order Wire Message | A communications support function for internal control of communications elements. |
| Organic | Assigned to and forming an essential part of a military organization. Organic parts of a unit are those listed in its table of organization for the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and are assigned to the administrative organizations of the operating forces for the Navy. |
| Ornate Impact | USFK Joint TMD Warfighter Exercise. |
| ORNL | Oak Ridge National Laboratory, TN. |
| ORTA | Office of Research and Technology Applications. |
| ORU | Orbital Replacement Unit. |
| ORWG | Operational Requirements Working Group. |
| OS | (1) Operational Suitability. (2) Operating System. |
| OSA | Optical Society of America. |
| OSC | Optical Signature Code. |
| OSCE | Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe. |
| OSD | Office of the Secretary of Defense. |
| OSE | Operational Support Equipment. |
| OSEIT | Operations and Support Engineering Integration Tool. |

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| OSF | Open Systems Foundation. |
| OSH | Occupational Safety and Health. |
| OSHA | Occupational Safety and Health Act. |
| OSI | Operator System Interface. |
| OSIA | On Site Inspection Agency, Washington, DC. |
| OSIM | Object Simulation (NMD BMC3 term). |
| OSIP | Operational System Integration Plan. |
| OSIWG | Operating Systems Interface Working Group. |
| OSJTF | Open Systems Joint Task Force. |
| OSM | Object Sighting Message. |
| OSS | Operations Support System (Navy C3 program). |
| OSTP | Office of Science and Technology Policy. |
| OSWR | Office of Science and Weapons Research. |
| OT | Operational Test. |
| OTA | (1) Office of Technology Assessment, Washington, DC. (2) Operational Test Agency. (3) Office of Technology Applications, MDA. |
| OTCIXS | Officer in Tactical Command Information Exchange Subsystem (Navy term). |
| OT&E | See Operational Test and Evaluation. |
| OTDR | Optical Time-Domain Reflectometer. |
| OTF | Object Track Profile. |
| OTH | Over the Horizon. |
| OTH-B | Over-The-Horizon. |
| OTH-T | Over-The-Horizon Targeting. |
| OTO | Operational Test Organization. |
| OTP | Outline Test Plan. |
| OTS | Off-the-Shelf. |
| OTSA | Off-the-Shelf Analysis. |
| OTV | Orbital Transfer Vehicle. |
| OUSD | Office of the Under Secretary of Defense. |

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| OUSD (A) | OBSOLETE. See OUSD (A&T). |
| OUSD (A&T) | Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition & Technology). |
| Outer Space Treaty of 1967 | A multilateral treaty signed and ratified by both the United States and the (former) Soviet Union. Article IV of the Outer Space Treaty forbids basing nuclear weapons or other weapons of mass destruction in space. |
| Outlays | Actual expenditures. Checks issued, interest accrued on the public debt, or other payments, net of refunds and reimbursements. Total budget outlays consist of the sum of the outlays from appropriations and funds in the budget, minus receipts. |
| Out of Band Laser Flux | (Sensor) Laser energy directed at a sensor that is intended to damage or disrupt the sensor and is outside the sensor's bandwidth. |
| Out-Years | Normally, six years beyond the year being worked in the upcoming POM/budget. |
| Overlay BMD System | An advanced exoatmospheric defense system oriented toward defense of ICBMs, consisting of missile-borne, passive infrared sensors and non-nuclear homing interceptors. |
| OWG | Operating Working Group. |

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| P&D | Planning and Design (MILCON term). |
| P&M | (1) Producibility and Manufacturing. (2) Procure and Manufacture. |
| P.B. | President's Budget. |
| P2 | Pollution Prevention. |
| p²NRTA&A | Pre-Planned Near-Real-Time Assessment and Adaptation. |
| P3 | Pollution Prevention Program. |
| P³i | Preplanned Product Improvement. |
| PA | (1) Product Assurance. (2) Public Affairs. |
| PA&E | Program Analysis and Evaluation. |
| PA&ID | Program Analysis and Integration Directorate. |
| PAC | (1) PATRIOT Advanced Capability. (2) Program Assessment Center. (MDA) |
| PAC-2 | PATRIOT Advanced Capability-2 |
| PAC-2/-3 | PATRIOT Advanced Capability, Level 2/Level 3. Formerly called ERINT. |
| PAC-3 | PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 |
| PAC-3 SIM | PAC-3 Simulation (PATRIOT), Huntsville, AL. |
| PAC-4 | PATRIOT Advanced Capability-4. |
| PACA | Professional Aerospace Contractors Association. |
| PACAF | [United States} Air Forces Pacific. |
| PACBAR | Pacific [Radar] Barrier. |
| PACFLT | Pacific Fleet (US). |
| Packaging, Handling, Storage, and Transportation (PHS&T) | The resources, processes, procedures, design considerations, and methods to ensure that all system, equipment, and support items are preserved, packaged, handled, and transported properly, including environmental considerations, equipment preservation requirements for short- and long-term storage, and transportability. |
| Packet Switching (PSW) | A data transmission process, utilizing addressed packets, whereby a channel is occupied only for the duration of transmission of the packet. In certain data communication networks the data may be formatted into a packet or divided and then formatted into a number of packets (either by the data terminal equipment or by equipment within the network) for transmission and multiplexing purposes. |
| PACOM | U.S. Pacific Command. |
| PACOSS | Passive and Active Controls of Space Structures. |
| PADIL | Patriot Data & Information Link. |

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| PAFB | Patterson Air Force Base. |
| PAL | Permissive Action Link. |
| PALS | Protection Against Limited Strikes (SDIO term). |
| PAM | Pulse Amplitude Modulation. |
| PAN | Polyacrylonitrile [carbon fiber]. |
| Pancake Altitude | Altitude at which the trailing edge of a chaff puff/cloud effectively catches up to the leading edge because of atmospheric slowdown. |
| PAP | Predicted Aim Point. |
| PAR | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Phased-Array Radar. (2) Perimeter Acquisition Radar. (See Phased Array.) (3) Preprocessing Analysis Report. (4) Program Assessment Report. (5) Pulse Acquisition Radar. |
| Parallel Processing | In parallel processing multiple processors (CPUs) divide up a large task into smaller ones and each CPU acts on the subdivided task simultaneously so that much higher effective processing speeds can be attained. |
| Parametric Cost Estimate | A cost estimating methodology using statistical relationships between historical costs and other program variables such as system physical or performance characteristics, contractor output measures, manpower loading, etc. Also referred to as a top-down approach. |
| PARCS | Perimeter Acquisition Radar and Attack Characterization System. |
| PARPRO | Peacetime Application of Reconnaissance Programs. |
| Partial Mission Capable | Material condition of an aircraft or training device indicating that it can perform at least one, but not all, of its missions. Also called PMC. See also Full Mission Capable. |
| Participating Service | A military Service that supports the lead Service in the development of a joint acquisition program by its contribution of personnel and/or funds. |
| Particle Beam (PB) | High-energy beam made up of atomic/sub-atomic particles (electrons, protons, or neutrons) accelerated to near the speed of light. |
| Particle Beam Weapon (PBW) | A weapon that relies on the technology of particle accelerators (atom-smashers) to emit beams of charged or neutral particles, which travel near the speed of light. Such a beam could theoretically destroy a target by several means, e.g., electronics upset, electronics damage, softening/melting of materials, sensor damage, and initiation of high explosives. |
| PASS | POET Advanced Submunition Study. |
| Passive | In surveillance, an adjective applied to actions or equipment, which emit no energy capable of being detected. |

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| Passive Air Defense | All measures, other than active air defense, taken to minimize the effectiveness of hostile air action. These measures include deception, dispersion, and the use of protective construction. |
| Passive Communications Security Threats | Threats to electronic systems posed by a capability to obtain intelligence through intercepting and evaluating intentional and inadvertent electromagnetic emanations from electronic components of the system; e.g. communications interception and direction finding. |
| Passive Defense | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Measures taken to reduce the probability of and to minimize the effects of damage caused by hostile action without the intention of taking the initiative. (2) Passive defense minimizes the probability and effects of theater missile attack by reducing an enemy's ability to target friendly assets, reducing the vulnerability of critical forces and infrastructure, and improving the potential to survive and resume operations after an attack. Passive measures might include counter-surveillance, deception, camouflage and concealment, hardening, electronic warfare, mobility, dispersal, and redundancy. Passive defense is considered one of the four pillars of TMD capability. (JCS J-38 CONOPS) |
| Passive Sensor | A sensor that detects naturally occurring emissions from a target for tracking and/or identification purposes. |
| PAT | Process Action Team. |
| PAT&E | Production Acceptance Test and Evaluation. |
| PATHS | Precursor Above-the-Horizon Sensor. |
| PATRIOT | See Phased Array Tracking Radar Intercept On Target (missile). |
| PAVE PAWS | Position And Velocity Extraction Phased Array Warning System. Phased array SLBM warning system. Four sites: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. East Otis ANG Base, MA b. West Beale AFB, CA c. Southeast Robins AFB, GA d. Southwest Goodfellow AFB, TX |
| PAWS | Phased-Array Warning System (USAF term). |
| Payload (Missile) | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The warhead, its container, and activating devices in a military missile. (2) The satellite or research vehicle of a space probe or research missile. (3) Any part of a ballistic missile above the booster stack. Includes reentry vehicle, guidance-control system, countermeasures and counter-countermeasures, decoys and chaff. (MDA Lexicon) |
| Payload Build-up (Missile and Space) | The process by which the scientific instrumentation (sensors, detectors, etc.) and necessary mechanical and electronic subassemblies are assembled into a complete operational package capable of achieving the scientific objectives of the mission. |
| Payload Integration (Missile and Space) | The compatible installation of a complete payload package into the spacecraft and space vehicle. |

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| PB | (1) Particle Beam. (2) Post-Boost. (3) President's Budget. (4) Program Baseline. |
| PB/MT/D ATD | Post-Boost/Midcourse Tracking/Discrimination ATD. |
| PBCRAW | Post-Boost Control Reaction Altitude Wafer. |
| PBCS | Post-Boost Control System. |
| PBD | Program Budget Decision. |
| PBI | Post-Boost Intercept. |
| PBP | Post-Boost Phase. |
| PBS | President's Budget Submission. |
| PBV | Post-Boost Vehicle. |
| PBW | Particle Beam Weapon. |
| PC | (1) Printed Circuit. (2) Personal Computer. (3) Principals Committee. |
| PC-PC | Personal Computer to Personal Computer (JFACC term). |
| PCA | Physical Configuration Audit. |
| PCAST | President's Committee of Advisors on Science and Technology. |
| PCB | Printed Circuit Board. |
| PCC | Pilot Command Center (C2E term). |
| PCD | Program Connectivity Diagram (MDA/POC term). |
| PCE | PLRS Communications Enhancement. |
| PCERT | Pursue Computer Emergency Response Team. |
| PCF | Packet Control Facility (TelComm term). |
| PCI | Peripheral Component Interface. |
| PCL | (1) Pulsed Chemical Laser. (2) Printer Control Language. |
| PCM | (1) Pulse Code Modulation. |
| PCMCIA | Personal Computer Miniature Connector Interface Adapter. |
| PCO | Procurement Contracting Officer (FAR term). |
| PCR | (1) Program Change Request. (2) Program Center Representative. |
| PCS | (1) Permanent Change of Station (ILS term). (2) Planning and Control System. |
| PCWBS | Preliminary Control Work Breakdown Structure. |

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| PD | (1) Presidential Directive. (2) Procedures Description. (3) Probability of Damage. (4) Probability of Detection. (5) Preconditions for Defense. (6) Program Director (AF). (7) Production/Deployment. (8) Phenomenology Document. (9) Passive Defense. |
| PD&V | Projection Definition and Validation (MEADS Program term). |
| PD-V | Program Definition-Validation [Phase] (Acquisition Phase term). |
| PD/RR | Program Design and Risk Reduction (Acquisition Phase term). |
| PDB | Post Deployment Build (PATRIOT). |
| PDC | Plume Data Center, AEDC, TN. |
| PDD | (1) Point Defense Demonstration (USN term). (2) Presidential Decision Directive. |
| PDM | Program Decision Memorandum (DD 5000 term). |
| PDM (I or II) | See Program Decision Memorandum (First or Second). |
| PDP | Pulse Doppler Processor. |
| PDR | Preliminary Design Review. |
| PDRR | (1) Program Description, Requirements Review [phase] (DD 5000.1/2). (2) Program Definition (Development) and Risk Reduction. |
| PDSL | Process Data Sensitivity Label. |
| PDSS | Post-Development Software Support (ILS term). |
| PDUSD | Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. |
| PDUSD (A&T) | Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology). |
| PDV | Program Definition and Validation. |
| PE | Program Element. |
| Peacekeeper | US MX Missile. |
| Peak Gamma Dose Rate | The maximum rate (per second) of gamma radiation that the system could survive and continue functioning. |
| PEC | (1) Program Element Code. (2) Pre-authorized Engagement Criteria. |
| PEELS | Parametric Endo-Exo Lethality Simulation. |
| PEIP | Programmable Embedded INFOSEC Product (ex-MSD). |
| PEIS | Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement. |

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| PEM | Program Element Monitor (AF). |
| PENAIID | Penetration Aid. |
| Penaid (Penetration Aid) | (Formerly an acronym for Penetration Aid.) Techniques or devices employed by offensive aerospace weapon systems to increase the probability of penetrating enemy defenses. |
| Penetration Testing | The portion of security testing in which the penetrators attempt to circumvent the security features of the system. The penetrators may be assumed to use all system design and implementation documentation, which may include listings of system source code, manuals, and circuit diagrams. The penetrators work under no constraints other than those that would be applied to ordinary users. |
| PEO | Program Executive Officer. |
| PEO-AMD | Program Executive Officer, Air and Missile Defense. (U.S. Army) |
| PEO (SC/AP) | Program Executive Officer, Surface Combatants/AEGIS Program. |
| PEO (TAD) | Program Executive Officer, Theater Air Defense. (U.S. Navy) |
| PEO (TAD)-B | Program Executive Officer, U.S. Navy Theater Ballistic Missile Defense Program Office. |
| PEP | Producibility Engineering and Planning. |
| PEPP | Producibility Engineering and Production Planning. |
| Peregrine | An Air Force boost-phase interceptor concept under development at USAF/SMC. |
| Performance | Those operational and support characteristics of the system that allow it to effectively and efficiently perform its assigned mission over time. The support characteristics of the system include both supportability aspects of the design and the support elements necessary for system operation. |
| Performance Requirement | A requirement that specifies a performance characteristic that a system or system or system component must possess; for example, speed, accuracy, frequency. |
| Performance Specification | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A specification that sets forth the performance requirements for a system or system component. (2) Synonymous with requirements specification. |
| Perimeter Acquisition Radar and Attack Characterization System (PARCS) | AN/FPQ-16 phased array radar at Cavalier AFS, ND, used for early warning and attack assessment. |
| Period (nodal) | Time for a satellite to travel once around its orbit. |
| Permeability | Having the ability to diffuse through or penetrate something. |
| Pershing II | OBSOLETE. US intermediate-range missile deployed in Europe. |
| PERT | Program Evaluation and Review Technique. |

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| PERT Chart | A graphic portrayal of milestones, activities, and their dependency upon other activities for completion, and depiction of the critical path. |
| PESHE | Programmatic Environmental Safety and Health Evaluation. |
| PET | (1) Pilot-Line Experiment Technology. (2) Production Environmental Test. |
| PFC | Prototype Flight Cryocooler. |
| PFD | Preconditions for Defense. |
| PFIAB | President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. |
| PFS | Pre-Feasibility Study (UKMOD). |
| PGG | Patrol Gunboat, Guided missile (Naval term). |
| PGGH | Patrol Gunboat Guided Missile Hydro-foil (Naval term). |
| PGM | Precision Guided Munition. |
| PGU | Power Generation Unit. |
| PH&S | Packaging, Handling and Storage (see PHST) (ILS term). |
| Phased Array | The arranging of radiating or receiving elements that, although physically stationary, is electronically steer-able and can switch rapidly from one target to another (e.g., phased array radar). |
| Phased Array Tracking Radar Intercept On Target (missile) (PATRIOT) | A point or limited area defense system originally built to intercept aircraft. PAC-3 improvements, which will give it greater capability against theater ballistic missiles, include upgrades to the radar and selection of an improved missile, either PATRIOT Multimode Missile or ERINT. |
| Phased Deployment | The sequential steps of element deployments leading to a designated system capability that is realizable with fiscal and technological constraints. |
| Phase One Engineering Team (POET) | OBSOLETE. An FFRDC providing technical support to the Phase I Program Office. Now referred to as POET. |
| Phenomenology | The topological classification of a class of phenomena. Phenomenology efforts collect and analyze optical and radar signature data, and model phenomena required by systems developers to design and evaluate SDS elements. |
| PHI | Photonic Hit Indicator. |
| PHIGS | Programmer's Hierarchical Interactive Graphics System. |
| PHOTINT | Photographic Intelligence. |
| Photochemical | A chemical reaction resulting from exposure to radiant energy or light. |

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| Photoelectric Effect | The process whereby a gamma ray (or x-ray photon) with energy somewhat greater than that of the binding energy of an electron in an atom, transfers all its energy to the electron which is consequently removed from the atom. Since it has lost all its energy, the photon ceases to exist. (See Photon.) |
| Photon | A unit or "particle" of electromagnetic radiation, carrying a quantum of energy, which is characteristic of the particular radiation. |
| PHS&T | Packaging, Handling, Storage, and Transportation. |
| Physical Agents | Descriptive term that includes non-ionizing EMR, static electric and magnetic fields, ionization radiation, energy beams, noise, explosions, de-orbiting debris, and extreme cold. |
| Physical Configuration Audit (PCA) | Physical examination to verify that the configuration item(s) "as built" conforms to the technical documentation that defines the item. Approval by the government program office of the CI product specification and satisfactory completion of this audit established the product baseline. May be conducted on first full production or first LRIP team. |
| PI | Program Integrator. |
| PIA | Personnel Identification/Authorization System (USA term). |
| PIC | (1) PLRS Interface Controller (US Army term). (2) Policy Integration Committee. (3) Program Information Center (Computer programmer term). |
| Picture Element (PIXEL) | The smallest element of a display space that can be independently assigned color and intensity; the finest detail that can be effectively reproduced on a recording medium. |
| PIDS | Prime Item Development Specification. |
| Pilot Production | Production line normally established during EMD to test new manufacturing methods and procedures. Normally funded by RDT&E until the line is proven. Not the same as long range initial production. |
| PIM | Position of Intended Movement (USN term). |
| PIMS | Programmable Implantable Medication System. |
| PIP | (1) Predicted Impact Point. (2) Predicted Intercept Point. (3) Product Improvement Proposal/Program. |
| PIPT | Program Integrated Product (Process) Team. |
| PIR | Program Information Report. |
| PIXEL | Picture Element. |
| Pk | Probability of Kill. |
| PKCS | Public Key Cryptography Standard. |
| PKH | Probability of Kill, given a hit. |

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| PKO | Peacekeeping Operations. |
| Pkss | Probability of kill -- single shot. |
| PL | (1) Probability of Leakage. (2) Phillips Laboratory, Kirtland AFB, NM. (3) Public Law. |
| PLA | (1) People's Liberation Army (China's army). (2) Patent License Agreement. |
| PLAN | People's Liberation Army/Navy (China's military). |
| Planning, Programming, Budgeting System (PPBS) | The primary resource allocation process of DoD. One of three major decision-making support systems for defense acquisition. It is a formal, systematic structure for making decisions on policy, strategy, and the development of forces and capabilities to accomplish anticipated missions. PPBS is a cyclic process containing three distinct, but interrelated phases: planning, which produces the Program Objectives Memorandum (POM) for the Military Departments and Defense Agencies; and budgeting, which produces the DoD portion of the President's Budget. DoD PPBS is a biennial process starting in January of each odd numbered year with national security guidance to initiate the planning phase, and ending in January of the next odd numbered year with the President's budget submission to Congress. (Defense Systems Management College) |
| PLCCE | Program Manager's Life Cycle Cost Estimate. |
| PLISN | Provisioning List Item Sequence Number (ILS term). |
| PLRS | Position Location Reporting System. |
| Plume Data Center | AEDC, Arnold AFB, TN. |
| PLV | Payload Launch Vehicle. |
| PM | See Program Manager. |
| PMA | (1) See Program Management Agreement. (2) Post-Mission Analysis. (3) Pressurized Mating Adapter (NASA term related to the space station). |
| PMASIT | PMA Software Input Tool MDA/DPI S/W tool). |
| PMC | PCI Mezzanine Card (computer H/W term). |
| PMD | (1) Program Management Document. (2) Program Management Directive (AF). |
| PMEL | Precision Measurement Equipment Laboratory. |
| PMI | Preventive Maintenance Inspection. |
| PMIT | PATRIOT Missile Integration Team (PAC-3 Program term). |
| PMJEG | Performance Measurement Joint Evaluation Group. |
| PMO | Program Management Office. |

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| PMP | (1) Parts, Materiel and Processes (US Army term) (See also MPP). (2) Program Master Plan. (3) Prime Mission Product. (4) Program Management Plan. |
| PMR | (1) Program Management Review. (2) Pacific Missile Range. (3) Program Manager's Review (PAC-3 term). |
| PMRF/KTF | Pacific Missile Range Facility/Kauai Test Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, HI. |
| PMS | (1) Planned Maintenance System (ILS term). (2) Performance Measurement System. |
| PMTC | Pacific Missile Test Center, Pt. Mugu, CA. |
| PMWG | Producibility and Manufacturing Working Group. |
| P_N | Probability of Negotiation. |
| PNE | Peaceful Nuclear Explosion. |
| PNET | Peaceful Nuclear Explosion Treaty. |
| PO | (1) [Acquisition] Program Office. (2) Purchase Order. |
| POA&M | Plan of Actions and Milestones. |
| POC | (1) Point of Contact. (2) Proof of Concept. |
| POC/ET | Proof of Concept/Experimental Test (e.g., modular USSTRATCOM ground mobile command post). |
| POCT | Passive Optical Component Technology. |
| POD | (1) Plan of the Day. (2) Probability of Detection. (3) Port of Debarkation. |
| PODIUM | Project Origination Design, Implementation and Maintenance. |
| POE | (1) Program Office Estimate. (2) Projected Operating Environment. |
| POET | A consortium of scientist and engineers from FFRDCs providing technical support to the MDA. (Formerly referred to as the Phase One Engineering Team.) |
| Point Defense | The defense or protection of special vital elements and installations; e.g., command and control facilities, air bases, etc. |
| Point Defense System | A terminal defense system using radars and large numbers of guided projectiles to defend ICBMs. This concept was considered in the early 1980s. |
| Pointing | The aiming of sensors or defense weapons at a target with sufficient accuracy either to track the target or to aim with sufficient accuracy to destroy it. Pointing and tracking are frequently integrated operations. |
| POL | Petroleum, Oil, and Lubrication. |

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| POLAD | Political Advisor. |
| POM | Program Objectives Memorandum. |
| POMCUS | Pre-positioning Of Materiel Configured to Unit Sets. |
| POP | Proof of Principle. |
| Port Covers | Mechanism for thrust termination of solid-propellant systems. |
| Portability | (Software) The extent to which a software component originally developed on one computer or operating system can be used on another computer or operating system. |
| POS | (1) Primary Operating Stocks. (2) Probability Of Success. (3) Position. |
| Poseidon | Class of US nuclear ballistic submarines (USN term). |
| POSIX | Portable Operating System Interface. |
| POST | Portable Optical Sensor Tester. |
| Post-Attack | The period following the attack, prior to the next wave. |
| Post-Attack Period | In nuclear warfare, that period which extends from the termination of the final attack until political authorities agree to terminate hostilities. |
| Post-Boost Phase (PBP) | That portion of the trajectory of a ballistic missile between the end of powered flight and release of the last RV. Applies only to multiple-warhead ballistic missiles. (USSPACECOM) |
| Post-Boost Vehicle (PBV) | The portion of a rocket payload that carries multiple warheads and which has the maneuvering capability to independently target each warhead on a final trajectory toward a target. Also referred to as a "bus." |
| POSTPROD | Post-Production. |
| POTS | OBSOLETE. Phase One Threat Specification. |
| PP | (1) Parallel Processing. (2) Principal Polarization. (3) Post Processing. (4) Program Plan. |
| PPBES | (1) Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution System. (2) Program Planning and Budgeting System. |
| PPBS | Planning, Programming, Budgeting System. |
| PPG | (1) Parallel Programming Group. (2) Program Planning Guidance. |
| PPI | POM Preparation Instructions. |
| PPIP | Program Protection and Implementation Plan. |
| PPIRS | Producibility Programming and Issues Resolution Strategies. |

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| PPL | Provisioning Parts List (ILS term). |
| PPLI | Provisioning Parts List Index (ILS term). |
| PPP | Program Protection Plan. |
| PPQT | Pre-Production Qualification Test. |
| PPS | Precision Positioning System. |
| PPU | Prime Power Unit (THAAD). |
| PR | Procurement Request. |
| PRB | (1) Planning and Resources Board. (2) Program Review Board. |
| PRC | Program Review Committee. |
| PRD | Presidential Review Decision. |
| PRDA | Program Research and Development Announcement. |
| PRDR | Pre-production Reliability Design Review. |
| Pre-Allocated Defense | A preplanned decision to designate a specific number of defensive assets to be used against a specific target or set of targets or to defend a specified asset or set of assets. The defense will select the best tactic to use based on the number of interceptors available, their probability to kill, the number of targets under attack to be defended, and the scope of the attack. |
| Pre-Attack | A period of time immediately prior to an attack, usually hours to minutes to tip-off. |
| Pre-Authorized Engagement Criteria (PEC) | Pre-specified quantitative operational parameter thresholds which when surpassed cause automated engagements to be enabled. |
| Pre-Commit Strategy | A tactic in which defense weapons are fired without being individually committed to specific targets. Target commitment would occur relatively late in the defensive weapon's trajectory. |
| Pre Launch Survivability | The probability that a delivery and/or launch vehicle will survive an enemy attack under an established condition of warning. |
| Precedence | 1. A designator, which indicates the order in which a number of messages shall be served. Four precedence levels are provided for SDS, with one being the highest and four the lowest. Messages with precedence level one are served first and those with level four last. These correspond to the four precedence levels, Flash, Immediate, Priority, and Routine respectively. 2. (Reconnaissance) A letter designation, assigned by a unit requesting several reconnaissance missions, to indicate the relative order of importance, within an established priority, of the mission requested. |
| Precision Decoys | Decoys that precisely match RV characteristics either exoatmospherically or endoatmospherically, or both, and seek to deceive the defense into intercepting them. |

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| Preconditions for Defense (PD) | PDs are NCA pre-approved criteria, authorities, and procedures that delineate circumstances under which USCINCSpace BMD forces will initiate or continue combat engagements and operations against hostile ballistic missile attacks directed at the United States, its Allies, or U.S. interests during peace, crisis, and war. |
| Predicted Intercept Point (PIP) | The calculated position in space where the target and interceptor coincide. |
| Preferential Defense | Preferential defense is the a-priori assignment of defensive assets to protect given facilities or capabilities. |
| Preferential Defense Strategy | A tactic used as part of the SDS strategy to optimize the use of weapons and sensors by selecting high value targets for engagement by the defense while temporarily allowing less important targets to pass. This strategy forces the offense to attack with several times as many RVs as the defense has interceptors. Since preferential defense demands precise impact point prediction, the strategy is placed at a disadvantage if targets are closely spaced, if RVs can maneuver or if the defense intercepts ICBMs in the boost phase. |
| Preferential Offense | The concentration of offensive assets on a subset of targets. |
| Preliminary Design Review (PDR) | A review conducted on each configuration item to evaluate the progress, technical adequacy, and risk resolution of the selected design approach; to determine its compatibility with performance and engineering requirements of the development specification; and to establish the existence and compatibility of the physical and functional interfaces among the item and other items of equipment, facilities, computer programs, and personnel. Conducted during Phase I, Demonstration and Validation (for prototypes), and Phase II, Engineering and Manufacturing Development. |
| Preplanned Product Improvement (P³I) | Planned future evolutionary improvement of developmental systems for which design considerations are effected during development to enhance future application of projected technology. Includes improvements planned for ongoing systems that go beyond the performance envelope to achieve a needed operational capability. |
| Preplanned Response Options (PRO) | Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) reactions, which have been preplanned, analyzed, and pre-approved, for specific ballistic missile threats. The PRO, equivalent to an operations plan, consist of a number of Defense Employment Options (DEO) which provide force employment objectives to Component forces based upon the world situation, national objectives/guidance, BMD asset status, and the intent of the threat. PRO is automatically processed with real-time human oversight and control when USCINCSpace directs execution. |
| Preproduction Prototype | An article in final form employing standard parts, representative of articles to be produced subsequently in a production line. |
| Preproduction Test | This is a test of design-qualified hardware that is produced using production tooling and processes, which will be used to produce the operational hardware. No production hardware should be accepted prior to satisfactory completion of this test. Test objectives include: gaining confidence that production hardware is going to work; that it will be reliable; that it can be maintained and supported by the user; and that it is not over designed. |

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| Preset Guidance | A technique of missile control wherein a predetermined flight plan is set into the control mechanism and cannot be adjusted after launching. |
| President's Budget (PB) | The Federal Government's budget for a particular fiscal year transmitted in January (first Monday after January 3rd) to the Congress by the President in accordance with the Budget and Accounting Act of 1921, as amended. Includes all agencies and activities of the executive, legislative and judicial branches (For FY 88/89, two-year budget for DoD submitted in January 1987.) |
| PRF | Pulse Repetition Frequency. |
| PRG | Program Review Group. |
| Prime Contractor | A contractor having responsibility for design control and delivery of a system or equipment such as aircraft, engines, ships, tanks, vehicles, guns and missiles, ground communications and electronic systems, ground support equipment, and test equipment. |
| Prioritize Targets | To identify and rank targets in priority fashion, based upon criteria such as type, predicted impact point, and predicted time of impact. |
| PRN | Pseudo Random Noise. |
| PRO | (1) Preplanned Response Options. (2) Plant Representative Office. |
| Probability of Damage | The probability that damage will occur to a target expressed as a percentage or as a decimal. |
| Probability of Detection | (1) The probability that the search object will be detected under given conditions if it is in the area searched. (2) The probability an object will be detected given all known error and noise sources. |
| Probability of Discrimination | This is the probability that an object, which is threatening will be correctly identified. The ability to discriminate between a potential target and a decoy is quantified by a "K" factor, in which the higher the numeric the greater the probability of discrimination (thus, a "0" K factor implies that the target is indistinguishable from the decoy). |
| Probability of False Alarm | (1) For a single sensor this is the probability that an object will be detected when no object is present. (2) For discrimination, this is the probability that an object, which is not a threatening object will be identified as one. |
| Probability of Kill | The lethality of a weapon system. Generally refers to armaments (i.e. missiles, ordnance, etc.) Usually the statistical probabilities that the weapon will detonate close enough to the target with enough power to disable the target. (Defense Systems Management College) |
| Probe | The air vehicle of the GSTS. |
| PROC | Procurement. |
| Process Data Sensitivity Label (PDSL) | The sensitivity label for data contained in a process. |

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| PROCMT | Procurement. |
| Procuring Contracting Officer (PCO) | The individual authorized to enter into contracts for supplies and services on behalf of the government by sealed bids or negotiations that is responsible for overall procurement of the contract. |
| Prod | Production. |
| Producibility | The relative ease of manufacturing an item or system. This relative ease is governed by the characteristics and features of a design that enable economical fabrication, assembly, inspection, and testing using available manufacturing techniques. |
| Producibility, Engineering, and Planning (PEP) | Applies to production engineering tasks to ensure a smooth engineering transition from development into production. PEP, a systems and planning engineering approach, assures that an item can be produced in the required quantities and in the specified time frame, efficiently and economically, and will meet necessary performance objectives within its design and specification constraints. As an essential part of all engineering design, it is intended to identify potential manufacturing problems and suggest design and production changes or schedule trade-offs, which would facilitate the production process. |
| Producibility, Programming, and Issues Resolution Strategies (PIRS) | A semi-annual document put out by the MDA P&M community listing all medium and higher P&M risk issues as prioritized and coordinated by the MDA P&M Working Group. |
| Producibility Review | A feasibility review of the design of a specific hardware item or system to determine the relative ease of producing it using available production technology considering the elements of fabrication, assembly, inspection, and test. This is a generic term for the concurrent engineering portions of MIL-STD 1521 system design reviews. |
| Product Baseline | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Established by the detailed design documentation for each configuration item. Normally includes Process baseline (type D spec), Material baseline (type E spec), type C spec, and drawings. (2) In configuration management, the initial approved technical documentation (including, for software, the source code listing) defining a configuration item during the production, operation, maintenance, and logistic support of its life cycle. |
| Product Configuration Identification | The current approved technical documentation which defines the configuration of a configuration item during the production, operation, maintenance, and logistics support phases of its life cycle and which prescribes that necessary for: fit and function characteristics of a CI (Configuration Item); the selected functional characteristics for production acceptance; and the production acceptance test. |
| Product Improvement | Effort to incorporate a configuration change involving engineering and testing on end items and depot repairable components, or changes on other than developmental items to increase system or combat effectiveness or extend useful military life. Usually results from user feedback. |

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| Product Manager | The individual, designated by a materiel developer, who is delegated authority and assigned responsibility for centralized management of a development/acquisition program that does not qualify for system/program/project management. |
| Product Security (PRODSEC) | That physical security provided for selected DoD products (major, high cost, politically sensitive systems with significant military value) at Department of Defense contractor facilities to mitigate the risk of the government as a self-insurer. Defining and instituting product security during production are essential to the delivery of uncompromised systems. |
| Production Acceptance Test and Evaluation | T&E of production items to demonstrate that items procured fulfill the requirements and specifications of the procuring contract or agreements. |
| Production and Deployment | Normally the fourth phase in the acquisition process following Milestone III. Systems are procured, items are manufactured, operational units are trained, and the systems are deployed. |
| Production Baseline | The Acquisition Program Baseline (APB) approved at Milestone III, applicable to the effort in Phase III, Production and Deployment. |
| Production Control | The procedure of planning, routing, scheduling, dispatching, and expediting the flow of materials, parts, subassemblies, and assemblies within the plant from the raw state to the finished product in an orderly and efficient manner. |
| Production Feasibility | The likelihood that a system design concept can be produced using existing production technology while simultaneously meeting quality, production rate, and cost requirements. |
| Production Qualification Test (PQT) | A technical test conducted post MS III to ensure the effectiveness of the manufacturing process, equipment, and procedures. This testing also serves the purpose of providing data for the independent evaluation required for materiel release so that the evaluator can address the adequacy of the materiel with respect to the stated requirements. These tests are conducted on a number of samples taken at random from the first production lot, and are repeated if the process or design is changed significantly, and when a second or alternative source is brought on line. Program funding category -- Procurement. |
| Production Readiness | The state or condition or preparedness of a system to proceed into production. A system is ready for production when the producibility of the production design and the managerial and physical preparations necessary for initiating and sustaining a viable production effort have progressed to the point where a production commitment can be made without incurring unacceptable risks that will breach thresholds of schedule, performance, cost, or other established criteria. |
| Production Readiness Review (PRR) | A formal examination of a program to determine if the design is ready for production, production-engineering problems have been resolved, and the producer has accomplished adequate planning for the production phase. Performed toward the end of FSD. (Defense Systems Management College) |
| Prograde Orbit | An orbit having an inclination of between 0° and 90° with the object moving in an easterly direction. (Retrograde Orbit.) |

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| Program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A DoD acquisition program. (2) As a verb, schedule funds to meet requirements and plans. (3) A major, independent part of a software system. (4) A defined effort funded by RDT&E and/or procurement appropriations with the express objective of providing a new or improved capability in response to a stated mission need or deficiency. |
| Program Acquisition Cost | The estimated cost of development (RDT&E), procurement, and system specific military construction (MILCON) necessary to acquire the defense system. RDT&E costs shall be accumulated from the point in time when the DoD acquisition program is designated by title as a program element or major project within a program element. MILCON costs shall include only those projects that directly support and uniquely identify with the system. |
| Program Baseline | Acquisition Program Baseline. |
| Program Budget Decision (PBD) | Secretary of Defense decision documents that affirm or change dollar amounts or manpower allowances in the services' budget estimate submissions. |
| Program Change Decision | A decision by SECDEF issued in a prescribed format that authorizes changes in the structure of the FYDP. |
| Program Change Request | Prepared in a prescribed format, it is a proposal for out-of-cycle changes to data recorded in the approved FYDP. |
| Program Cost Categories | <p><u>Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation.</u> Appropriations to fund the efforts performed by contractors and government activities, including procurement of end items, weapons, materiel, components, materials and services required for the development of equipment, material, computer application software, and its development and initial operational test and evaluation. RDT&E also funds the operation of dedicated R&D installations activities for the conduct of R&D programs.</p> <p><u>Procurement.</u> Appropriations to fund those acquisition programs that have been approved for production, and all costs integral and necessary to deliver a useful end item intended for operational use or inventory upon delivery.</p> <p><u>Operations & Maintenance.</u> Appropriations to fund expenses such as civilian salaries, travel, minor construction projects, operating military forces, training and education, depot maintenance, stock funds, and base operations support.</p> <p><u>Military Personnel.</u> Appropriations to fund costs of salaries and other compensation for active and retired military personnel and reserve forces based on end strength.</p> <p><u>Military Construction.</u> Appropriations to fund major projects such as bases, schools, missile storage facilities, maintenance facilities, medical/dental clinics, libraries, and military family housing.</p> <p>Costs budgeted in the O&M and Military Personnel appropriations are considered expenses. Costs budgeted in the Procurement and Military Construction appropriations are considered investments. Costs budgeted in the RDT&E and Family Housing appropriations include both expenses and investments.</p> |

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| Program Decision Memorandum (PDM) | SECDEF's approval of Military Department or Defense Agency POM with tentative specific guidance. Issued in July every two years during biennial PPBS. |
| Program Development and Risk Reduction (PDRR) | The acquisition phase when major program characteristics and product designs are refined through extensive study and analysis, hardware development, test, and evaluation. The objective is to validate the choice of alternatives and to provide the basis for determining whether or not to proceed into Engineering and Manufacturing development (EMD). |
| Program Element (PE) | The 11 major force elements are subdivided into Program Elements. The program element is the basic building block of the FYDP. It is defined as "an integrated combination of men, equipment and facilities which together constitute an identifiable military capability of support activity." It identifies the mission to be undertaken and the organizational entities to perform the mission. Elements may consist of forces, manpower, materiel, services, and/or associated costs. The PE consists of seven digits ending with a letter indicating appropriate service. |
| Program Element Monitor (PEM) | Person within HQ USAF office who is directly responsible for a given program and all documentation needed to harmonize the program in the budget. |
| Program Evaluation Review Technique (PERT) | A technique for management of a program through to completion by constructing a network model of integrated activities and events and periodically evaluating the time/cost implications of progress. |
| Program Executive Officer (PEO) | A military or civilian official who has primary responsibility for directing several acquisition category I programs and for assigned Acquisition Category II, III, and IV programs. A Program Executive Officer has no other command or staff responsibilities within the Component, and only reports to and receives guidance and direction from the DoD Component Acquisition Executive. |
| Program Management | The process whereby a single leader and team are responsible for planning, organizing, coordinating, directing, and controlling the combined efforts of participating/assigned civilian and military personnel and organizations in accomplishing program objectives. Provides centralized authority, responsibility, and point of contact for a specific acquisition program. |
| Program Management Agreement (PMA) | The guiding agreement between the BMDAE and the SAEs covering the broad objectives, funding, and expectations of each Service with respect to a specific MDA-funded activity. |
| Program Management Plan | The document developed and issued by the program manager, which shows the integrated multi-functional time-phased actions and resources required to complete the task. |
| Program Manager (PM) | A military or civilian official who is responsible for managing an acquisition program. |
| Programmatic | Pertaining to the cost, schedule, and performance characteristics of an acquisition program. |

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| Program Objectives Memorandum (POM) | An annual memorandum in prescribed format submitted to the SECDEF in May by the DoD Component Head, which recommends the total resource requirements and programs within the parameters of the SECDEF's fiscal guidance. A major document in the PPBS; it ultimately becomes the Component's budget. |
| Program/Project Integrator (PI) | The MDA staff member assigned responsibility for integrating all tasks within a project. Single point-of-contact for information and activities involving a MDA technology, NMD planning, or a TMD acquisition project. |
| Programming | The projection of activities to be accomplished and the resources that will be required for a specified period in the future. The process of preparing a program, especially in terms of quantitative, physical requirements, manpower, materiel, and facilities. The process of establishing and maintaining a program. |
| PROGRUS | Program Update Studies. |
| Project | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Synonymous with program in general usage. (2) Specifically, a planned undertaking having a finite beginning and ending, involving definition, development, production, and logistics support of a major weapon or weapon support system or systems. A project may be the whole or a part of a program. Within the Navy, a Designated Project is a project, which, because of its importance or critical nature, has been selected for intensified project management. (3) A planned undertaking of something to be accomplished, produced, or constructed, having a finite beginning and a finite ending. |
| Project Office | The office of the program manager and the point of contact with industry, government agencies, and other activities participating in the system acquisition process. (USASSDC) (Note: USAF uses the term System Program Office). |
| Project Planning Guidance (PPG) | High-level summary document that defines the work to be performed by each Executing Agent in support of the BMD program. |
| Project Summary Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) | A summary WBS tailored to a specific defense materiel item by selecting applicable elements from one or more summary WBSs or by adding equivalent elements unique to the project (MIL-STD-881A). |
| Proliferation (Nuclear Weapons) | The process by which nations sequentially come into possession of, or acquire the right to determine the use of, nuclear weapons, thus enabling each to launch a nuclear attack upon another nation. |
| Proof of Principle (POP) | Technical demonstration and troop experimentation conducted with brassboard configuration, subsystems, or surrogate systems, using troops in a realistic field environment. The process examines the organization and operational concept, provides data to improve requirements and evaluation criteria, and provides data on which to base the decision to enter EMD (Army). |
| Proprietary Right | A broad contractor term used to describe data belonging to the contractor. This data could be intellectual property, financial data, etc. The Government when referencing technical data does not recognize this category. (Defense Systems Management College Glossary) |
| Protection Priorities | The aggregated value for each impact point prediction specifying the order of protection. |
| Proto | Prototype. |

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| PRP | Personnel Reliability Program (ILS term). |
| PRR | Production Readiness Review. |
| PS | (1) Physical Security. (2) Product Service. |
| PSA | Production Shakedown Availability. |
| PSAC | President's Science Advisory Committee. |
| PSC | Principle Subordinate Command. |
| PSCC | Physical Security Control Center. |
| PSD | Power System Demonstrator. |
| PSE | Peculiar Support Element. |
| Psi | Pounds per Square Inch. |
| PSM | Portable Space Model. |
| PSN | Packet Switching Node. |
| PSP | Program Support Plan. |
| PSRR | Preliminary System Requirements Review. |
| PSS | (1) Passive Sensor System. (2) Passive Surveillance Sensor (Project 1106 term). |
| PSSC | Preliminary System Security Concept. |
| PSW | Packet Switching. |
| PSYOP | Psychological Operations. |
| PsyOps | Psychological Operations. |
| PTBT | Partial Test Ban Treaty. |
| PTDB | Problem Tracking Data Base. |
| PTE | Processor Test Environment. |
| PTI | Pacific Telecom, Incorporated. |
| PTO | Participating Test Organization. |
| PTPM | Product Transition Procedure Manual. |
| PtSi | Platinum Silicide. |
| PTV | Propulsion Test Vehicle. |
| PTWG | Producible Technology Working Groups. |
| Pu | Plutonium. |

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| Pulse Duration | In radar, measurement of pulse transmission time in microseconds, that is, the time the radar's transmitter is energized during each cycle. |
| Pulse Repetition Frequency | In radar, the number of pulses that occur each second. Not to be confused with transmission frequency which is determined by the rate at which cycles are repeated within the transmitted pulse. |
| Pulsed Power EMR | Radiated fields that have very high instantaneous peak field strengths or power density but significantly lower average values. |
| Pumping | The raising of the molecules or atoms of a laser to an energy state above the normal lowest state to produce laser light. This results when they fall back to a lower state. Pumping may be done using electrical, chemical, or nuclear energy. |
| PUR | Program Update Review (OSD term). |
| Purchase Order (PO) | A contractual procurement document used primarily to procure supplies and non-personal services when the aggregate amount involved in any one transaction is relatively small (e.g., not exceeding \$10,000). |
| PV HCT | Photovoltaic Mercury Cadmium Telluride. |
| PVB | Project Validation Board (MILCON term). |
| PVO (PVO Strany) | Russian organization formerly responsible for the air and space defense of their homeland. |
| PVT | Payload Verification Test. |
| pW | Picowatt. |
| PWBS | Program Work Breakdown Structure. |
| PWG | Product Working Group. |
| PWR | Pressurized Water Reactor. |
| PY | Prior Year. |
| Pyrotechnic | A mixture of chemicals which, when ignited, is capable of reacting exothermically to produce light, heat, smoke, sound, or gas, and may be also used to introduce a delay into an explosive train because of its known burning time. The term excludes propellants and explosives. |

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| Q | Quarter [of year]. |
| Q&R | Qualification and Reliability. |
| Q/FY | (number) Quarter/Fiscal Year (number), e.g., 4Q/FY98 |
| QA | Quality Assurance. |
| QAE | Quality Assurance Evaluator. |
| QAMSP | Quality Assurance Master Surveillance Plan. |
| QC | Quality Control. |
| QDR | Quadrennial Defense Review (US Congress/DoD term). |
| QFR | Question for Record. |
| QIP | Quality Improvement Prototype. |
| QLD | Quick Look Display. |
| QM | (1) Queen Match. (2) Quartermaster. |
| QM/DX | Queen Match/Discrimination Experiment. |
| QMB | Quality Management Board. |
| QPP | Quality Program Plan. |
| QPR | Quality Program Review. |
| QPSR | Quarterly Program Status Review. |
| QQPRI | Qualitative and Quantitative Personnel Requirements Information. |
| QRA | (1) Quartz Resonant Accelerometer (2) Quick Reaction Alert. (3) Quick Reaction Aircraft (US). |
| QRC | Quick Reaction Capability. |
| QRG | Quick Reference Guide. |
| QRM | Quick Response Missile. |
| QRP | Quick Response Program (PATRIOT). |
| QRP Radar | Quick Response Program Radar. |
| QRS | (1) Quartz Resonant Sensor. (2) Quick Reaction Software. |
| QSR | Quadrennial Strategy Review. |
| Qtrly | Quarterly. |
| Quad-D/ADI | Quad-D/Advanced Discriminating Interceptor. |

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| Qualification Test | This test simulates defined environmental conditions with a predetermined safety factor, the results indicating whether a given design can perform its function within the simulated environment of a system. The test usually is not conducted on models using production tooling and processes. |
| Query | A request for identification of a set of assets, expressed in terms of a set of criteria, which the identified item must satisfy. |
| Queue | A store for a sequence of packets, or messages, which are waiting to be processed. A transmit queue for instance is a store of packets waiting to be transmitted. |
| Quick Reaction Launch Vehicle | A Congressionally mandated program to provide surrogate launch vehicles in support of the Northern Edge exercise in 2001 and 2002. In addition the QRLV has participated in several experiments for various users. |
| QWIP | Quantum Well Infrared Photodetector. |

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| R&A | Reliability and Availability. |
| R&D | Research and Development. |
| R&M | Reliability and Maintainability. |
| R-T | Real Time. |
| R/ASR | Review as Required. |
| R/W | Read/Write. |
| R² | (1) Recovery and Reconstitution. (2) Reporting Responsibility. |
| R²P² | Rapid-Retargeting/Precision Pointing (simulator). |
| R³ | Rotary Reciprocating Refrigerator. |
| RAA | Risk Approval Authority. |
| RAAF | Royal Australian Air Force. |
| RACE | Research in Advanced Communications in Europe. |
| RAD | (1) Radiation Absorbed Dose. (2) Radiation Accumulated Dose. |
| Rad Hard | Radiation Hardened. |
| Radar | (Formerly an acronym for Radio Detection and Ranging.) A technique for detecting targets in the atmosphere or in space by transmitting radio waves (e.g., microwaves) and sensing the waves reflected by objects. The reflected waves (called "returns" or "echoes") provide information on the distance to the target and the velocity of the target, and also may provide information about the shape of the target. |
| Radar Beacon | A receiver-transmitter combination which sends out a coded signal when triggered by the proper type of pulse, enabling determination of range and bearing information by the interrogating station or aircraft. |
| Radar Cross Section (RCS) | Area of an object as scanned by radar; measured in square meters. |
| Radar Netting | The linking of several radars to a single center to provide integrated target information. |
| RADC | (1) Region Air Defense Commander. (2) OBSOLETE. Rome Air Development Center. (Now called Rome Laboratory.) |
| RADEC | Radiation Detection Capability. |
| RADHAZ | (1) Electromagnetic Radiation Hazard. (2) Hazards form electromagnetic radiation. |
| Radiant Exposure | The total amount of thermal radiation energy received per unit area of exposed surface; it is usually expressed in calories per square centimeter. |

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| Radiation | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The emission and propagation of waves transmitting energy through space or through some medium; for example, the emission and propagation of electromagnetic, sound, or elastic waves. (2) The energy transmitted by waves through space or some medium; when unqualified, usually refers to electromagnetic radiation. Also known as radiant energy. (3) A stream of particles, such as electrons, neutrons, protons, alpha particles, or high-energy photons, or a mixture of these. (See Ionizing Radiation, Nuclear Radiation, and Thermal Radiation.) |
| Radiation Hardening | Protection of a particular system, subsystem, or component from functional damage due to the effects of nuclear (or other) radiation by shielding the vulnerable components from the radiation, or using other passive techniques in manufacturing effects of nuclear (or other) radiation. |
| RADIC System | Rapidly Deployable Integrated Command and Control System. |
| RADINT | Radar Intelligence. |
| Radio Blackout (RBO) | The complete disruption of radio (or radar) signal over large areas caused by the ionization accompanying a high altitude nuclear explosion, especially above about 40 miles. |
| Radioactive (or Nuclear) Cloud | An all-inclusive term for the volume of hot gases, smoke, dust, and other particulate matter from the nuclear weapon itself and from its environment, that is carried aloft in conjunction with the rising fireball produced by the detonation of a nuclear weapon. |
| Radioactivity | The spontaneous emission of radiation, generally alpha or beta particles, often accompanied by gamma rays, from the nuclei of an unstable isotope. |
| RADOT | Recording Automatic Digital Optical Tracker. |
| RAG | Red-Amber-Green (MDA/POC assessment term). |
| Rail Gun (RG) | A weapon using metallic rails and electromagnetic energy to fire hypervelocity projectiles. |
| RAM | (1) Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability. (2) Random Access Memory |
| RAMA | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability. (2) Random Access Memory. (3) Radar Absorption Material. |
| RAMOS | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Russian-American Observation Satellite. (2) Reliability, availability, maintainability, operations, and support. |
| RAMS | Resource Management Accounting System. |
| Random Defense | Engagement of RVs uniformly without any reference to type or destination. This implies taking the best shot possible in terms of increasing probability to kill. |
| Range Resolution | The difference between the true distance (from sensor) to target and the calculated distance to target based on sensor data, at maximum sensor range. |
| RAP | Remote Access Panel. |

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| RAPIER | Rapid Emergency Relocation Team. |
| RAPTOR | Responsive Aircraft Program for Theater Operations. A high-altitude, long endurance airborne sensor platform. |
| RAPTOR/TALON | A technology demonstration program to demonstrate critical technologies for an unmanned airborne weapons system providing a boost phase intercept capability. |
| RARSAT | Radar Ocean Reconnaissance Satellite. |
| RAS | (1) Requirements Allocation Sheet. (2) Remote Access Set. |
| RASA | Remote Command Safety System. |
| Rationalization | Any action that increases the effectiveness of allied forces through more efficient or effective use of defense resources committed to the alliance. Rationalization includes consolidation, reassignment of national priorities to higher alliance needs, standardization, specialization, mutual support or improved interoperability, and greater cooperation. Rationalization applies to both weapons/materiel resources and non-weapons military matters. |
| RB | Reentry Body. |
| RBECS | Revised Battlefield Electronic CEOI System (US Army-sponsored). |
| RBO | Radio Blackout. |
| RC/CC | Responsibility Center/Cost Center. |
| RCF | Radar Correlation Function. |
| RCM | (1) Reliability Centered Maintenance. (2) Requirements Correlation Matrix (AF). (3) Resource Consumption Model. |
| RCR | Rate Capability Review (USA term). |
| RCS | Radar Cross-Section. |
| RCSR | Radar Cross-Section Reduction. |
| RCSS | Range Command Safety System. |
| RCU | (1) Rate Changes Unit. (2) Remote Control Unit. (3) Reactor Control Unit. |
| RCVR | Receiver. |
| RD | Readiness Demonstrator (SBL Program term). |
| RDA | Research, Development and Acquisition. |
| RDBMS | Relational Database Management System (Computer term). |
| RDC | Research and Development Contract. |
| RDD | Requirements Driven Design. |

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| RDD-100 | Requirements Driven Development |
| RDG | Random Data Generator. |
| RDS | Regional Defense System. |
| RDT&E | Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation. |
| RDT&E Program Categories | <p>The five divisions the comprise Major Force Program 06 (R&D) in the FYDP. They are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.1 Basic Research • 6.2 Exploratory Development • 6.3 Advanced Development • 6.4 Engineering Development • 6.5 Management and Support. <p>Operational System development, not a designated category, is funded in RDT&E appropriations but not in Major Force Program 06.</p> |
| RE | Radar Enhancement (USA term). |
| Re Targeting | The ability of the system to recomputed the direction of sensors and/or weapons to intercept a target that was missed on the first attempt, or that was superseded by a higher priority target. |
| REACT | Rapid Execution and Combat Targeting. |
| Reaction Decoy | A decoy deployed only upon warning or suspicion of imminent attack. |
| Readiness Postures | A specific status defining the relative responsiveness of BMD assets and personnel to perform a USSPACECOM BMD mission. |
| Real Time | <p>(1) Pertaining to the processing of data by computer in connection with another process outside the computer according to time requirements improved by the outside process. This term is used to describe systems operating in conversational mode, and processes that can be influenced by human intervention, while they are in progress.</p> <p>(2) Pertaining to the actual time during which a physical process transpires, for example, the performance of a computation during the actual time that the related physical process transpires, in order that results of the computation can be used in guiding the physical process.</p> |
| Real World Data | Data derived from physical experimentation concerning phenomenology associated with technical functioning of SDS, particularly regarding target signatures, background observables, sensor functions, weapon functions, and survivability. |
| Real World Data Collection | The provision, to SEIC users, of access to real world data, in fashion timely and otherwise suitable to meet users' needs (e.g. for validation of a test bed). |
| REC | Radio-Electronic Combat. |
| RECCE | Reconnaissance. |
| Reclama | A formal appeal to the service comptroller of SECDEF's tentative budget decision on the service budget estimates. |

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| RECON | Reconnaissance. |
| Reconciliation | Directives to standing committees contained in congressional budget resolutions calling for certain dollar savings and a deadline for reporting legislation to achieve the savings. Omnibus reconciliation bill incorporating these changes is introduced and acted on in both houses. |
| Reconstitute | To restore, during periods of hostile engagements or during peacetime, military forces or elements as closely as possible to a desired state of readiness for combat. |
| Red/Blue Exchange | A process to identify and define potential countermeasures that would degrade aspects of ballistic missile defense. The process – akin to a wargame – pits a Red team fielded by DSIM and a Blue team fielded by AQ. A senior review panel acts as the referee. |
| REDCAP | Real-time Electromagnetic Digitally Controlled Analyzer and Processor (USAF term). |
| Redout | The degradation of infrared sensor resolution due to high-altitude nuclear bursts. Radiation from these bursts causes fluorescence-emission of light from air molecules. The emitted light lies within the long-wave IR spectrum so the atmosphere below appears to the sensor to glow more brightly than usual. |
| Redundancy | The inclusion of duplicate or alternate system elements to improve operational reliability by ensuring continued operation in the event that a primary element fails. |
| Reengineering | The process of examining, altering, and re-implementing an existing computer system to reconstitute it in a new form. |
| Reentry | The return of objects originally launched from earth, into the atmosphere. |
| Reentry Angle | Elevation angle of velocity vector relative to local horizontal plane when reentering object reaches 92km. |
| Reentry Phase | That portion of the trajectory of a ballistic missile or space vehicle where there is a significant interaction of the vehicle and the earth's atmosphere. |
| Reentry Vehicle (RV) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Reentry vehicles are objects containing nuclear warheads. They are released from the last stage of a booster rocket or from a post-boost vehicle early in the ballistic trajectory. They are thermally insulated to survive rapid heating during the high velocities of reentry into the atmosphere, and are designed to protect their contents until detonation at their targets. (2) That part of a space vehicle designed to re-enter the Earth's atmosphere in the terminal portion of its trajectory. |
| Regional Defense System (RDS) | That portion of the SDS that provides defense for a specific geographic region, such as the European Theater. |
| Regional Operations Center (ROC) | A group of fixed and/or mobile centers with OPCON over allocated ground based sensors and weapons. |

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| Regional Operations Control Center (ROCC) | The command function for CONUS, Canadian and Alaska NORAD Regions, referred to as “regions.” In the Alaska NORAD region, the ROCC is also the central intelligence, communications and operations control center established for the purpose of supervising and coordinating the combat effort of all air defense forces made available to the Alaska NORAD region commander. Under normal operating conditions (not degraded), the ROCC is responsible for the identification function and for air and ballistic missile defense of North America. |
| Regrade | To determine that certain classified information requires, in the interests of national security, a higher or lower degree of protection against unauthorized disclosure than currently provided, coupled with a changing of the classification designation to reflect such higher or lower degree. |
| REL NAV | Relative Navigation (JTIDS term). |
| Relay Mirror | Part of a ground-based laser system. |
| Reliability and Maintainability (R&M) | Reliability and maintainability design parameters are key factors in the design of affordable and supportable systems. R&M parameters provide inputs into the design and LSA processes that quantitatively link system readiness to the ILS elements. One of the principal elements of ILS. |
| Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability (RAM) | Those requirements imposed on acquisition systems to ensure they are operationally ready for use when needed, will successfully perform assigned functions, and can be economically operated and maintained within the scope of logistics concepts and policies. RAM programs are applicable to materiel systems, test measurement and diagnostic equipment, training devices, and facilities developed, produced, maintained, procured, or modified for use. (See individual definitions for Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability.) |
| REM | Roentgen Equivalent Man. |
| Remotely Piloted Vehicle (RPV) | An unmanned vehicle capable of being controlled from a distant location through a communication link. It is normally designed to be recoverable. See also Drone. |
| Repairability | The probability that a failed system will be restored to operable condition within a specified active repair time. |
| Repeater-Jammer | A receiver transmitter device that amplifies, multiplies and retransmits the signals received, for purposes of deception or jamming. |
| Report Back | Information returned from system elements that verify that directions have been received and carried out. Also includes information regarding system effectiveness. |
| Reprogrammable Time | Time required to re-target an alert missile. |
| Reprogramming | The transfer of funds between program element and line items within an appropriation for purposes other than those contemplated at the time of appropriation. Appropriate congressional committees generally accomplish reprogramming pursuant to consultation with and approval. |
| Request for Proposal (RFP) | A solicitation used in negotiated acquisition to communicate government requirements to prospective contractors and to solicit proposals. |

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| Request for Quotation | A solicitation used in negotiated acquisition to communicate government requirements to prospective contractors and to solicit a quotation. A response to an RFQ is not an offer. It is informational in character. |
| Required Operational Capability (ROC) | OBSOLETE. A document stating need and specific operational capability. Replaced by the Operational Requirements Document (Army, USMC). Operational Requirements Document. |
| Required Operational Characteristics | System parameters that are primary indicators of the system's capability to be employed to perform the required mission functions, and to be supported. |
| Required Technical Characteristics | Quantitative system performance parameters, approved by the DoD Component, that are selected as primary indicators of technical achievement of engineering thresholds. These might not be direct measures of, but should always relate to, a system's capability to perform its required mission function and to be supported. Required technical characteristics are usually tested and evaluated by developmental testing and evaluation (DT&E) to ascertain achievement of approved goals and thresholds for these characteristics. Critical technical characteristics selected for a DAB program baseline are reviewed and further approved through the DAB process. |
| Requirements Analysis | An analysis to determine and document the need for resources to perform the agency's mission. |
| Requirements Document | A document that sets forth the requirements for a system or system component; for example, a software configuration item. Typically included are functional requirements, performance requirements, interface requirements, design requirements, and development standards. |
| RES | (1) Remote Engagement Section (HAWK TBM weapons system term). (2) Resolution. |
| RESA | Research, Evaluation, and Systems Analysis simulation facility (USN), San Diego, CA. |
| Rescission | An action by the President canceling budget authority previously appropriated but not yet obligated or spent. If both Houses of Congress do not approve the proposed rescission within 45 days, the President must obligate the BA as intended by Congress. |
| Research and Development Costs | Those program costs primarily associated with R&D efforts including the development of a new or improved capability to the point where it is ready for use. They include equipment costs funded under RDT&E appropriations and related military construction appropriation costs. They exclude costs that appear in the military personnel, operation and maintenance, and procurement appropriations. |
| Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation (RDT&E) | Activities for the development of a new system that include basic and exploratory research, advanced and engineering development, development and operational testing and the evaluation of test results. Also, an appropriation category that includes funds allocated to the FYDP major force program 6. (Defense Systems Management College) |
| Resident Space Object (RSO) | The Cheyenne Mountain Complex maintains object, which is currently on-orbit and whose element set parameters. |

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| RESOL | Resolution. |
| Resolution | (1) The ability of a sensor to measure the separation of an image into its constituent objects so that single objects are visible and distinguishable. (2) A measurement of the smallest detail that can be distinguished by a sensor system under specific conditions. |
| Response Plan Selection | The continual comparison of the nature of the observed threat with the defense system capabilities and selects the best way to attack the threat in accordance with established priorities and specified strategy. |
| Responsive Threat | The threat after taking into account modernization and countermeasures introduced to offset the capabilities of the SDS. |
| Restitution | The process of determining the true planimetric position of objects whose images appear on photographs. |
| Retrofit Action | Action taken to modify in-service equipment. |
| Retrograde Orbit | An orbit having inclination of 0 to 90 degrees (See Prograde Orbit). |
| Reverse Engineering | The process of analyzing a computer system's software to identify components and their interrelationships. |
| REVIC | Revised Enhanced Version of Intermediate COCOMO (Computer term). |
| Revisit Interval | The time that elapses between successive observations of an object from a single sensor. |
| RF | (1) Radio Frequency. (2) Response Force. |
| RFFEL | Radio Frequency Linac. |
| RFI | (1) Request for Issue. (2) Request for Information. (3) Radio Frequency Interference. |
| RFL | Radio Frequency Linac. |
| RFLINAC | Radio Frequency Linear Accelerator. |
| RFOG | Resonant Fiber Optic Gyro. |
| RFP | Request for Proposal. |
| RFQ | Radio Frequency Quadrupole (Accelerator). |
| RG | (1) Rail Gun. (2) Review Group. |
| RGB | Red, Green, Blue (Video Engineering term). |
| RH | Radiation Hardened. |
| RH Electronics | Radiation Hardened Electronics. |
| RHD | Radiation Hardened Electronics. |

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| RHETT II | (1) Russian Half Effect Thruster Technology Program. (2) Russian Hall Electric Thruster Test. |
| R_i | Inherent Reliability. |
| RIA | Range Insensitive Axes. |
| RIBIT | Reverse Illuminated Blocked Impurity Transducer. |
| RICBM | Retro Intercontinental Ballistic Missile. |
| RIIA | Royal Institute of International Affairs (UK). |
| RIL | Repair Items List (ILS term). |
| RINT | Unintentional Radiation Intelligence. |
| RIS | Radar Instruction Set Computer. |
| RISC | Reduced Instruction Set Computers. |
| RISCAE | RISC Ada Environment. |
| Risk Approval Authority (RAA) | An individual designated by the Director, MDA who makes risk acceptance decisions. The RAA evaluates trade-offs between threats and such factors as cost, security, survivability, and safety to achieve a functionally operational, affordable, and secure system. |
| Risk Assessment | The process of subjectively determining the probability that a specific interplay of performance, schedule, and cost as an objective, will or will not be attained along the planned course of action. (Defense Systems Management College) |
| RISTA | Reconnaissance, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition. |
| RIU | Range Interface Unit. |
| Rivet Joint | RC-135 reconnaissance aircraft. |
| RIVET JOINT | Name of USAF Reconnaissance project. |
| RIW | Reliability Incentive Warranty. |
| RL | Rome Laboratory, Griffiss Business and Technology Park, NY. (Formerly called Rome Air Development Center.) |
| RLA | Repair of Level Analysis (ILS term). |
| RLG | Ring Laser Gyro. |
| RLRIU | Routing Logic Radio Interface Unit (PATRIOT). |
| RLRIU-U | Routing Logic Radio Interface Unit – Upgrade (USA term). |
| R_m | Mission Reliability (ILS term). |
| RM | Radioman (USN term). |

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| RMA | (1) Reliability, Maintainability and Availability (see RAM) (ILS term). (2) Revolution in Military Affairs (OSD term). |
| RM CET | Resource Management Concurrent Engineering Team. |
| RME | (1) Relay Mirror Experiment (a satellite launched February 1990 and which reentered the atmosphere in May 1993). (2) Remote Multiplexer Encoder. |
| RMI | Republic of the Marshall Islands. |
| RMO | Reflectivity. |
| RMP | Risk Management Plan. |
| RMS | (1) Remote Manipulator System. (2) Root Mean Square. |
| RNAS | REL NAV Analytic Simulator (JTIDS term). |
| RNLAF | Royal Netherlands Air Force. |
| RNLN | Royal Netherlands Navy. |
| ROB | Remote Operating Base. |
| ROBS | Rapid Optical Beam Steering (system). |
| Robust | Used in describing a system; indicates its ability to endure and perform its mission against a responsive threat. Also used to indicate system ability to survive under direct attack. |
| Robustness | (1) The ability to produce correct results despite input errors. (2) The existence of coordinated, multiple capabilities that perform the same broad task/mission. Provides the BMD warfighter with sufficient flexibility to negate the specified threat with application of a variable mix of ground and space-based systems. (USSPACECOM) |
| ROC | (1) Regional Operations Center. (2) Required Operational Capability. |
| ROCC | Regional Operations Control Center. |
| ROD | Record of Decision. |
| ROE | Rules of Engagement. |
| ROF | Rate of Fire |
| ROI | Return on Investment. |
| ROK | Republic of Korea. |
| ROM | Rough Order of Magnitude |
| ROOM | Real-time Object-Oriented Methodology. |
| RORSAT | Radar Ocean Reconnaissance Satellite. |
| ROV | Remotely Operated Vehicle. |

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| ROW | Rest-of-World. |
| RP | (1) Repetitive Pulse. (2) Readiness Posture. |
| RP&C | Resource Planning and Coordination. |
| RPAC | Resource Performance Analysis Center. |
| RPIE | Real Property Installed Equipment. |
| rpm | Revolutions per minute. |
| RPV | Remotely Piloted Vehicle. |
| Rqmt | Requirement. |
| RQMTS | Requirements. |
| RQn | Review Question (AFMC term). |
| RRDI | Range Resolved Doppler Imaging |
| RRFD | Risk Reduction Flight Demonstration. |
| RRG | Requirements Review Group. |
| RS | Radar Set (PATRIOT). |
| RSA | Russian Space Agency. |
| RSI | Rationalization, Standardization, and Interoperability. |
| RSIP | Radar System Improvement Program. |
| RSO | Resident Space Object. |
| RSOI | Reception, Staging, Operation and force Integration (Joint Forces term). |
| RSRE | Royal Signal and Radar Establishment (UK). |
| RST | Radar System Test (THAAD-GBR) |
| RSTA | Reconnaissance, Surveillance, and Target Acquisition. |
| RSTER | Radar Surveillance Technology Experimental Radar (UHF). |
| RSU | Remote Switching Unit. |
| RSV | Re-supply vehicle. |
| RT | (1) Relocation Time (ILS term). (2) Repair Task Distribution (ILS term). |
| RTC | Report to Congress. |
| RTCA | Real Time Casualty Assessment (US Army term). |
| RTD | Radar Technology Demonstration. |

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| RTF | Release To Fleet (USN term). |
| RTG | Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generator. |
| RTIM | Radar Technology Identification Methodology. |
| RTO | Responsible Test Organization. |
| RTOV | Real Time Operational Verification. |
| RTOVF | Real Time Operational Verification Facility (US Army term). |
| RTS | (1) Request To Send (Telecomm/Computer term). (2) Remote Tracking Station. |
| RTWP | Real Time Wave form Processor (Advanced Technology Demonstration Radar term). |
| Rules of Engagement (ROE) | Directives issued by competent military authority which delineate the circumstances and limitations under which United States forces will initiate and/or continue combat engagement with other forces encountered. |
| RUPS | Resource User ID and Password System. |
| RUSI | Royal United Services Institute (UK). |
| RV | See Reentry Vehicle. |
| RV Complex | A reentry vehicle and its associated objects. |
| RV Temperature | The temperature of the heat given off by the RV that allows sensors to acquire them. |
| RVAO | Reentry Vehicle Associated Objects. |
| Rvw | Review. |
| RW | (1) Radiological Weapon. (2) Rotary Wing. |
| RWPD | Real Time Waveform Processing Demonstration. |
| RWR | Radar Warning Receiver. |
| RWS | Remote Workstation. |
| RX | (1) Receive. (2) Receiver. |

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| S | Start. |
| S&A | Safe and Arm. |
| S&T | Science and Technology. |
| S&TI | Scientific and Technical Intelligence. |
| S&TNF | Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces. |
| S/N | (1) Signal-to-Noise Ratio (Also called SNR). (2) Serial Number. |
| S/NF | Secret/No Foreign Security Marking. |
| S/O | Survivability/Operability. |
| S/SU/AC | Systems/System Upgrade/Advanced Concept. |
| S/T | Search/Track. |
| S/V | Survivability and Vulnerability. |
| S/W | Software. |
| S2 | Synchronized and Synergized. |
| S³E | Space-Based KEW System Simulator/Emulator. |
| SA | (1) Situation Awareness (2) Secretary of the Army. |
| SA&I | System Architecture and Integration. |
| SA-N | Surface-to-Air, Naval. |
| SA/BM | OBSOLETE. Systems Analysis/Battle Management. |
| SA/PDL | Strategic Defense Ada Process Description Language. |
| SAAWC | Sector Anti-Air Warfare Coordinator (USMC). |
| SAAWF | Sector Anti-Air Warfare Facility (USF term). |
| SABRS | Space and Atmospheric Burst Reporting System. |
| SAC | (1) OBSOLETE. Strategic Air Command (see USSTRATCOM). (2) Senate Appropriations Committee (US). |
| SACCS | SAC Control System. |
| SACEUR | Supreme Allied Command, Europe. |
| SACLANT | Supreme Allied Command, Atlantic. |
| SACMA | Suppliers of Advanced Composite Materials Association. |
| SADA | Standard Advanced Dewar Assembly. |

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| SADBU | Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (of OSD). |
| SADM | System Acquisition Decision Memorandum (Army). |
| SADO | Senior Operations Duty Officer (JFACC term). |
| SAE | Service Acquisition Executive. |
| SAFEGUARD | A U.S. midcourse and terminal phase defense for ICBMs, deployed in 1975 and deactivated in 1976 due to its limited cost effectiveness. |
| SAFSCOM | OBSOLETE. SAFEGUARD System Command. |
| SAG | Senior Advisory Group. |
| SAGE | Semi-Automatic Ground Environment {Air Defense System}. |
| SAH | Semi-active homing. |
| SAIC | Scientific Applications International Corporation. |
| Saint | A satellite inspector system designed to demonstrate the feasibility of intercepting, inspecting, and reporting on the characteristics of satellites in orbit. |
| SAINT | (1) Satellite Interceptor. (2) Shared Adaptive Internet Technology. |
| SAIP | Semi-Automated Imagery Processing. |
| SAKT | System Architecture and Key Tradeoffs (SDIO term). |
| SAL | Strategic Arms Limitation. |
| SALT | Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. |
| Salvage Fusing | The means by which a warhead detonates when an interceptor structurally attacks it. Generally used as a device for disruption of the defense. |
| SAM | Surface-to-Air Missile. |
| SAM-D | Surface to-Air Missile, Model D (now PATRIOT). |
| SAMD | Security Assistance Management Division. |
| SAMM | Software Acquisition Maturity Matrix. |
| SAMMES | Space Active Modular Materials Experiment. |
| SAMOPA | Single Accelerator Master Oscillator-Power Amplifier. |
| SAMOS | Satellite and Missile Observation System. |
| SAMP | (1) Single Acquisition Management Plan. (2) Security Accreditation Management Plan. |
| SAMP/T | <i>Sol-Air Moyenne Portee/Terre</i> (Surface-Air Medium Portable/Terrestrial – French-Italian missile). |

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| SAMS | Spacecraft Assembly, Maintenance and Servicing Study. |
| SAMTEC | OBSOLETE. Space and Missile Systems Test Center, Vandenberg AFB, CA. |
| SAMTO | OBSOLETE. Space and Missile Test Organization, Vandenberg AFB, CA. |
| SAO | Security Assistance Organization. |
| SAP | Special Access Program. |
| SAR | (1) Synthetic Aperture Radar. (2) Selected Acquisition Report. (3) Special Access Required. (4) Search and Rescue. |
| SARDA | [Assistant] Secretary of the Army for Research, Development and Acquisition. |
| SAS | (1) Shoot-Assess-Shoot. (2) System Architecture Study (SDI). |
| SASC | Senate Arms Service Committee. (US). |
| SASET | Software Architecture Sizing and Estimating Tool. |
| SASS | Space Assets Support System. |
| SAT | Surveillance, Acquisition and Tracking. |
| SATAN | Security Administrator's Tool for Analyzing Networks. |
| SATCOM | Satellite Communications. |
| Satellite and Missile Surveillance | The systematic observation of aerospace for the purpose of detecting, tracking, and characterizing objects, events, and phenomena associated with satellites and in-flight missiles, both friendly and enemy. |
| Satellite Reconnaissance | Intelligence gathered through collection systems involved in assessing the capabilities, methods of operation, signal intercept, photo reconnaissance, and other intelligence indications and warnings that will provide information for SDS assets. |
| SATKA | Surveillance, Acquisition, Tracking, and Kill Assessment. |
| SATP | Space Applications Technology Program. |
| SATRAK | Satellite Tracking. |
| SATURN | Name of NASA rocket booster. |
| SATVUL | Satellite Vulnerability. |
| SAW | (1) Surface Acoustic Wave. (2) Satellite Attack Warning. |
| SAW/V | Satellite Attack Warning and Verification. |
| SAWAFE | Satellite Attack Warning and Assessment Flight Experiment. |
| SBA | (1) Space-Based Assets. (2) Small Business Administration. |

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| SBAMS | Space-Based Anti-Missile System. |
| SBAS | (1) Space-Based Architecture Study. (2) Space-Based Acquisition System. |
| SBCL | Space-Based Chemical Laser. |
| SBD | Site BMC3 Demonstration. |
| SBE | (1) Space Based Element. (2) Synthetic Battlefield Environment. |
| SBES | Space-Based Experimental System. |
| SBEV | Space-Based Experimental Version. |
| SBFEL | Space-Based Free Electron Laser. |
| SBHE | Space-Based Hypervelocity Gun Experiment. |
| SBHRG | Space-Based Hypervelocity Rail Gun. |
| SBI | (1) Space-Based Interceptor. (Replaced by Brilliant Pebbles (BP).) (2) Special Background Investigation. |
| SBI-CV | OBSOLETE. Space-Based Interceptor - Carrier Vehicle. |
| SBIR | (1) Space-Based Infrared. (2) Small Business Innovative Research. |
| SBIRS | Space Based Infrared System. |
| SBIRS GEO | SBIRS Geosynchronous Earth Orbit satellites. |
| SBIRS HEO | SBIRS Infrared sensors hosted on satellites in Highly Elliptical Orbits. |
| SBIRS High | SBIRS high altitude component consisting of four SBIRS GEO satellites and infrared sensors on two HEO satellites. |
| SBIRS LEO | SBIRS Low Earth Orbit Satellites. |
| SBIRS Low | SBIRS low altitude component consisting of SBIRS LEO satellites. The SBIRS Low component will be designed to provide precision midcourse tracking and discrimination data to support early interceptor commit, in-flight target updates, and target object maps for a National Missile Defense architecture. The SBIRS Low component will also support the other mission areas of the SBIR system. (Evolution of the Space and Missile Tracking System). |
| SBIS | (1) Space-Based Imaging Satellite. (2) Space-Based Interceptor System. |
| SBKEW | Space-Based Kinetic Energy Weapon. |
| SBKKV | OBSOLETE. Space-Based Kinetic Kill Vehicle. |
| SBKV | Space-Based Kill Vehicle. |
| SBL | Space-Based Laser. |
| SBLRD | Space-Based Laser Readiness Demonstrator. |

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| SBM | (1) Space-Based Battle Manager. (2) Strategic Ballistic Missile. |
| SBNPB | Space-Based Neutral Particle Beam. |
| SBNPBW | Space-Based Neutral Particle Beam Weapon. |
| SBPB | Space-Based Particle Beam. |
| SBR | Space-Based Radar. |
| SBRF | Space-Based Radio Frequency. |
| SBS | Stimulated Brillouin Scattering. |
| SBSim | Space-Based Simulator. |
| SBSS | Space-Based Surveillance System. |
| SBV Sensor | Space-Based Visible Sensor. |
| SBWAS | Space-Based Warning System. |
| SBWS | Space Based Warning System. |
| SBX | Sea-based X-band Radar – A moveable platform for the BMDS test bed |
| SC | (1) System Center. (2) System Concept. (3) Simulation Center. (4) System Controller. |
| SC/BM | System Concepts/Battle Management. |
| Scaling Law | A mathematical relationship, which permits the effects of a nuclear (or atomic) explosion of given energy yield to be determined as a function of distance from the explosion (or from ground zero), provided the corresponding effect is known as a function of distance for a reference explosion (e.g., of 1-kiloton energy yield). |
| Scan | In an electro-magnetic or acoustic search, one complete rotation of the antenna. |
| Scan Type | The path made in space by a point on the radar beam; for example, circular, helical, conical, spiral, or sector. |
| SCARLET | Solar Concentrator Arrays with Refractive Linear Element Technology. |
| Scattering | The diversion of radiation, including radio, radar, thermal, and nuclear, from its original path as a result of interactions (or collisions) with atoms, molecules, or larger particles in the atmosphere or other medium between the source of the radiations (e.g., a nuclear explosion) and a point at some distance away. As a result of scattering, radiation (especially gamma rays and neutrons) will be received at such a point from many directions instead of only from the direction of the source. |
| SCB | Strategic Defense System Control Board. |
| SCC | (1) Standing Consultative Commission (Treaty negotiation related term). (2) Space Control Center. |

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| SCCB | System Configuration Control Board. |
| SCDL | Surveillance Control Data Link. |
| SCE | Submunition Chemical Experiment. |
| SCF | Satellite Control Facility. |
| SCG | Security Classification Guide. |
| SCI | Special Compartmented Information (Security term). |
| SCIF | Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (Security term). |
| SCIT | Systems Concept Integrated Technology. |
| SCMP | Software Configuration Management Board. |
| SCN | (1) Specification Change Notice. (2) Ship Construction and Conversion (Navy). (3) Space Communications Network. |
| SCOMP | Secure Communications Processor. |
| SCOPA | Survivable Concentrating Photovoltaic Array. |
| SCORE | Scientific Cooperative Research Exchange (US-UK). A science exchange to investigate theater missile defense related issues. |
| SCP | System Concept Paper. |
| SCR | Special Contract Requirement. |
| SCSI | Small Computer Systems Interface. |
| SCT | Single Channel Transponder. |
| SCUD | Surface-to-Surface Missile System. |
| ScudCAP | Scud-Combat Air Patrol. |
| SD | Strategic Defense Command (Army term) (See also SDC). |
| SDB | System Design Board. |
| SDC | Strategic Defense Command (USA term). |
| SDCC | Strategic Defense Command Center. |
| SDCE | Software Development Capability Evaluation (AFMC term). |
| SDCV | Shuttle Derived Cargo Vehicle. |
| SDD | System Description Document. |
| SDF | Self Defense Force. |
| SDI | OBSOLETE. Strategic Defense Initiative. |

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| SDIAE | OBSOLETE. SDI Acquisition Executive. (Re-titled BMD Acquisition Executive (BMDAE).) |
| SDIARC | OBSOLETE. Strategic Defense Initiative Acquisition Review Council. |
| SDII | OBSOLETE. SDI Institute. |
| SDIO | OBSOLETE. Strategic Defense Initiative Organization. (Predecessor organization to Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (MDA).) |
| SDIO/PP | Strategic Defense Initiative Organization/Program Planning. |
| SDIP | OBSOLETE. Strategic Defense Initiative Program. (Predecessor program to Ballistic Missile Defense Program.) |
| SDISM | OBSOLETE. SDI Simulation. |
| SDL | Software Development Library. |
| SDLC | Synchronous Data Link Control (TelComm/Computer term). |
| SDLS | Satellite Data Link Standard(s). |
| SDN | System Design Notebook. |
| SDP | Software Development Plan. |
| SDR | System Design Review. |
| SDRU | System Design Review Update. |
| SDS | Strategic Defense System. |
| SDS Element | A stand-alone system (e.g., a weapon or satellite), which is the smallest entity capable of performing a designated function with, specified results within the Strategic Defense System. |
| SDS-CC | Strategic Defense System - Command Center. |
| SDSD | Strategic Defense System Description. |
| SDS-OC | Strategic Defense System - Operations Center. |
| SE | Systems Engineering. |
| SE&I | Systems Engineering and Integration. |
| SE-CPAT | Systems Engineering – Critical Process Assessment Tool (AFMC term). |
| SEA | [Military] Service Executing Agent. |
| SEAD | Suppression of Enemy Air Defenses. |
| SEALS | Sea Air Land (Special Operations forces (USN)). |
| Search, Active | Illuminate an assigned volume of space with electromagnetic energy and collect reflected radiation. |

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| Search, Passive | Collect radiation from an assigned volume of space. |
| SEATO | Southeast Asia Treaty Organization. |
| SECC | Survivable and Enduring Command Center. |
| SECDEF | Secretary of Defense (For Message Use Only). |
| SECNAV | Secretary of the Navy. |
| SECNAVINST | Secretary of the Navy Instruction. |
| Second Strike Capability | The ability to survive a first strike with sufficient resources to deliver an affective counterblow (generally associated with nuclear weapons). |
| Secondary Station | A station that has been selected to receive a transmission from the primary station. The assignment of secondary status is temporary, under control of the primary station, and continues for the duration of a transmission. |
| Security Architecture | The portion of the baseline SDS architecture that is responsible for preserving the confidentiality, integrity, and assured service of any of the sensitive, system-valued functions and information elements (assets). |
| Security Criteria | The set of requirements that should be met so the security system can provide a maximum degree of effective deterrence at the lowest cost. |
| Security Level | The combination of hierarchical classification and a set of non-hierarchical categories that represents the sensitivity of information. |
| Security Policy | The set of laws, rules, and practices that regulate how an organization manages, protects, and distributes sensitive information. |
| Security Policy Model | An informal presentation of a formal security policy model. |
| Security Program | The implementation of formal security policies and procedures established by DoD and other departmental publications to secure vital components of weapon systems and essential direct support systems from enemy hostile operations and other forms of ground attack. |
| Security Relevant Event | Any event that attempts to change the security state of the system. Also, any event that attempts to violate the security policy of the system. |
| Security Subsystem | That part of a weapon or defense system, which is added specifically for the performance of security, functions and not categorized as components of other subsystems. |
| Security System | The aggregate of all mechanical and electronic equipment countermeasures in a system which contributes to its security from intelligence gathering and clandestine or overt attack, including organized system function and procedures, as well as the security subsystem. |
| Security Testing | A process used to determine that the security features of a system are implemented as designed and that they are adequate for a proposed application environment. |
| SED | Software Engineering Division. |

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| SEDD | Systems Engineering Development Data Base. |
| SEDS | System Engineering Detailed Schedule |
| SEE | Software Engineering Environment. |
| SEED | Support for East European Democracy (P.L.101-179; 22 USC 5421). |
| SEER | (1) Sensor Equipment Evaluation and Review. (2) Sensor Experimental Evaluation Review. |
| SEFC | Space Environment Forecast Center. |
| Segment | A grouping of elements that are closely related and often physically interface. It consists of CIs produced by several contractors and integrated by one. |
| SEI | Software Engineering Institute. |
| SEIC | Systems Engineering and Integration Contractor. |
| SEIC PP | Systems Engineering Integration Contractor Program Plan. |
| SEIPT | Systems Engineering Integrated Product Team. |
| SEIT | Systems Engineering Integration and Test. |
| Selected Acquisition Reports (SAR) | Standard, comprehensive, summary status reports on major defense acquisition programs (ACAT I) required for periodic submission to Congress. |
| Selective, Adaptive Defense | Selective, adaptive defense assigns interceptors to RVs based upon defended asset values, the number of arriving RVs and time to impact. |
| Selective Kill | Assigns interceptors to targets on the basis of missile type, launch area, impact area, time of launch/arrival, or predicted threat utility (e.g., SS-18 or its follow-on). |
| Selectivity | Refers to choosing a subset of targets either for attack or defense. (See Preferential Defense and Preferential Offense.) |
| SEMA | Special Electronics Mission Aircraft. |
| Semi-Active Homing Guidance Semi-Active Sensor | A system of homing guidance wherein the receiver in a missile utilizes radiations from a target, which has been illuminated by an outside source. One that does not generate radiation itself, but that detects radiation reflected by targets when they are illuminated by other BMD components. Such devices are used for tracking and identification and can operate without revealing their own locations. |
| SEMP | Systems Engineering Management Plan. |
| SEMS | System Engineering Management Schedule. |

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| Senior Procurement Executive (SPE) | The senior official responsible for management direction of the Service procurement system, including implementation of unique procurement policies, regulations, and standards. The Senior Procurement Executive for all non-Service DoD Components is the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology, who has delegated many of these functions to the Heads of Defense Agencies including the Director, MDA. |
| SENSCOM | Sentinel System Command. |
| Sensor Data | Measurement information. For a passive sensor it is usually irradiance time, and LOS. For an active sensor it may include range, Doppler, cross section, etc., as well. |
| Sentinel | ABM system designed for light area defense against a low-level ballistic missile attack on the United States. Developed into the Safeguard system in late 1960's. |
| SEO | Survivability Enhancement Option. |
| SEP | Signal Entrance Panel. |
| Separation Hardware | Objects expelled during payload separation sequence. |
| SEPG | Software Engineering Process Group. |
| SEPRD | System Element Production Readiness Demonstration. |
| SEQ | Sequence, or Staff Equivalent. |
| Sequestration | The reduction or cancellation of new budget authority; un-obligated balances, new loan guarantee commitments or limitations; new direct loan obligations, commitments, or limitations; spending authority; and obligation limitations. As delineated in the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, sequestration is necessary if legislation is enacted that would cause spending in any appropriations category to exceed a specified cap. |
| SERB | Software Engineering Review Board. |
| SERD | Support Equipment Recommendation Data (ILS term). |
| SERG | System Engineering Review Group. |
| Service Acquisition Executive (SAE) | See definition of DoD Component Acquisition Executive. |
| Service BMD Program Executive Officer (PEO) | A senior official responsible for execution of Service PMAs and for providing guidance and Service-related direction to subordinate Program Managers. The PEO will also serve as a deputy to the GM. (Consistent with PEO authorities and responsibilities documented in DoDD 5000.1 and DoDI 5000.2.) |
| Service Component Command | A command consisting of the Service component commander and all those individuals, units, detachments, organizations and installations under the command that have been assigned to the unified command. |

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| Service Life Extension Program (SLEP) | Modification(s) to fielded systems undertaken to extend the life of the system beyond what was previously planned. |
| Service Test | A test of an item, system, or technique conducted under simulated or actual operational conditions to determine whether the specific military requirements or characteristics are satisfied. |
| SES | Seeker Experimental System. |
| SESE | Software Engineering Support Environment. |
| SET | System Evaluation Threat. |
| SETA | Scientific, Engineering, and Technical Assistance. |
| SETAC | Systems Engineering and Technical Assistance Contractor. |
| SETP | Solar Electric Aircraft Test Platform. |
| SEW | Space Electronics Warfare. |
| SEWC | Space and Electronic Warfare Coordinator. |
| SEWS | Satellite Early Warning System. |
| SF | Standard Form. |
| SFC | Space Forecast Center. |
| SFS | Shoot-Fail-Shoot. |
| SG | (1) Steering Group (2) Silicon Graphics |
| SGEMP | System/Source Generated Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| SGLS | Space/Ground Link Subsystem. |
| SHAPE | Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe. |
| SHF | Super High Frequency. |
| SHIELD | (1) System High Energy Laser Demonstration. (2) Silicon Hybrid Extrinsic Long-Wavelength Detection. |
| Shielding | Any material or obstruction, which absorbs (or attenuates) radiation and thus tends to protect personnel or materials from the effects of a nuclear explosion. A moderately thick layer of any opaque material will provide satisfactory shielding from thermal radiation, but a considerable thickness of material of high density may be needed for nuclear radiation shielding. Electrically continuous housing for a facility, area, or component, attenuates impinging electric and magnetic fields. |
| SHIPALT | Ship Alteration. |
| Shoot-Back | The technique of defending a space asset by shooting at an attacker. |

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| Shoot-Look-Shoot (SLS) | A tactic used to achieve Defense Engagement Options (DEOs), such as assured kill by shooting at the target, looking to see if it was killed, and shooting again, if necessary, to achieve the kill. |
| SHORAD | Short-Range Air Defense. |
| Short Range Air Launch Target | Single-stage, air-launched, solid propellant theater target with threat representative reentry vehicle. |
| Short Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) | A ballistic missile with a range capability of 30 km to 1,000 km. (USSPACECOM) |
| Short Wavelength Infrared (SWIR) | Thermal radiation emitted by a source in the electromagnetic spectrum encompassing infrared wavelengths of 0.75 to 3 microns. |
| SHOTL | Simulated Hot Launch (missile engineering term). |
| shp | Shaft Horsepower. |
| Shrouded RVs | Reentry vehicles enclosed in a material designed to shield its thermal and other characteristics. |
| SI | Special Intelligence. |
| SI&I | Systems Integration and Interoperability. |
| SIC | (1) Silicon Carbide. (2) Standard Industrial Classification. |
| SICPS | Standard Integrated Command Post Shelter. |
| SIDAC | Single Integrated Damage Assessment Capability. |
| SIDD | System Interface Description Document (US Army term). |
| Sidelobes | Residual EMR surrounding the main beam, which is of weaker power than the main beam. |
| SIDPERS | Standard Installation Division Personnel System (US Army term). |
| SIDS | Secondary Imagery Dissemination System. |
| SIE | SATKA Integrated Experiment. |
| SIF | (1) System Integration Facility. (2) Selective Identification Feature |
| SIGINT | Signal Intelligence. |
| Signals Security (SIGSEC) | The overall program for communication and electronic security. |
| Signal-to-Noise Ratio (S/N) (SNR) | Relative power of the signal to the noise in a channel; usually measured in decibels. |

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| Signature | (1) Distinctive type of radiation emitted or reflected by a target, which can be used to identify that target. (2) The characteristic pattern of a target displayed by detection and identification equipment. |
| Signature Histories | A list of observed target signature characteristic parameter values as a function of missile flight time used for target discrimination and kill assessment. |
| SIGSEC | Signals Security. |
| SIIPT | System Integration Integrated Product Team (THAAD Program term). |
| SIL | Systems Integration Laboratory; Sunnyvale, CA. |
| SIM | Simulation. |
| SIMM | Second In-line Memory Module. |
| Simple Security Condition | A Bell-LaPadula security model rule allowing a subject read access to an object only if the security level of the subject dominates the security level of the object. |
| SIMS | Security Information Management System. |
| Simulation | A simulation is a method for implementing a model. It is the process of conducting experiments with a model for the purpose of understanding the behavior of the system modeled under selected conditions or of evaluating various strategies for the operation of the system within the limits imposed by developmental or operational criteria. Simulation may include the use of analog or digital devices, laboratory models, or "test bed" sites. Simulations are usually programmed for solution on a computer; however, in the broadest sense, military exercises and wargames are also simulations. |
| Simulator | A generic term used to describe a family of equipment used to represent threat weapon systems in development testing, operational testing, and training. A threat simulator has one or more characteristics which, when detected by human senses or man-made sensors, provide the appearance of an actual threat weapon system with a prescribed degree of fidelity. |
| SINGARS | Single-Channel and Airborne Radio System. |
| Single Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP) | Plan by which the nuclear strategic offensive forces will retaliate when directed by the NCA. |
| Single-Level Device | A device that is used to process data of a single security level at any one time. Since the device need not be trusted to separate data of different security levels, sensitivity labels do not have to be stored with the data being processed. |
| Singlet | A space vehicle, such as a Brilliant Pebble, which contains only one intercept vehicle. |
| SIOP | See Single Integrated Operational Plan. |
| SIP | SINGARS Improvement Program (US Army term). |
| SIPM | Service Integration Program Manager. |

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| SIPRI | Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (Sweden). |
| SIPRNET | (1) Secret Internet Protocol Router Network. (2) Secure Information Protocol Net. |
| SIPT | (1) System Integrated Product Team. (2) Services Integrated Product Team. |
| SIR | Signal Interface Ratio. |
| SIRE | Space Infrared Experiment. |
| SIRMR | Senior Information Resources Management Representative. |
| SIRRM | Standardized Infrared Radiation Model. |
| SIRST System | Shipboard Infrared Search and Track System (USN term). |
| SIS | Special Compartmented Information Isolation Segment. |
| SISS | Subcommittee on Information Systems Security. |
| SIT | System Integration Test. |
| Situation Assessment | The determination of the extent to which observed event(s) constitute a threat (e.g., isolated event, mass attack, etc.), using the attack characterization information. |
| SIWS | School of Information Warfare and Strategy. |
| Six Year Defense Program (SYDP) | The official DoD document, which summarizes forces and resources associated with programs approved by SECDEF. Its three parts are the organizations affected, appropriations accounts (RDT&E, operations & maintenance, etc.), and the 10 major force programs (strategic forces, airlift/sealift, R&D, etc.). R&D is Program 6. Under the annual PPBS cycle, SYDP is published normally three times: October, January and May. The primary data element in SYDP representing aggregation of organizational entities and related resources is the program element. |
| Size of Threat Corridor | (LxWxAltitude) A volume of space in which a particular group of RVs would occupy, defined by launch location and designated target area. |
| SKKP | (Former) Soviet system of outer space monitoring. |
| Skunkworks | A separate program management operation established to operate outside the normal process, either to expedite development or because of high security classification. |
| SL | Sea Level. |
| SLAM | Standoff Land Attack Missile. |
| SLAM-ER | Standoff Land Attack Missile-Expanded Response (USN term). |
| SLAR | Side Looking Airborne Radar. |
| SLAT | Supersonic Low Altitude Target [missile]. |

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| Slave | A remote system or terminal whose functions are controlled by a central "master" system. It is similar in concept to a host system in that it responds to remotely generated requests, but unlike a host system, is usually capable of performing a limited range of operations. |
| SLBD | Sea Lite Beam Director. |
| SLBM | Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile. |
| SLC | Space Launch Complex. |
| SLCM | Sea-Launched Cruise Missile. |
| SLD | System Link Designator. |
| Slew Time | The time needed for a weapon/sensor/antenna to move from point to point. |
| SLIP | Serial Line Internet Protocol. |
| SLKT | Survivability, Lethality, and Key Technology. |
| SLOC | Sea Line of Communication. |
| SLRX | System Life-cycle Risk Expert. |
| SLS | See Shoot-Look-Shoot. |
| SLT | Strategic Laser Technology. |
| SLV | (1) Space Launched Vehicle. (2) Satellite Launch Vehicle. |
| SM | (1) Skunkworks Mission. (2) System Manager. |
| SM&R | Source, Maintenance and Recoverability (ILS term). |
| SM-2 | Standard Missile-2. (U.S. Navy) |
| SM-3 | Standard Missile-3. |
| SM-ALC | Sacramento Air Logistics Center (USAF term). |
| Small Optics | Precision mirrors or refractors, less than 1 meter, and related technology, for precise pointing and tracking from/to relatively small vehicles separated by large distances. |
| Smart Checklist | "Destroy, disrupt, damage or destroy" BMC3 tool for BMD warfighters. |
| Smart Munitions | Munitions that "think for themselves" and have the self-contained ability to search, detect, acquire and engage targets. |
| SMAT | Satellite and Missile Analysis Tool. |
| SMATH | Space Materials Advanced Technology for Hardness. |
| SMC | Space and Missile System Center. |
| SMCo | Standard Missile Company. |

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| SMCS | Standard Monitoring and Control System (for US naval ships) (see ICS). |
| SMD | (1) Strategic Missile Defense. (2) OBSOLETE. Navy Sea-Based Midcourse Defense. See AEGIS BMD. |
| SME | (1) Single Management Element. (2) Subject Matter Expert. |
| SMERFS | Statistical Modeling and Estimation of Reliability Functions for Software. |
| SMES | Super Conducting Magnetic Energy Storage. |
| SMMW | Submillimeter Wave. |
| SMP | Soviet Military Power (US DoD publication). |
| SMR Code | Source, Maintenance, and Recoverability Code (ILS term). |
| SMS | Standard Mobile Segment. |
| SMTP | Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (computer term). |
| SMTS | Space and Missile Tracking System (formerly called Brilliant Eyes). |
| SNC | System Network Controller. |
| SNDM | Secretary of the Navy Decision Memorandum. |
| SNDV | Strategic Nuclear Delivery Vehicle. |
| SNF | Strategic Nuclear Forces. |
| SNI | San Nicholas Island. Part of the PMTC. |
| SNIE | Special National Intelligence Element. |
| SNIFE | OBSOLETE. SDI System Network Processor Engine. |
| SNL | Sandia National Laboratory, Albuquerque, NM. |
| SNR | See Signal-to-Noise Ratio (Also called S/N). |
| SNRC | Soreq [Israeli] Nuclear Research Center. |
| SOA | (1) State-of-the-Art. (2) Speed of Advance. |
| SOC | Statement of Capability (Contracting term). |
| SOCOM | Special Operations Command. |
| SOCS | Subcommittee on Computer Security. |
| SODD | System and Operations Document. |
| SODO | Senior Offense/Defense Simulator. |
| SOF | (1) See Strategic Offense Forces. (2) Special Operations Forces. |

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| SOFA | Status of Forces Agreement. |
| Software Architecture | The implementation of solutions to the problems in the domain. It becomes a model for constructing applications and mapping requirements from the domain model to reusable components. A generic architecture provides a high-level generic design for a family of related applications as well as a set of components intended for any instance of that application. The generic design eliminates the need to develop a high-level design for each application within the domain. As a result, domain developers use these representations as specifications for reusable components. |
| Software Development Cycle | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The period of time that begins with the decision to develop a software product and ends when the product is delivered. This cycle typically includes a requirements phase, design phase, implementation phase, test phase, and sometimes, installation and checkout phase. Contrast with software life cycle. (2) The period of time that begins with the decision to develop a software product and ends when the developer is no longer enhancing the product. (3) Sometimes used as a synonym for software life cycle. |
| Software Documentation | Technical data or information, including computer listings and printouts, in human-readable form, that describe or specify the design or details, explain the capabilities, or provide operating instructions for using the software to obtain desired results from a software system. (See Documentation.) |
| Software Engineering | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A discipline whose objectives are to define, create, and apply a well-defined methodology that addresses a software life cycle of planning, development, and maintenance. (2) The application of a systematic, disciplined, quantifiable approach to the development, operation, and maintenance of software, that is, the application of engineering to software. |
| Software Life Cycle | The period of time that begins when a software product is conceived and ends when the software is no longer available for use. The software life cycle typically includes a concept phase, requirements phase, design phase, implementation phase, test phase, operation and maintenance phase, and, sometimes, retirement phase. |
| Software Support | The sum of all activities that take place to ensure that implemented and fielded software continues to fully support the operational mission of the system. Software support includes pre-deployment software support and post-deployment software support. |
| Software Test Environment | A set of automated tools, firmware devices, and hardware necessary to test software. The automated tools may include but are not limited to test tools such as simulation software, code analyzers, test case generators, path analyzers, etc. and may also include those tools used in the software engineering environment. |
| SOI | (1) Silicon-on-Insulator. (1) See Space Object Identification. |
| SOIF | See System Operation and Integration Functions. |
| SOJ | Stand-Off Jammer. |

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| Soldier-Machine Interface | Considerations through system analysis and psychophysiology of equipment designs and operational concepts, to ensure they are compatible with capabilities and limitations of operators and maintainers. |
| Sole Source Acquisition | A contract for the purchase of supplies or services that is entered into a proposal to be entered into by an agency after soliciting and negotiating only one source. |
| SOM | System Object Model. |
| SONET | Synchronous Optical Network. |
| SOO | Statement of Objectives (See also SOW). |
| SOP | See Standard Operating Procedure. |
| SORTIELOT | Sortie Allotment message (JFACC term). |
| SORTS | Status of Resources and Training System. |
| SOS | Silicon-on-Sapphire. |
| SOSUS | Sound Surveillance System (USN term). |
| Source Selection Authority | The official designated to direct the source selection process, approve the selection plan, select the source(s), and announce contract award. |
| Source Selection Evaluation Board | A group of military and/or government civilian personnel, representing functional and technical disciplines. It is charged with evaluating proposals and developing summary facts and findings during source selection. |
| Source Selection Plan (SSP) | A formal written document, which sets forth the source selection organization and management chain for a specific acquisition. It provides a guide for evaluators on how to conduct the evaluation, it details the criteria to be used to evaluate the offers received in a competition procurement, and it establishes a basis upon which to distinguish between proposals and to make an award. The SSP is written by the Program Office and approved by the SSA. |
| SOW | Statement of Work. |
| SP | (1) Security Personnel. (2) Self –propelled. (3) Signal Processing. |
| SP-100 | Space Power-100 kW. |
| SP/CR | Software Problem/Change Request. |
| SPACC | Space Command Center. |
| Space and Missile Tracking System (SMTS) | Space-based satellite sensors for surveillance, tracking, and discrimination of enemy objects during post-boost and midcourse phases. These sensors support ground-based interceptors for both theater and national defense. |
| Space-Based Architecture Study (SBAS) | A 1989 study to review the space-based elements of the Phase I SDS architecture, with emphasis on Space-Based Interceptor (SBI), Brilliant Pebbles (BP), and the Space Surveillance and Tracking System (SSTS), to define and justify a recommended architecture for Phase I and beyond. |

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| Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) | SBIRS will be a consolidated system that will meet United States infrared space surveillance needs through the next 2-3 decades. SBIRS is intended to be an integrated "system of systems" including multiple space constellations and an evolving ground element. The baseline SBIRS architecture consists of four Geosynchronous Earth Orbit (GEO) satellites; two sensors on Highly Elliptical Orbit (HEO) satellites; Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites; a ground system consisting of a CONUS-based Mission Control Station (MCS), a backup MCS, a survivable MCS, and oversees relay ground stations and re-locatable terminals; and associated communications links. The SBIRS is designed to meet the missile defense, missile warning technical intelligence, and battle space characterization mission requirements identified in the JROC-validated SBIRS Operational Requirements Document. The SBIRS program will begin replacing the operational Defense Support Program (DSP) ground segment in 1999 and begin replacing the DSP satellites in 2002. |
| Space-Based Interceptor (SBI) | OBSOLETE. A distributed set of low earth orbit satellites that may provide launch detection and booster tracking, and that serve as kinetic or kinetic energy interceptors of boosters, PBVs, and/or RVs. (USSPACECOM) |
| Space-Based Sensor | A system that provides global above-the-horizon surveillance to detect and track PBVs, object clusters (RVs and penaids), and resolved midcourse objects, as well as below-the-horizon tasked hot spot detection of boost phase missiles when cued by a space-based weapon or <i>a priori</i> knowledge. It provides surveillance data for use in situation assessment, operational intelligence collection, and for cueing other sensor and weapon elements. During midcourse, sensors discriminate and track RVs and associated objects to support midcourse engagements. (USSPACECOM) |
| Space-Based Surveillance and Tracking System (SSTS) | OBSOLETE. A satellite-borne electro-optic tracking and surveillance system in medium earth orbit. The satellites would track targets from medium earth orbits against a cold space background and near the earth limb. Individual objects' state vectors would be generated from correlated information from two or more sensors. (Predecessor to Brilliant Eyes (BE). |
| Space Command Center (SPACC) | A USSPACECOM center located on Peterson AFB, CO, in Building 147(1). It is the primary command facility for USSPACECOM providing USCINCSpace with the information necessary to perform assigned missions. |
| Space Control Operations | Operations that provide freedom of action in space for friendly forces while, when directed, denying it to an enemy; includes the broad aspects of protection to US and Allied space systems and negation of enemy space systems. Space control operations encompass all elements of the space defense mission. |
| Space Defense | The defensive aspect of space control operations which includes all active or passive measures planned or taken to defeat attacks against friendly space systems or enemy attacks from space. |
| Space Defense Operations Center (SPADOC) | A center in CMAFB responsible for monitoring and reporting of ASAT attacks on Blue satellites, negating designated satellites, and reconstituting and protecting designated satellites. |
| Space Detection and Tracking System (SPADATS) | A network of space surveillance sensors operated by the U.S. Air Force. |

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| Space Environment Forecast Center (SEFC) | Center at Peterson AFB, CO that supplies terrestrial and solar weather to the CMAFB Weather Support Unit (WSU) and designated USSPACECOM units. |
| Space Forecast Center (SFC) | Center at Falcon AFB, CO that supplies solar and space environmental warnings, analyses, and forecasts to USSPACECOM, NORAD, and DoD customers. |
| Space Mines | Devices that can track and follow a target in orbit, with the capability of exploding on command or by pre-program to destroy the target. |
| Space Object Identification (SOI) | Use of radar, imaging, and other collection resources to determine size, shape, ephemeris, and identity of space objects. |
| Space Power | Generation and control of electrical energy in space, from various originating sources (e.g., nuclear, chemical, solar). |
| Space Support Operations | Operations required to ensure that space control and support of terrestrial forces are maintained. They include activities such as launching and deploying space vehicles, maintaining and sustaining space vehicles while on orbit, and recovering space vehicles if required. |
| Space Surveillance (SPASUR) | An operational space surveillance system with the mission to detect and determine the orbital elements of all man-made objects in orbit of the earth. The mission is accomplished by means of a continuous fan of continuous wave energy beamed vertically across the continental United States, and an associated computational facility. It is the Navy portion of the North American Aerospace Defense Command Space Detection and Tracking System. |
| Space Surveillance Center (SSC) | A center in CMAFB responsible for maintaining the satellite catalog, laser clearinghouse, collision and RFI avoidance, and Tracking and Impact Prediction (TIP). |
| Spacetrack | USSPACECOM global system of radar, optical, and radiometric sensors linked to a computation and analysis center in the Space Surveillance Center. The Spacetrack mission is detection, tracking, and cataloging of all man-made objects in orbit about the earth. |
| Space Transportation System (STS) | A national asset that provides routine access to space for both civil and defense users. Elements of the STS include the Space Shuttle, upper stages, Spacelab, launch and landing facilities, simulation and training facilities, and mission control facilities. The STS is a reusable system capable of deploying a wide variety of scientific and applications satellites. It can carry payloads weighing up to 65,000 pounds. |
| SPADATS | Space Detection and Tracking System. |
| SPADCCS | Space Defense Command and Control System. |
| SPADOC | Space Defense Operations Center. (U.S. anti-satellite mission control). |
| SPADTS | Space Detection and Tracking System. |
| SPAR | System Performance Analysis Report. |

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| SPARTA | SPARTA, Inc., Laguna Hills, CA. |
| Spartan | Nuclear-armed, long-range mid-course interceptor used in SAFEGUARD/Sentinel systems. |
| SPAS | Space Power Architecture Study. |
| SPASUR | See Space Surveillance. |
| SPAWAR | Naval Space and Warfare Command. |
| SPC | (1) Statistical Process Control (2) Special Program Center. (3) Special Programs Center. |
| SPE | Senior Procurement Executive. |
| SPEAR | Space Power Experiments Aboard Rocket. |
| SPEC | Specification. |
| Special Data Commands | Special, non-routine commands distributed for surveillance battle management, and fire control. |
| Special Programs Center | National center for threat modeling and production. Located in the National Test Facility at Falcon AFB, CO. |
| Special Test Equipment (STE) | Single or multipurpose integrated test units engineered, designed, fabricated, or modified to accomplish special purpose testing. Such testing units comprise electronic, hydraulic, pneumatic, mechanical, or other items interconnected so as to become a new function entity, causing the individual item or items to become interdependent and essential in the performance of special purpose testing in the development or production of particular supplies or services. |
| Specification | A document (or other media) that specifies, in a complete, precise, verifiable manner, the requirements, design, behavior, or other characteristics of a system or component, and often, the procedures for determining whether or not these provisions have been satisfied. |
| Specification Language | A language, often a machine-processable combination of natural and formal language, used to specify the requirements, design, behavior, or other characteristics of a system or system component. |
| Specified Command | A command that has a broad continuing mission and that is established and so designated by the President through the Secretary of Defense with the advice and assistance of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. |
| Speckled Trout | C-135C airplane with ACBA equipment. |
| SPEED | System Planning, Engineering, and Evaluation Device. |
| SPF | Standardized Plume Flowfield. |
| SPFE | Special Projects Flight Experiments. |
| SPICE | Space Integrated Controls Experiment. |
| SPIMS | Strategic Program Information Management System (SDIO/MDA term). |

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| SPINE | Shared Program Information Network. |
| SPINS | Special Instructions (JFACC term). |
| Spiral Development | An iterative process for developing a defined set of capabilities within one increment. This process provides the opportunity for interaction between the user, tester, and developer. In this process, the requirements are refined through experimentation and risk management, there is continuous feedback, and the user is provided the best possible capability within the increment. Each increment may include a number of spirals. Spiral development implements evolutionary acquisition. |
| SPIRE | Space Performance in Radiation Environments. |
| SPIRIT | Space Infrared Imaging Telescope. |
| SPM | Software Programmer's Manual. |
| SPO | See System Program Office. (Air Force) |
| SPOCK | Security Proof of Concept Keystone. |
| SPOD | Seaport of Debarkation. |
| SPOE | Seaport of Embarkation. |
| Spoofing | Any technique by which sensitive information or commands may be substituted or stopped without the knowledge of the authorized personnel involved. |
| SPOT | <i>Systeme Probatoire d'Observation de la Terre</i> - French observation satellite |
| SPP | System Performance Parameters. |
| SPR | (1) Secretarial Program Review (AF). (2) Secretarial Performance Review (OSD). (3) Sponsor's Program Review (Navy). |
| Sprint | Nuclear-armed, short-range interceptor used in SAFEGUARD/Sentinel systems. |
| SPRM | Solid Propellant Rocket Motor. |
| SPRN | (Former) Soviet system for missile attack warning. |
| SPS | Software Product Specification. |
| SPT | Support. |
| SPY-1 | AEGIS radar. |
| SQA | Software Quality Assurance. |
| SQL | Structured Query Language (Computer term). |
| sqrt | Square foot. |
| SR | AFSPC Regulation. |
| SRA | System Requirements Analysis. |

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| SRAM | Short-Range Attack Missile. |
| SRB | Solid Rocket Booster. |
| SRBM | See Short Range Ballistic Missile. |
| SRD | Systems Requirement Document. |
| SREMP | Source Region Electromagnetic Pulse. |
| SRF | Strategic Rocket Forces. |
| SRHIT | OBSOLETE. Small Radar Homing Intercept Technology. Predecessor program to Flexible Lightweight Agile Guided Experiment (FLAGE). |
| SRIM | Short-Range Intercept Missile. |
| SRINF | Short Range Intermediate Nuclear Force. |
| SRL | (1) Site Readiness Level. (2) System Readiness Level. (3) Super Radiant Laser. |
| SRM | (1) Small Rocket Motor. (2) Sensor Response Model. |
| SRMP | Sounding Rocket Measurement Program. |
| SRMSC | Stanley R. Mickelsen SAFEGUARD Complex site. |
| SRMU | Solid Rocket Motor Upgrade. |
| SRO | System Readiness Objective. |
| SRR | System Requirements Review. |
| SRS | (1) Site/System Requirements Study. (2) Software Requirements Specification |
| SRT | Strategic Red Team. |
| SRTBM | Short range theater ballistic missile. |
| SRU | Shop Replaceable Unit. |
| SRV | Single Reentry Vehicle. |
| SS | (1) Solid State (USASSDC Family of T-GBR term). (2) Simulator System. |
| SS- | Surface-to-Surface. |
| SS-18 | Largest ICBM in former Soviet inventory credited with carrying 10 RVs, but capable of holding many more. |
| SS96 | Summer Study 1996 [Director, MDA]. |
| SSA | See Source Selection Authority. |
| SSAC | Source Selection Authority Council/Committee (Acquisition term). |

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| SSB | Single Side Band. |
| SSBN | Ballistic Missile Submarine (nuclear). |
| SSC | (1) See Space Surveillance Center. (2) Scan-to-Scan Correlation. (3) Strategic Systems Committee. (4) Skill Specialty Code (USAF ILS term). (5) Source Selection Chairman (Acquisition term) (6) Standard Systems Center, Gunter AFB, AL. (7) Surface-to-Surface [Ground-launched] Cruise [missile]. (8) Stimulation Support Center. |
| SSCM | Surface-to-Surface Cruise Missile. |
| SSD | OBSOLETE. Space Systems Division. (Now USAF/SMC.) |
| SSDA | Solid State Demonstration Array. |
| SSDC | Space and Strategic Defense Command (US Army). |
| SSDO | System/Segment Design Document. |
| SSDR | Subsystem Design Review. |
| SSE | (1) See System Security Engineering. (2) Space Surveillance Experiment. (3) System Simulator Environment. |
| SSEB | Source Selection Evaluation Board. |
| SSEKP | Single Shot Engagement Kill Probability. |
| SSGM | Strategic Scene Generation Model. |
| SSI | (1) Sensor Segment Interface. (2) Sensor System Interface. |
| SSIMU | Solid State Inertial Measurement Unit. |
| SSKP | Single Shot Kill Probability. |
| SSL | Solid State Laser. |
| SSM | Surface-to-Surface Missile. |
| SSM/I | Special Sensor Microwave Imagery (Weather Satellite term). |
| SSM/T2 | Special Sensor Meteorology Temperature and Vapor (Weather Satellite term). |
| SSM/TI | Special Sensor Meteorology Temperature (Weather Satellite term). |
| SSMP | See System Security Management Plan. |
| SSMS | See Standard Survivable Message Set. |
| SSMTR | Sary Shagan Missile Test Range. |

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| SSN | (1) Space Surveillance Network. (2) Submarine, Nuclear powered (navy Ship Designation term). |
| SSO | Special Security Office. |
| SSOD | Special Session On Disarmament. |
| SSP | Source Selection Plan. |
| SSPAR | Solid State Phased Array Radar. |
| SSPK | Single Shot Probability of Kill. |
| SSPM | (1) Solid State Photo Multiplier. (2) Software Standards and Procedures Manual. |
| SSPO | Strategic Systems Program Office. (U.S. Navy) |
| SSR | Software Specification Review. |
| SSRMP | Space Sounding Rocket Measurement Program. |
| SSRT | Single Stage Rocket Technology. |
| SSS | (1) Space Sensor System. (2) System/Segment Specification. |
| SSSG | Space System Support Group. |
| SST | System Specific Threats. |
| SSTB | System Simulation Test Bed. |
| SSTS | OBSOLETE. See Space-Based Surveillance and Tracking System. |
| SSUP | System Supplement. |
| SSWG | System Safety Working Group. |
| ST | Simulation Tool. |
| ST/STE | Special Tooling/Special Test Equipment. |
| STA | Significant Technical Accomplishments. |
| Stage | An element of the missile or propulsion system that generally separates from the missile at burnout or cut-off. Stages are numbered chronologically in order of burning. |
| STAGE | Simulation Toolkit and Generation Environment. |
| STANAG | Standardization Agreement (NATO). |
| Standard Missile | A shipboard, surface-to-surface/air missile. |
| Standard Mobile Segment (SMS) | SMS is to be the standard for all future ground mobile, air transportable command centers. |

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| Standard Survivable Message Set (SSMS) | Message set, which contains the standard format used by ITW/AA data sources. |
| Standardization | The process by which DoD achieves: (1) the closest practicable cooperation among forces; (2) the most efficient use of research, development, and production resources; and (3) agreement to adopt on the broadest possible basis the use of: (a) common or compatible operational, administrative, and logistics procedures and criteria; (b) common or compatible technical procedures and criteria; (c) common, compatible, or interchangeable supplies, components, weapons, or equipment; and (d) common or compatible tactical doctrine with corresponding organizational compatibility. |
| STAR | System Threat Assessment Report. |
| STARS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Strategic Target System. (2) Strategic Tactical Airborne Range System. (3) Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System. |
| START | Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty. |
| STASS | Space Transportation Architecture System Study. |
| Statement of Work (SOW) | That portion of a contract that establishes and defines all non-specification requirements for contractors' efforts either directly or with the use of specific cited documents. |
| Static Analysis | The process of evaluating a program without executing the program. See also desk checking, code audit, inspection, static analyzer, walk-through. Contrast with dynamic analysis. |
| STB | Surveillance Test Bed. |
| STC | SHAPE Technical Center. |
| STD | System Technology Demonstration. |
| STDN | Secure Tactical Data Network. |
| STE | See Special Test Equipment. |
| Stealth | A technique used to frustrate discrimination that uses the decoy shape and material content to reduce the reflected IR, radar, optical or acoustic cross-section to the defensive sensor. |
| Stellar Guidance | A system wherein a guided missile may follow a predetermined course with reference primarily to the relative position of the missile and certain pre-selected celestial bodies. |
| STEP | Surveillance and Tracking Experiment Program. |
| Steradian | The unit of measure of solid angles equal to the angle subtended at the center of a sphere of unit radius by unit area on its surface. |
| Stereo | Using two or more sensors. |

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| STF | Static Test Facility. |
| STILAS | Scientific and Technical Information Library Automation System (USASSDC term). |
| Stimulated Emission | Physical process by which an excited molecule is induced by incident radiation to emit radiation at an identical frequency and in phase with the incident radiation. Lasers operate by stimulated emission. |
| STINFO | Scientific Technological Information. |
| STINFO Center | Science and Technical Information data centers archiving and providing user access and support to a variety of missile defense test and evaluation data. |
| STM | Significant Technical Milestone. |
| STO | (1) Special Technical Operations (JFACC term). (2) Science and Technology Objective. |
| STOAL | Short Takeoff/Arrested Landing. |
| STOM | System Test Object Model. |
| Storage, Handling, and Transportation Environments | These environment categories cover the applicable free field or ambient environments, which the system assets must be capable of withstanding during storage, handling and transportation. They include the full array of applicable atmospheric and ground environments to which BMD assets will be exposed during these non-operational aspects of system deployment such as pressure, shock and vibration environments, among others. |
| Storm | Name of a theater ballistic missile test target system, part of the Baseline Target Set. |
| Storm Shadow | Conventionally Armed Stand Off Missile weapon based on Matra of France's Apache missile. |
| STOW | Synthetic Theater of War (US Army term). |
| STP | (1) System Test Plan (2) Sensor Task Plan. |
| STRAP | HATMD System Training Plan. |
| STRATCOM | Strategic Command. |
| Strategic Defense | All active and passive measures to detect, identify, assess, degrade and defeat ballistic missile, air, and space threats to North America, including measures to nullify or reduce the effectiveness of such attacks. |
| Strategic Defense Emergency | Declarations that attack is imminent or taking place. |
| Strategic Defense System (SDS) | A generic descriptor, which refers to all architectural elements of the evolving ballistic missile defense system. |

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| Strategic Level of War | The level of war at which a nation or group of nations determines national or alliance security objectives and develops and uses national resources to accomplish those objectives. |
| Strategic Offensive Forces (SOF) | Those forces under the command of the Commander in Chief, USSTRATCOM, the Commander in Chief, Atlantic Command, the Commander in Chief, Pacific Command, and other forces assigned to execute the Single Integrated Operations Plan (SIOP). These forces include but are not limited to B-52s, B-1s, FB-111s, Minuteman IIs and IIIs, Peacekeepers, Poseidons, and Tridents. |
| Strategic Reserve | That quantity of material that is placed in a particular geographic location due to strategic considerations or in anticipation of major interruptions in the supply distribution system. It is over and above the stockage objective. |
| Strategic Warning | A warning prior to the initiation of a threatening act. |
| Strategic Warning Lead Time | That time between the receipt of strategic warning and the beginning of hostilities. This time may include two action periods: strategic warning pre-decision time and strategic warning post-decision time. |
| Strategic Warning Post-Decision Time | That time which begins after the decision, made at the highest levels of government(s) in response to strategic warning, is ordered executed and ends with the start of hostilities or termination of the threat. It is that part of strategic warning lead-time available for executing pre-hostility actions to strengthen the national strategic posture; however, some preparatory actions may be initiated in the pre-decision period. |
| Strategic Warning Pre-Decision Time | That time which begins upon receipt of strategic warning and ends when a decision is ordered executed. It is that part of strategic warning lead time available to the highest levels of government(s) to determine the strategic course of action to be executed. |
| STREAD | Standard TRE Display. |
| STRICOM | Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation Command (USA term). |
| Structured Attack | An attack in which the arrival of warheads on their diverse targets is precisely timed for maximum strategic impact. |
| Structured Design | A disciplined approach to software design that adheres to a specified set of rules based on principles such as top-down design, stepwise refinement, and data flow analysis. |
| Structured Program | A program constructed of a basic set of control structures, each one having one entry point and one exit. The set of control structures typically includes: sequence of two or more instructions, conditional selection of one of two or more instructions, conditional selection of one of two or more instructions or sequences of instructions, and repetition of an instruction or a sequence of instructions. |
| STRV | Space Technology Research Vehicle. |
| STS | See Space Transportation System. |
| STSC | Software Technology Support Center. |

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| STT | (1) Small Tactical Terminal (USAF term). (2) Stockpile-to-Target (US Army term). |
| STTR | Small Business Technology Transfer. |
| STU | Secure Telephone Unit. |
| STW | Strike Warfare. |
| STWC | Strike Warfare Commander. |
| STWG | Simulation Tools Working Group. |
| Subassembly | Two or more parts joined together to form a unit, capable of disassembly, which is only a part of a complete machine, structure, or other article. |
| Subcontractor | A contractor who enters into a contract with a prime contractor. |
| Subject Security Level | A subject's security level is equal to the security level of the objects to which it has both read and write access. A subject's security level must always be dominated by the clearance of the user and with the associated subject. |
| Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missile (SLBM) | A ballistic missile launched from a submarine, with a range of 3,000 to 6,000 miles. |
| SUBROC | Submarine Rocket. |
| Subsystem | A functional grouping of components that combine to perform a major function within an element, such as attitude control and propulsion. |
| Subtractive Defense | First come first engaged as long as weapons last. |
| SUCCESS | Synthesized UHF Computer Controlled Equipment Subsystem. |
| Succession of Command | The planned or actual sequence in which subordinate commanders, in turn, become de facto commanders of a senior organization. Devolution of command is a synonymous term. |
| SUM | Software Users Manual (Computer term). |
| Sunk Costs | The costs of resources already committed or spent. In comparing two alternatives, such costs are "non-additive," and they are not germane to decisions about future use of resources. |
| Sup Pro | Supporting Programs (MDA term). |
| Super | Survivable Solar Power Subsystem Demonstrator. |
| Super Radiance | The process used by a super radiant laser to generate or amplify a laser beam in a single pass through a lasing material, or, in the case of a free electron laser, through an electric or magnetic field in the presence of an electron beam. Super radiance is actually a form of stimulated emission. Also known as superfluorescence, or amplified spontaneous emission. |

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| Superradiant Laser (SRL) | A laser in which the beam passes through the lasant only once; mirrors are not required for the operation of such a laser, as they are with more conventional lasers which are sometimes called "cavity lasers" to distinguish them from superradiant lasers. Free electron lasers may also be superradiant; the laser beam of a superradiant free electron laser would pass once through the electric or magnetic field (instead of a lasant) in the presence of an electron beam. |
| Supervisory Programs | Computer programs that have the primary function of scheduling, allocating, and controlling system resources rather than processing data to produce results. |
| Supplemental Appropriation | An appropriation enacted as an addition to a regular annular appropriation act. |
| Support Equipment | All system equipment required to support the ground and flight phases of the mission. Support equipment includes aerospace ground equipment (AGE), maintenance ground equipment (MGE), transportation and handling (T&H) equipment, and equipment used to support system deployment (i.e., assembly tools and fixtures, test and checkout equipment, personnel support and protection equipment). |
| Support Personnel | Individuals, in addition to operators, trainers, and maintainers, who are directly associated with an operational system(s), and who are critical to its continuous operation. Examples include program management offices, security, supply, administrative support, and the like. |
| Support Software | Software that aids in the development or maintenance of other software, for example compilers, loaders, and other utilities. |
| Suppression | Temporary or transient degradation of the performance of a weapons system, below the level needed to fulfill its mission objectives, by an opposing force. |
| SUPSHIP | Superintendent of Shipbuilding. |
| SURCOM | Surveillance Constellation. |
| Surge Production | An increased rate of production necessary to meet demands for defense items due to a need for accelerated production to meet a threat or for a wartime or mobilization situation. This increased rate can be obtained by having excess production capacity available or by utilizing multiple shifts of normal capacity measures. |
| Surveillance | An observation procedure that includes tactical observations, strategic warning, and meteorological assessments, by optical, infrared, radar, and radiometric sensors on space-borne and terrestrial platforms. |
| Surveillance Requirements | Requirements are requests for surveillance, including relative priorities for coverage and sensitivity levels, based on operational orders, selected response options and current surveillance system availability. |
| Surveillance, Satellite and Missile | The systematic observation of aerospace for the purpose of detecting, tracking, and characterizing objects, events, and phenomena associated with satellites and in-flight missiles, friendly and enemy. |
| Surveillance System Configuration | The sensor types and locations and the modes of operation currently activated in the surveillance system. |

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| Survivability Operating Modes | The operating modes not including but in addition to the self-defense modes that all the elements can use to protect themselves against direct enemy attack. |
| Survivable and Enduring Command Center (SECC) | The USSTRATCOM mobile C ² facility. |
| SUS | Site Utilization Study. |
| Sustainer | Propulsion stage of a missile usually operating after the booster cutoff. |
| SV | Space Vehicle. |
| SVS | (1) OBSOLETE. SSTS Validation Satellite. (2) Scientific Visualization Suite. |
| SW | (1) Software or (S/W). (2) Space Wing. |
| SWC | Strike Warfare Commander. |
| Sweep Jamming | A narrow band of jamming that is back and forth over a relatively wide operating band of frequencies. |
| SWG | Scenario Working Group. |
| SWIL | Software-in-the-Loop. |
| SWIR | Short Wavelength Infrared. |
| SWSA | Spatial Weapons System Analysis. |
| SWSC | Space and Warning System Center. |
| SYDP | Six-Year Defense Program. |
| Synchronization | For data streams, the process whereby a received set of data is placed in one to one correspondence with the data assumed to have been transmitted. |
| Synthesis | The automatic generation of a run able system from a specialized design where each module description has associated implementations. |
| Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) | A radar technique that processes echoes of signals emitted at different points along a satellite's orbit. The highest resolution achievable by such a system is theoretically equivalent to that of a single large antenna as wide as the distance between the most widely spaced points along the orbit that are used for transmitting positions. In practice, resolution will be limited by the radar receiver's signal processing capability or by the limited coherence of the radio signal emitted by the radar transmitter. |
| SYS | System. |
| Sys C/O | System Check Out. |
| Sys Cmn | System Common. |
| Sys T&E | System Test and Evaluation. |

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| SYSCOM | Systems Command. |
| System | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The organization of hardware, software, materials, facilities, personnel, data, and services needed to perform a designated function with specified results, such as the gathering of specified data, its processing, and delivery to users. (2) A combination of two or more interrelated equipment (sets) arranged in a functional package to perform an operational function or to satisfy a requirement. |
| System Activation | That set of coordination, assessment, decision, direction and control functions implemented to enable defense weapons, and to initiate the automated, real-time aspects of Battle Management, Engagement Control, and Weapon System Control. |
| System Architecture | The structure and relationship among the components of a system. The system architecture may also include the system's interface with its operational environment. A framework or structure that portrays relationships among all the elements of missile defense systems. |
| System Capability Specification (SCS) | The government document that translates capabilities into functional specifications for the overall BMDS and allocates functional specifications among the elements of the BMDS. |
| System Center (SC) | A center in CMAFB responsible for the scheduling of maintenance for worldwide sensors and supporting equipment as well as maintenance responsibility of equipment in CMAFB. |
| System Concept Paper (SCP) | OBSOLETE. For a major program, was used to summarize the results of the concept exploration phase up to Milestone I and to describe the acquisition strategy, including the identification of the concepts to be carried into the demonstration and validation phase and the reasons for elimination of other concepts. Now an Integrated Program Summary (IPS). |
| System Configuration Control Board (SCCB) | The senior SDS configuration control board. The SCCB will manage the system-level configuration of the SDS and the interfaces between elements of the SDS. |
| System Control | Function or task of monitoring the maintenance status of assigned sensors and computer systems. |
| System-Critical Function | A function that is necessary for the successful accomplishment of the system's mission. |
| System Definition Review (SDR) | The formal review, in briefing format, for periodically deciding on updates to the system plans for development based on estimates of the program schedules and funding. The SDR summarizes candidate development plans and their potential impacts on system design, cost, and schedule. The SDR provides a systems-engineering basis for the MDA program planning activities. Following the SDR, detailed element planning will result will result in a Configuration Control Board, final trades, and program documentation in the PPBS. |
| System Deployment | Delivery of the completed production system to the using activity. |

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| System Design | (1) The process of defining the hardware and software architectures, components, modules, interfaces, and data for a system to satisfy specified system requirements. (2) The result of the system design process. |
| System Design Concept | An idea expressed in terms of general performance, capabilities, and characteristics of hardware and software oriented either to operate or to be operated as an integral whole in meeting a mission need. |
| System Design Review (SDR) | Evaluates the optimization, correlation, completeness, and risks associated with the allocated technical requirements. |
| System Effectiveness | The measure of the extent to which a system may be expected to achieve a set of specific mission requirements. It is a function of availability, dependability, and capability. |
| System Evolution Plan (SEP) | The documented plan that establishes the strategy to evolve the BMDS capabilities over time. It reflects the BMD Acquisition Executive (AE) and Senior Executive Council's (SEC) development decisions; documents the current BMDS Development Baseline; and summarizes the capability, integration and assessment of the BMDS evolution. It identifies opportunities (items that provide significant improvements in BMD capability), identifies challenges (impediments to achieving opportunity), and points to promising alternatives that can overcome those challenges. |
| System Families | A collection or grouping of interrelated software systems in the domain that share a set of common characteristics. |
| System Generated Electromagnetic Pulse (SGEMP) | Transient electromagnetic radiation caused by the photoelectron emission of the surface of an object subjected to a pulse of photon energy. Although local fields close to the object surface may reach quite high values (kilovolts), the primary disturbance mechanism is the flow of replacement current through the object in order to produce charge equalization. |
| System Integration Test | A live flight system-level test utilizing actual system command and control, sensors, and weapon hardware. |
| System Manager | A general term of reference to those organizations directed by individual managers, exercising authority over the planning, direction, and control, of tasks and associated functions essential for support of designated weapons or equipment systems. |
| System Operational Concept | A formal document that describes the intended purpose, employment, deployment, and support of a system. |
| System Operation and Integration Functions (SOIF) | The automated activities of tracking, communications, asset management, and battle plan execution, which are executed under the guidance of the Command and Control Element. The allocation of these functions (and sub-functions) to the system elements will be specified in the architecture(s). |
| System Posture | A USSPACECOM system of graduated readiness steps to bring the strategic BMD system to fully generated alert, similar to the USSTRATCOM concept of posturing aircraft and missile forces to reduce reaction time. |

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| System Program Office (SPO) | The office of the program manager and the point of contact with industry, government agencies, and other activities participating in the system acquisition process. (U.S. Army uses term "Project Office.") |
| System Readiness | System Readiness includes the development of OPLANs necessary to carry out the assigned mission, using strategy and guidance provided by higher authority along with knowledge of current system performance and planned capabilities. It includes peacetime tests and exercises to maintain the system in an operational state, and the demonstration and evaluation of alternate tactics and the verification of system performance, to the extent practicable. It provides for the continued training and exercise of personnel in operating the system under realistic conditions, and provides for control of other system test functions necessary to keep the system operating. It provides for detection of anomalies and for corrective action. It also provides for maintenance schedule control, historical maintenance data retention, maintenance training, and test results status reporting. |
| System Readiness Objective | A criterion for assessing the ability of a system to undertake and sustain a specified set of missions at planned peacetime and wartime utilization rates. System readiness measures take explicit account of the effects of reliability and maintainability system design, the characteristics and performance of the support system, and the quantity and location of support resources. Examples of system readiness measures are combat sortie rate over time, peacetime mission capable rate, operational availability, and asset ready rate. |
| System Requirements Analysis (SRA) | An analysis of the operational system requirements, as defined in the System Concept Paper and other approved requirements documents, used to determine specific system functional and performance requirements. |
| System Requirements Review (SRR) | Conducted to ascertain progress in defining system technical requirements. Determines the direction and progress of the systems engineering effort and the degree of convergence upon a balanced and complete configuration. |
| System Security Engineering (SSE) | An element of system engineering that applies scientific and engineering principle to identify security vulnerabilities and minimize or contain risks associated with these vulnerabilities. It uses mathematical, physical, and related scientific disciplines, and the principles and methods of engineering design and analysis to specify, predict, and evaluate the vulnerability of the system to security threats. |
| System Security Engineering Management Program (SSEMP) | The contractor shall establish a SSE program to support economical achievement of overall program objectives. To be considered efficient, the SSE program: (1) enhances the operational readiness and mission success of the defense resource; (2) identifies and reduces potential vulnerabilities to the resource from sabotage, theft, damage, destruction, etc.; (3) provides management information essential to system security planning and (4) minimizes its own impact on overall program cost and schedule. |
| System Security Management Plan (SSMP) | A formal document that fully describes the planned security tasks required to meet system security requirements, including organizational responsibilities, methods of accomplishment, milestones, depth of effort, and integration with other program engineering, design and management activities, and related systems. |
| Systems Engineering | An interdisciplinary approach to evolve and verify an integrated and life cycle balanced set of system product and process solutions. |

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| Systems Engineering Management Plan (SEMP) | This plan documents: (1) Management of the systems engineering process, (2) Integration of the required technical specialties; (3) Performance measures development and reporting, including intermediate performance criteria, and (4) Key engineering milestones and schedules. |
| Systems Test Integration and Coordination | The combination of SDS elements tests to reflect SDS performance contribution. |
| System Threat Assessment Report (STAR) | Required by DoD 5000.2 and validated by DIA. Establishes the threat (to a Service's Mission Area) and is part of basis for considering mission deficiency and potential program new start. Updated to support a DAB Milestone or when the threat changes significantly. |
| System-Valued Asset | A system element/component, function, or information element, which is critical to the proper operation and well being of the SDS. |

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| T&C | (1) Tracking and Control. (2) Test and Control. |
| T&E | Test and Evaluation. |
| T&T | Transportation and Transportability. |
| T-MACH | Trusted MACH. |
| T-UAV | Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. |
| T/R | Transmit/Receive. |
| T/REA | Transmit/Receive Element Assembly (of a radar). |
| T² | Technology Transfer. |
| T²E | Technical Training Equipment. |
| TA | (1) Threat Assessment. (2) Target Acquisition. (3) Test Articles. |
| TAA | Technical Assistance Agreement. |
| TAACOM | Tactical Air Area Commander. |
| TAADCOM | Theater Army Air Defense Commander. |
| TAAF | Test, Analyze and Fix. |
| TAC | Tactical Advanced Computer. |
| TAC-3 | Tactical Advanced Computer – Three (USN term). |
| TACAIR | Tactical Air. |
| TACAMO | Take Charge And Move Out [Airborne SSBN Command Post]. |
| TACC | Tactical Air Command Center. |
| TACC USMC | Tactical Air Command Center (USMC term). |
| TACC USN | Tactical Air Command Center (USN term). |
| TACCS | Theater Air Command and Control System. |
| TACCSF | Tactical Air Command and Control Simulation Facility. |
| TACDAR | Tactical Detection and Reporting. |
| TACFIRE | Tactical [weapons] Fire. |
| TACINTEL | Tactical Intelligence Information [Exchange Subsystem] (USN term). |
| TACOM | Tank and Automotive Command (US Army term). |
| TACON | Tactical Control. |
| TACS | Theater Air Control System. |

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| TACSAT | Tactical Satellite. |
| TACSIM | Tactical Simulation |
| Tactical Air Doctrine | Fundamental principles designed to provide guidance for the employment of air power in tactical air operations to attain established objectives. |
| Tactical Air Operation | An air operation involving the employment of air power in coordination with ground or naval forces. |
| Tactical Air Operations Center | A subordinate operational component of the Marine Air Command and Control System designed for direction and control of all en route air traffic and air defense operations in an assigned sector. |
| Tactical Air Support | Air operations carried out in coordination with surface forces and which directly assist land or maritime operations. |
| Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR) | A defined area of land for which responsibility is specifically assigned to the commander of the area as a measure for control of assigned forces and coordination of support. |
| Tactical Ballistic Missile (TBM) | A land-based missile generally having a range of <3000 miles that can be employed within a continental theater of operations. |
| Tactical Concept | A statement, in broad outline, which provides a common basis for future development of tactical doctrine. |
| Tactical Control | The detailed and, usually, local direction and control of movements or maneuvers necessary to accomplish missions or tasks assigned. |
| Tactical Data Information link | A netted link in which one unit acts as a net control station and interrogates each unit by roll call. Once interrogated, that unit transmits its data to the net. This means that each unit receives all the information transmitted. |
| Tactical Level of War | The level of war at which battles and engagements are planned and executed to accomplish military objectives assigned to tactical units or task forces. |
| Tactical Operations Area (TOA) | That area between the fire support coordination line and the rear operations area where maximum flexibility in the use of airspace is needed to assure mission accomplishment. |
| Tactical Operations Center (TOC) | A physical grouping of those elements of an Army general and special staff concerned with the current tactical operations and the tactical support thereof. |
| Tactical Warning (TW) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A warning after initiation of a threatening or hostile act based on an evaluation of information from all available sources. (2) In satellite and missile surveillance, a notification to operational command centers that a specific threat event is occurring. The component elements that describe threat events are: country of origin, event type and size, country under attack, and event time. |
| Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment (TW/AA) | A composite term. See separate definitions for Tactical Warning and for Attack Assessment. |

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| TAD | (1) Tactical Air Defense. (2) Theater Air Defense. (3) Technical Acceptance Demonstration. |
| TAD C2 | Theater Air Defense Command and Control. |
| TADAP | Theater Air Defense Asset Planner. |
| TADC | Tactical Air Direction Center. |
| TADCOM | Theater Air Defense Command. |
| TADIL | Tactical Digital Information Link. |
| TADIL A | Tactical Digital Information Link "A". |
| TADIL B | Tactical Digital Information Link "B" |
| TADIL J | Tactical Digital Information Link "J" |
| TADIX | Tactical Data Information Exchange. |
| TADIXS | Tactical Data Information Exchange System. |
| TADL | Tactical Data Link. |
| TADS | Tactical Air Defense System. |
| TADSIM | Theater Air Defense Simulation. |
| TAF | Tactical Air Force. |
| TAFIM | Tactical Architecture Framework for Information Management. |
| TAI | International Atomic Time. |
| TAIS | Technology Applications Information System. |
| TALDT | Total Administrative and Logistics Downtime. |
| TALON NIGHT | TALON programs, which support SOF. |
| TALON SHIELD | An effort using stereo DSP processing to provide ballistic missile burnout vector and impact prediction for interceptor cueing, counterforce tasking, and passive defense. |
| TAM | (1) Theater Attack Model. (2) Theater Analysis Model. |
| TAMD | Theater Air and Missile Defense. |
| Tank | Final Propulsion Stage (used interchangeably with sustainer). |
| Tank Debris | Hardware associated with tank. |
| Tank Fragmentation | The breakup of a tank, either intentionally to serve as a penaid or naturally as a result of aerodynamic loads and heating upon reentry. |

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| TAOC | Tactical Air Operations Center. |
| TAOM | Tactical Air Operations Module. |
| TAOS | Technology for Autonomous Operation of Satellites. |
| TAR | (1) The NMD Threat Assessment Report. (2) Threat Activity Report. (3) Target Acquisition Radar. |
| TARA | Technology Area Reviews and Assessments. |
| TARGET | Theater Analysis and Re-planning Graphical Execution Toolkit. |
| Target Acquisition | The detection and initiation of track on a target in the surveillance coverage region of a sensing system. |
| Target Classification and Type | Identification of the estimated target category based on surveillance, discrimination, and intelligence data. |
| Target Discrimination | The ability of a surveillance or guidance system to identify or engage any one target when multiple targets are present. |
| Target Object Map (TOM) | A data set, which contains three-dimensional position, estimates for target and other objects predicted to be in a weapon interceptor's field of view for use in target designation. (USSPACECOM) |
| Target Resolution | The splitting of a single target into two or more targets. |
| Target Signature | (1) The characteristic pattern of a target displayed by detection and identification equipment. (2) In naval mine warfare, the variation in the influence field produced by the passage of a ship or sweep. |
| Target System Requirements Document (TSRD) | BMD Program level program management document. Developed by each BMD Program Office, it outlines to MDA/TC and MDA/TE what the PO's target requirements are for each specific flight test based on the test objectives. Producing the TSRD is the first step in the target development process. |
| TASA | Task and Skills Analysis. |
| Tasks | The required actions to accomplish all or part of a COA. Tasks contain guidance to the Battle Management/Command, Control and Communications (BM/C ³) engagement planning function concerning resource allocation, constraints, and required performance. |
| TASM | Tactical Air-to-Surface Missile. |
| TASO | Terminal Area Security Officer. |
| TAT | Technical Area Task. |
| TAUL | Teat and Upgrade Link. |
| TAV | Transatmospheric Vehicle. |

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| TAWG | Threat Accreditation Working Group. |
| TB | Test Bed. |
| TBA | (1) Theater Battle Arena. (2) To be Announced. |
| TBD | (1) To Be Determined. (2) To Be Developed. |
| TBIG | TMD BM/C ³ Integration Group. |
| TBIP | TOMAHAWK Baseline Improvement Program. |
| TBM | See Tactical Ballistic Missile/Theater Ballistic Missile. |
| TBMD | Theater Ballistic Missile Defense. |
| TBMDSE | Theater Ballistic Missile Defense System Exercise. |
| TBN | To be Negotiated. |
| TBR | To Be Resolved. |
| TBS | (1) Tactical Broadcast System (US Army term). (2) To Be Supplied. (3) To Be Scheduled |
| TCAMS | Technical Control and Monitoring System. |
| TCC | Tactical Command Center. |
| TCCF | Tactical Communications Control Facility. |
| TCE | Three Color Experiment. |
| TCF | Tactical Combat Force. |
| TCMD | Theater Cruise Missile Defense. |
| TCMP | Theater (Missile Defense) Countermeasures Mitigation Program. |
| TCMP I | Theater Countermeasures Mitigation Program One. |
| TCMP II | Theater Missile Defense Critical Measurement Program Two (Replaces TMD Countermeasures Mitigation). |
| TD | (1) Test Director. (2) Technical Data. (3) Technical Director. (4) Training Device |
| TDA | Table of Distribution and Allowance. |
| TDADT | Total Distribution Advanced Technology Demonstration. |
| TDAS | Theater Defense Architecture Study. |
| TDASS | Theater Defense Architecture Scoping Study. |

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| TDBM | Track Data Base Manager. |
| TDC | (1) Tactical Display Console. (2) Theater Deployable Communications (USAF MDAP). |
| TDCC | Test Data Collection Center. |
| TDD | Target Detection Device. |
| TDDS | TRAP Data Dissemination System. |
| TDI | Target Data Inventory. |
| TDK | Two-Dimensional Kinetics nozzle performance. |
| TDM | Time Division Multiplexed. |
| TDMA | Time Division Multiple Access (TelComm/Computer term). |
| TDNS | Theater Defense Netting Study. |
| TDOA | Time Difference of Arrival. |
| TDP | (1) Technical Data Package. (2) Test Design Package. (3) Threat Design Program. |
| TDORC | Technology Demonstration, Quick Reaction Capability. |
| TDR | Terminal Defense Radar. |
| TDRSS | Tracking and Data Relay Satellite System. |
| TDSSPA | Technology development for Solid State Phased Arrays. |
| TDT | Target Development Test. |
| TDTC | Test, Development and Training Center. |
| TDU | Target Data Update. |
| TDUGS | (1) Target Data Uplink Ground Station. (2) Target Data Update Ground Station. |
| TE | (1) Thermo-electric. (2) Test Engineer. (3) Training Element. (4) (BMC3) Test Exerciser. |
| TEA | Transportation Engineering Agency. |
| TEAS | Test and Experiment Activity Summary. |
| Tech | (1) Technical. (2) Technology. (3) Technician |
| TECH | Technical |
| TECHON | Technical Control. |
| TECHEVAL | Technical Evaluation (USN term). |

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| Technical Data | Scientific or technical information recorded in any form or medium (such as manuals and drawings). Computer programs and related software are not technical data; documentation of computer programs and related software are. Also excluded are financial data or other information related to contract administration. |
| Technical Data Package (TDP) | A technical description of an item adequate for supporting an acquisition strategy, production, engineering, and logistics support. The description defines the required design configuration and procedures to ensure adequacy of item performance. It consists of all applicable technical data such as drawings, associated lists, specifications, standards, performance requirements, quality assurance provisions, and packaging details. |
| Technical Evaluation | The study, investigation, or test and evaluation by a developing agency to determine the technical suitability of materiel, equipment, or a system, for use in the military services. (See Development Test and Evaluation.) |
| Technical Objectives | The "target" values for the development effort when insufficient data is available for stating binding technical requirements. |
| Technical Objectives & Goals (TOG) | High-level acquisition document to guide decision making for BMDS development; communicates objectives and goals. |
| Technical Parameters (TPs) | A selected subset of the system's technical metrics tracked in Technical Performance Measurement. Critical technical parameters are identified from risk analyses and contract specification or incentivization, and are designed by management. |
| Technical Performance Measurement (TPM) | Describes all the activities undertaken by the government to obtain design status beyond that treating schedule and cost. TPM is defined as the product design assessment, which estimates, through tests the values of essential performance parameters of the current design of WBS product elements. It forecasts the values to be achieved through the planned technical program effort, measures differences between achieved values and those allocated to the product element by the system engineering process, and determines the impact of these differences on system effectiveness. |
| Technical Specification | A detailed description of technical requirements stated in terms suitable to form the basis for actual design development and production. |
| Technical Surveillance | Intelligence gathering methods in which clandestine listening, photographic or emanations gathering instruments are placed within SDS facilities, or otherwise targeted against SDS assets to gain access to denied information. |
| Technology Executing Agent | The Service or agency (DoD or non-DoD) that has been delegated management responsibility for a particular critical supporting technology by MDA or Executing Agent. |
| Technology Program Description | The generic description of the applicable supporting technology or critical supporting technology. |
| TECOM | Test and Evaluation Command. |
| TED | Technology Exploitation Demonstration. |

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| TEIPT | Test and Evaluation Integrated Product Team. |
| TEL | Transporter-Erector-Launcher. |
| Telemetry, Tracking, and Command (TT&C) | Functions performed by the satellite control network to maintain health and status, measure specific mission parameters and processing over time a sequence of these measurement to refine parameter knowledge, and transmit mission commands to the satellite. |
| Teleprocessing | The combining of telecommunications and computer operations interacting in the automatic processing, reception, and transmission of data and/or information. |
| TELESAT | Telecommunications Satellite. |
| TELINT | Telemetry Intelligence. |
| TEMO | Training Exercises and Military Operations. |
| TEMP | See Test and Evaluation Master Plan. |
| TEMPEST | TEMPEST is an unclassified short name referring to investigation and studies of compromising emanations. It is often used synonymously for the term "compromising emanations," e.g. TEMPEST tests, TEMPEST inspection. (See Compromising Emanations.) |
| TENCAP | Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities. |
| TEP | Test and Evaluation Plan. |
| TER | Test and Evaluation Report |
| TERC | Test and Evaluation Resource Committee. |
| TERCOM | Terrain Contour Matching. |
| Terminal Defense Segment (TDS) | The portion of the BMDS that defeats ballistic missiles in period of flight between atmospheric reentry and impact. |
| Terminal Guidance | The guidance applied to a guided missile between midcourse and arrival in the vicinity of the target. |
| Terminal Phase | That final portion of a ballistic missile's trajectory between the midcourse phase and trajectory termination. |
| Terminal Phase Interceptor | A ground-based interceptor designed to intercept and destroy RVs in the terminal phase of flight. It may also be assigned to intercept and destroy enemy PBVs and RVs in the midcourse phase. (USSPACECOM) |
| Terminator | Transition from sunlight to earth's shadow in space. |
| TERS | Tactical Event Reporting System. |
| TES | Tactical Event System. |
| TESP | Test and Evaluation Security Plan. |
| TESSE | Test Environment Support System Enhancement. |

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| Test and Control | The ISTC Test and Control provides the human interface for testing system hardware and software. The Test and Control will consist of the necessary consoles, processors, and storage devices in order to be able to control all operations of the ISTC such as configuring the system, running a scenario, analyzing data, generating reports, and testing system hardware and software. |
| Test and Evaluation (T&E) | Process by which components or systems are tested and the results evaluated to assess progress of design, performance, supportability, etc. There are three types of T&E – Development (DT&E), Operational (OT&E), and Production Acceptance (PAT&E)--occurring during the acquisition cycle. DT&E is conducted to assist the engineering design and development process, to proof manufacturing processes and control and to verify attainment of technical performance specifications and objectives. OT&E is conducted to estimate a system's operational effectiveness and suitability, identify needed modifications, and provide information on tactics, doctrine, organization, and personnel requirements. PAT&E is conducted on production items to demonstrate that those items meet the requirements and specifications of the procuring contracts or agreements. OT&E is further subdivided into two phases--Initial Operational (IOT&E) and Follow-on Operational (FOT&E). IOT&E must be conducted before the production decision (Milestone III) to provide a credible estimate of operational effectiveness and suitability. Therefore, IOT&E is a field test conducted on a production representative system in an operationally realistic environment, by typical user personnel and includes use of realistic threats. FOT&E is conducted on the production system to verify operational effectiveness and suitability, to fill data voids from the IOT&E, or to verify correction of deficiencies in materiel, training, or concepts. |
| Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP) | An overall test and evaluation plan, designed to identify and integrate objectives, responsibilities, resources, and schedules for all test and evaluation to be accomplished prior to the subsequent key decision points. Prepared as early as possible in the acquisition process, it is updated as development progresses. |
| Test and Evaluation Working Group (TEWG) | The TEWG is the forum in which T&E coordination for test requirements, planning, execution, and reporting, is accomplished among members of the Acquisition Team. The primary purpose of the TEWG is to optimize the use of test data, instrumentation, facilities, and models/simulations to achieve test integration and reduce program costs. The TEWG is established by the program sponsor to integrate test requirements, resolve cost/scheduling problems, facilitate TEMP development, assist in preparation of RFPs and related contractual documents, and assist in evaluating contractor proposals when there are T&E implications. |
| Testbed | A system representation consisting partially of actual hardware and/or software and partially of computer models or prototype hardware and/or software. |
| Test Criteria | Standards by which test results and outcome are judged. |
| Test Integration Working Group (TIWG) | A working group designed to facilitate the integration of test requirements in order to minimize development time and cost and preclude duplication between developmental and operational testing. |
| Test Plan | A document prescribing the approach to be taken for intended testing activities. The plan typically identifies the items to be tested, the testing to be performed, test schedules, personnel requirements, reporting requirements, evaluation criteria, and any risk requiring contingency planning. |

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| Test Target Vehicle (TTV) | Single stage, ground launched, solid propellant theater target developed for SMD Program. Also called "Aries". |
| Test Validity | The degree to which a test accomplishes its specified goal. |
| TEV | Test, Evaluation and Verification. |
| TEVS | (1) Test Environment System. (2) Test Environment Support Systems. |
| TEWG | See Test and Evaluation Working Group. |
| TE_x | Test Exerciser (NMD BMC3 Term). |
| TEXCOM | Test and Experimentation Command. |
| TF | Task Force. |
| TFC | Tactical Fusion Center. |
| TFCC | Tactical Flag Command Center (USN term). |
| TFD | Technical Feasibility Decision. |
| TFE | Thermionic Fuel Element(s). |
| TFIM | Technical (Architecture) Framework for Information Management |
| TFOV | Theoretical Field of View. |
| TFR | Terrain Following Radar. |
| TFRAMES | Tools to Facilitate the Rapid Assembly of Missile Engagement Simulations. |
| TFT | Time Off Target (JFACC term). |
| TFW | Tactical Fighter Wing (USAF term). |
| TG | (1) Threat Generator. (2) Trajectory Generator. |
| TGINFOREP | Target Information Report (JFACC term). |
| TGS | Track Generation System (USN term). |
| TGW | Terminally-Guided Warhead. |
| THAAD | See Theater High Altitude Area Defense System. |
| Theater | The geographical area outside the continental United States for which a commander of a unified or specified command has been assigned. |
| Theater Attack | Attack on a geographical area outside the continental United States. |
| Theater Ballistic Missile Defense (TBMD) System | The aggregate TMD C3I and TBMD forces that, in total, provide defense against ballistic missile attacks within an overseas theater of operations. (USSPACECOM) |

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| Theater Missile Defense Council (TMDC) | A consultative body for considering TMD family of systems planning and programming issues; chaired by an Assistant to the MDA Deputy for Acquisition/TMD, membership includes MDA TMD Directors, representatives of each applicable Service Program Executive Officer, and TMD Executive Agents and Program Managers. |
| Theater High Altitude Area Defense System (THAAD) | A ground-based, air transportable interceptor system that will provide wide area defense capability by intercepting longer-range missiles at higher altitudes and at greater distances. Will provide an overlay or upper tier to point defenses such as PATRIOT. |
| Theater Missile (TM) | A theater missile (TM) is a ballistic missile (BM), cruise missile (CM), or air-to-surface guided missile (ASM) whose target is within a theater or which is capable of attacking targets in a theater. |
| Theater Missile Defense (TMD) | OBSOLETE. The strategies and tactics employed to defend a geographical area outside the continental United States against attack from short-range, intermediate-range, or medium-range ballistic missiles. |
| Theater Missile Defense Ground-Based Radar (TMD-GBR) | A ground-based, air transportable sensor that provides search, tracking and discrimination capabilities for the THAAD interceptor system. Also referred to as THAAD Radar. |
| Theater Missile Defense Initiative (TMDI) | An initiative under which all DoD theater and tactical missile defense activities are carried out. Section 231 of the National Defense Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (Public Law 102-484) directed establishment of a TMDI office within the DoD. |
| THEL | Tactical High Energy Laser. |
| Thermal Energy | Electromagnetic energy emitted as thermal radiation. The total amount of thermal energy received per unit area at a specified distance is generally expressed in terms of calories per square centimeter. |
| Thermal Imagery | Imagery produced by sensing and recording the thermal energy emitted or reflected from the objects, which are imaged. |
| Thermal Kill | The destruction of a target by heating it, using directed energy, to the degree that structural components fail. |
| Thermal Management | Technologies/techniques associated with the control and management of thermal energy, its generation, dissipation, and recovery. |
| Thermal Radiation | Electromagnetic radiation emitted (in two pulses from a nuclear air burst) from the fireball as a consequence of its very high temperature; it consists essentially of ultraviolet, visible, and infrared radiations. |
| Thermal X-Rays | The electromagnetic radiation, mainly in the soft (low energy) x-ray region, emitted by the nuclear weapon residue by virtue of its extremely high temperature; it also is referred to as the primary thermal radiation. It is the absorption of this radiation by the ambient medium, accompanied by an increase in temperature, which results in the formation of the fireball (or other heated region) which then emits thermal radiation. (See X-Rays.) |

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| Thermosphere | The atmospheric shell extending from the top of the mesosphere to outer space; it is a region of more or less steadily increasing temperature with height, starting at 40 to 50 miles (70 to 80 kilometers); the thermosphere includes, therefore, the exosphere and most or all of the ionosphere. |
| Threat Characterization | An assessment of the nature, magnitude and intent of an attack in progress. |
| Threat Corridor (Threat Tube) | A tube containing all the objects originating from launch sites and aimed at targets whose spacing is close enough to permit the tube around the object trajectories to be represented by a single trajectory in battle management computation. |
| Threat Scenario | A hypothetical example of the employment of threat systems against ballistic missile defenses for the purpose of analysis and evaluation of those defensive systems and architectures. |
| Threshold | Performance capability or characteristic level in terms of a minimum acceptable value (threshold) required to satisfy the mission need and a performance objective. |
| Threshold Defense | A defense strategy that concedes that the target can be destroyed at a price that is not prohibitive, but the presence of the defense is thought to require the offense to mount a relatively large and complex attack. |
| Throw Weight | All weight in an interceptor, above the sustainer, which serves as the kill vehicle. |
| Thrusted Replicas (TREPS) | Conical decoys equipped with a miniature rocket device. Generally used to change the decoy's optical signature to resemble that of an RV in the reentry phase. |
| TI | (1) Technical Instruction. (2) Technology Insertion. |
| TIARA | Tactical Intelligence and Related Activities. |
| TIBS | (1) Theater Information Broadcast Service. (2) Tactical Information Broadcast System. (3) Theater Intelligence Broadcast System. |
| TIC | (1) Thermionic Integrated Circuit. (2) Technical Information Center. |
| TIDP | Technical Interface Design Plan. |
| TIE | (1) Technology Integration Experiments. (2) Technical Independent Evaluation. |
| Tier | An integrated set of SDS elements that address a particular phase of the threat (e.g., boost phase). |
| Tiered Defenses | The use of defensive systems at different phases of the missile trajectory. |
| TIES | Technology Integration Equipment System. |
| TIAP | Telecommunications and Information Infrastructure Assistance Program. |
| TIL | Technical Insertion Laboratory. |
| TIM | Technical Interchange Meeting. |

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| Time-Phased Force and Deployment List | Appendix 1 to Annex A of the operation plan. It identifies types and/or actual units required to support the operation plan and indicates origin and ports of debarkation or ocean area. |
| Time of Flight (Max) | The maximum time for a booster or vehicle to perform its function from time of launch. |
| Time on Station | The time the sensor is in its operating position. |
| Time Sensitive Targets | Those target requiring immediate response because they pose (or will soon pose) a clear and present danger to friendly forces or are highly lucrative, fleeting targets of opportunity. |
| Time to Station | The time required to move a sensor to its operating position. |
| TIMS | Training Integration Management System (USAF term). |
| TIN | Theater Intelligence Networks. |
| TIP | TOPAZ International Program. |
| TIR | OBSOLETE. Terminal Imaging Radar. (Predecessor to Ground-Based Radar Terminal (GBRT).) |
| TIRS | Telemetry, Instrumentation and Range Safety |
| TIS | (1) Trusted Information Systems, Inc. (2) Technical Information System. |
| Titan | USICBM. |
| TIU | TIBS/Tactical Interface Unit. |
| TIWG | Test Integration Working Group. (U.S. Army) |
| TL | Team Leader. |
| TLA | Time Line Analysis. |
| TLAM | Theater land Attack Missile. |
| TLAM/D | TLAN [with submunition] Dispenser (Navy term). |
| TLDD | Top Level Design Document. |
| TLV | Target Launch Vehicle. |
| TLX | Teletype. |
| TM | (1) See Theater Missile. (2) Technical Manual. (3) Tactical Missile (US Army term). |
| TMCC | Test Monitor and Control Center. |
| TMD | See Theater Missile Defense. |
| TMD C2 | Theater Missile Defense Command and Control. |

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| TMD C³I | Those assets that provide connectivity between and among Theater Ballistic Missile Defense forces. |
| TMD ESM | Theater Missile Defense Existing System(s) Modification (MDA term). |
| TMD GBR | See Theater Missile Defense Ground Based Radar (THAAD Radar). |
| TMD IA | Theater Missile Interoperability Architecture. |
| TMD ITP | TMD Integrated Test Plan. |
| TMDAS | Theater Missile Defense Architecture Study. |
| TMDC | Theater Missile Defense Council. |
| TMDE | Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment (ILS term). |
| TMDI | See Theater Missile Defense Initiative. |
| TMDSE | Theater Missile Defense System Exerciser. |
| TMMM | TOMAHAWK Multi-Mission Missile. |
| TMP | Technical Manual Plan (ILS term). |
| TMPCU | Tomahawk Theater Mission Planning Center Upgrade. |
| TN | (1) Terrestrial Network (C2E term). (2) Thermonuclear. |
| TNF | Theater Nuclear Forces [Treaty term]. |
| TNT | Trinitrotoluene. |
| TNW | Theater Nuclear Weapon. |
| TO | (1) Task Order. (2) Technical Order. |
| TOA | Total Obligation Authority. |
| TOAM | Tactical Air Operations Module. |
| TOC | Tactical Operations Center. |
| TOE | Table of Organization and Equipment. |
| TOF | Time of Flight. |
| TOI | Track of Interest. |
| TOIA | Task Order Impact Analysis. |
| Tolerance | The ability of a system to provide continuity of operation under various abnormal conditions. |
| TOM | See Target Object Map. |
| Tomahawk | US ground launched cruise missile. |

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| TOMD | Task Radar Management Details. |
| TOMP | Task Order Management Plan. |
| TOMS | Total Ozone Mapping Spectrometer (NASA term). |
| TOO | Target of Opportunity. |
| TOOL | Target of Opportunity Launch. |
| TOP | Task Order Plan. |
| Top-Down | Pertaining to an approach that starts with the highest-level component of a hierarchy and proceeds through progressively lower levels; for example, top-down design, top-down programming, top-down testing. Contrast with bottom-up. |
| Top-Down Design | The process of designing a system by identifying its major components, decomposing them into their lower level components, and iterating until the desired level of detail is achieved. |
| Top-Down Testing | The process of checking out hierarchically organized programs, progressively, from top to bottom, using simulation of lower level components. |
| TOPAZ | A project to demonstrate the transfer of Russian thermionic space nuclear power technology to U.S. BMD applications. |
| TOR | Terms of Reference. |
| TOS | (1) Tactical Operations Shelter (Station). (2) Task Order Status. |
| TOT | Time on Target |
| Total Obligation Authority (TOA) | A DoD financial term, which expresses the value of the direct program for a given fiscal year. |
| Total Quality Management (TQM) | A management philosophy committed to a focus on continuous improvement to product and services with the involvement of the entire workforce. |
| TOTS | Target Oriented Tracking System |
| TOVS | TRIOS Operational Vertical Sounder. |
| Toxicity | The kind and amount of poison or toxic produced by a microorganism, or possessed by a chemical substance not of biological origin. |
| TP | (1) Telenet Protocol (Telecomm/Computer term). (2) Test Program. |
| TPALS | Theater Protection Against Limited Strikes. |
| TPBM | Terminal Phase Battle Manager. |
| TPD | Mobile Tactical Radar (US). |
| TPDR | Total Processing Data Rate (TelComm/Computer term). |

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| TPEC | THAAD Performance Evaluation Center. |
| TPEM | Technology Program Element Manager (SDIO/MDA term). |
| TPFDD | Time-Phased Force Deployment Data. |
| TPFDDL | Time-Phased Force Deployment Data List. |
| TPFDL | Time-Phased Force Deployment List. |
| TPM | Technical Performance Measurement. |
| TPMT | Total Preventative Maintenance Time (ILS term). |
| TPO | (1) Test Planning Organization. (2) THAAD Program Office |
| TPP | Test Procedure Plan. |
| TPR | (1) Terminal Phase Radar. (2) Trained Personnel Requirements. (3) Target Performance Report. |
| TPS | Thermal Protection System. |
| TPT | Theater Planning Tool. |
| TPWG | Test Planning Working Group. (U.S. Air Force) |
| TQM | Total Quality Management. |
| Traceability | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The characteristic of software systems or designs or architectures or domain models that identifies and documents the derivation path (upward) and allocation/flowdown path (downward) of requirements and constraints. (2) The degree to which a relationship can be established between two or more products having a predecessor-successor or master-subordinate relationship to one another. |
| Track | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A series of related contacts displayed on a plotting board. (2) To display or record the successive positions of a moving object. (3) To lock onto a point of radiation and obtain guidance from. (4) To keep a gun properly aimed, or to point continuously a target locating instrument at a moving target. (5) The actual path of an aircraft above, or a ship on, the surface of the earth. |
| Track Assessment | The Track Assessment looks for anomalies in an object's track data. An anomaly in the track may indicate a hit. |
| Track, Birth to Death | The maintenance of an associated track through all phases of flight (i.e., boost to reentry). |
| Track Correlation | The combining of track information for identification purposes, using all available data. |
| Track Extension | This term usually applies to improvements in track estimates by use of new data. It is sometimes used to describe a process of target extrapolation to a future time or place (e.g., reentry). |

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| Track File | A target's stated estimate, confidence, covariance matrix, and associated LOS measurements with irradiances with confidence of association; or some subset of the above. |
| Track File-Track History | A set of individual track reports on a particular object, which taken together produce useful approximation of that object's future position in space. |
| Track Formation | The process of determining the track or tracks of detected objects. It is usually a three-step process of data association, track initialization, and track improvement by filtering. |
| Tracking | The act of generating and maintaining a time history of an object's position and any other features of interest. |
| Tracking and Pointing | Once a target is detected, it must be followed or "tracked". When the target is successfully tracked, a weapon is "pointed" at the target. Tracking and pointing are frequently integrated operations. |
| Tracking Range (Max) | The maximum line of sight distance at which a sensor can maintain track of an object. |
| Track Initiation | The formation of the first or initial estimate for a sensor system of the state vector of an object. The process typically requires observation from a number of frames. |
| Track Production Area | An area in which tracks are produced by one radar station. |
| Track Symbology | Symbols used to display tracks on a data console or other display device. |
| Track Telling | The process of communicating air surveillance and tactical data information between command and control systems or between facilities within the systems. Telling may be classified into the following types: back tell; cross tell; forward tell; lateral tell; overlap tell; and relateral tell. |
| TRADEX | Target Resolution and Discrimination Experiment. |
| TRADOC | U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Ft. Monroe, VA. |
| Traffic Capability Maximum | The maximum number of objects per unit time which the sensor system can maintain track files. |
| Traffic Decoy | Decoy that matches RV characteristics in the exoatmosphere and high endoatmosphere. |
| Train | Threat geometry with objects placed in a line (string) along the velocity vector of reentry. |
| Trajectory | The curve described by an object moving through space. |
| Trajectory Histories | Trajectory information on targets recorded over a period of time. |
| TRAK | A data base management system (not an acronym). |
| Trans-Attack | Period from first tactical indication of attack until termination started, i.e., post-attack. |

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| TRANSCOM | [U.S.] Transportation Command, Scott AFB, IL. |
| TRANSEC | Transmission Security. |
| Transition | The period in which the world strategic balance would shift from offense-dominance to defense-dominance. |
| Transition to Production | A risk reduction process during which the program shifts (passes) from development to production. It is not an exact point, but is described as a process consisting of disciplined engineering and logistics management to ensure the system is ready for manufacture. (See DoD 4245.7-M.) |
| Transmission Security (TRANSEC) | That component of security, which results from all measures, designed to protect communications transmissions from interception and traffic analysis. (See COMSEC.) |
| Transonic | Of or pertaining to the speed of a body in a surrounding fluid when the relative speed of the fluid is subsonic in some places and supersonic in others. This is encountered when passing from subsonic to supersonic speeds and vice versa. |
| Transponder | A receiver-transmitter that will generate a reply signal upon proper interrogation. |
| TRAP | Tactical Receiver and Related Applications. |
| Trap Door | A hidden software or hardware mechanism that permits system security mechanisms to be circumvented. |
| Traveling Wave Tube (TWT) | An electronic tube in which a stream of electrons interact continuously or repeatedly with a guided electromagnetic wave moving substantially in synchronism with it, in such a way that there is a net transfer of energy from the stream to the wave; the tube is used as an amplifier or oscillator at frequencies in the microwave region. |
| Traverse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) To turn a weapon to the right or left on its mount. (2) A method of surveying in which lengths and directions of lines between points on the earth are obtained by or from field measurements, and used in determining positions of the points. |
| Traverse Level | That vertical displacement above low-level air defense systems, expressed both as a height and altitude, at which aircraft can cross the area. |
| TRB | Tactical Review Board. |
| TRD | Technical Requirements Document. |
| TRE | Tactical Receive Equipment. |
| TREA | Transmit/Receive Element Array (THAAD). |
| TREE | Transient Radiation Effects on Electronics. |
| TREM | Total Radiation Environment Model. |
| TREPS | See Thrusted Replicas. |
| TRESIM | Tactical Receive Equipment Simulator. |

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| TRG | Threat Reference Guide. |
| TRI-TAC | Tri-Service Tactical Digital Communications System. |
| TRIDENT | Class of US ballistic missile submarines (USN term). |
| TRIDENT I (C-4) | US SLBM (USN term). |
| TRIDENT II (D-5) | US SLBM (USN term). |
| TRIM | Toxic Reduction Investment and Management. |
| TRM | Technical Reference Model. |
| TRMP | Test Resources Management Plan. |
| TRN | (1) Task Requirements Notice. (2) Test Requirements Notification. |
| Trojan Horse | A computer program with an apparently or actually useful function that contains additional (hidden) functions that surreptitiously exploit the legitimate authorizations of the invoking process to the detriment of security or mission performance. |
| TROPO | Tropospheric Scatter. |
| Tropopause | The imaginary boundary layer dividing the stratosphere from the lower part of the atmosphere, the troposphere. The tropopause normally occurs at an altitude of about 7.62km to 13.71km in polar and temperate zones, and at 16.76km in the tropics. (See Stratosphere, Troposphere.) |
| Troposphere | The region of the atmosphere, immediately above the earth's surface and up to the tropopause, in which the temperature falls fairly regularly with increasing altitude, clouds form, convection is active, and mixing is continuous and more or less complete. |
| Tropospheric Scatter | The propagation of electromagnetic waves by scattering as a result of irregularities in the physical properties of the troposphere. |
| TRP | (1) Test Readiness Program. (2) Technology Reinvestment Program. (3) Technology Readiness Program (pre-acquisition program status). (4) Technical Requirements Package. |
| TRPC | Technology Readiness Planning Committee. |
| TRR | Test Readiness Review. |
| Trusted Computer System/Software | A system or its software that employs sufficient hardware and software integrity measures to allow its use for processing sensitive or classified information. |
| Trusted Path | A mechanism by which a person at a terminal can communicate directly with the Trusted Computing Base. This mechanism can only be activated by the person of the Trusted Computing Base and cannot be imitated by un-trusted software. |
| TRW | TRW, Inc. |
| TS | (1) Terminal Service. (2) Top Secret. |

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| TSA | Technology Security Analysis. |
| TSD | Tactical Surveillance Demonstration. |
| TSCM | Tomahawk Strike Coordination Module (USN term). |
| TSD | Tactical Surveillance Demonstration. |
| TSDE | Tactical Surveillance Demonstration Enhancement. |
| TSEU | Technology Seeker Evaluation Unit. |
| TsIAM | Moscow's Central Institute of Aviation Motors. |
| TSM | TRADOC System Manager. |
| TsMA | Theater of Strategic Military Action. |
| TSP | Target Support Plan. |
| TSPI | Time, Space, Position Information. |
| TSR | Target System Requirements. |
| TSRD | Target System Requirements Document. |
| TSS | Terminal Surveillance Sensor. |
| TSSAM | Tri-Service Standoff Attack Missile. |
| TSWG | Target Signature Working Group. |
| TT | Total Time. |
| TT&C | Telemetry, Tracking and Command. |
| TT&E | Technical Test and Evaluation (Army). |
| TTA | Total Time Accounting. |
| TTBM | Terminal Tier Battle Manager. |
| TTBT | Threshold Test Ban Treaty. |
| TTD&D | Test Technology Development and Demonstration. A portion of the CTEIP program, which funds the development and demonstration of technologies, which have significant potential for improving testing. |
| TTEL | Tools and Test Equipment List (ILS term). |
| TTL | Transistor-to-Transistor Logic. |
| TTP | Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures. |
| TTSARB | Technology Transfer and Security Assistance Review Board. |
| TTT | Test Technology Transfer. |

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| TTV | Technology Test Vehicle. |
| TTY | Teletype. |
| TUG | TRACE User Group. |
| TV | Thrust Vectoring (rocker engineering term). |
| TVC | Thrust Vector Control. |
| TVE | Technology Validation Experiment. |
| TVM | Track-via-Missile. |
| TVV | Technology Validation Experiment. |
| TW | Tactical Warning. |
| TW/AA | See Tactical Warning/Attack Assessment. |
| TW/SD | Tactical Warning and Space Defense. |
| TWG | Technical Working Group. |
| TWS | TOMAHAWK Weapons System (USN term). |
| TWT | Traveling Wave Tube. |
| TWTA | Traveling Wave Tube Amplifier. (Electronic Engineering term). |
| TY | Then Year (PPBS term). |
| TY\$M | Then Year Dollars Millions. |
| Type A - System Specification | States all necessary requirements in terms of performance, including test provisions to assure that all requirements are achieved. Essential physical constraints are included. Type A specifications state the technical and mission requirements of the system as an entity. |
| Type B - Development Specification | States all necessary requirements in terms of performance. Essential physical constraints are included. Type B specifications state requirements for the development of items other than systems. They specify all of the required item functional characteristics and the tests required to demonstrate achievement of those characteristics. |
| Type C - Product Specification | Product specifications are applicable to any item below the system level, and may be oriented toward procurement of a product through specification of primarily function (performance) requirements or fabrication (detailed design) requirements. Type C specifications intended to be used for the procurement of items including computer programs. |
| Typhoon | Class of Soviet ballistic missile submarines. |
| Typing | The act of recognizing objects by measuring a set of observables, computing a set of characteristics, and associating the characteristics with a specific class of objects (i.e., SS-18, SS-24). |

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| U | Uranium. |
| U&S | Unified and Specified [commands] (pre-1996 term). |
| U.K (UK) | United Kingdom. |
| U.S. (US) | United States. |
| U.S. West | U.S. West Incorporated. |
| U.S.S.R. | Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. |
| UA | User Assessment (NMD BMC3 term). |
| UAE | United Arab Emirates. |
| UAV | Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. |
| UAV BPI | Unmanned Aerial Vehicle-based Boost Phase Intercept. |
| UCAP | UAV Combat Air Patrol. |
| UCC | Uniform Commercial Code (US legal term). |
| UCP | Unified Command Plan. |
| UD/ASD | United Defense/Armaments Systems Division. |
| UDMH | Unsymmetrical Dimethylhydrazine (a liquid propellant rocket fuel). |
| UDS | Universal Documentation System. A standardized comprehensive tool for stating and coordinating program requirements for testing MRTFB ranges, as well as the capabilities and plans of test ranges to support program requirements. It consists of a series of six planning and execution documents: 1) Program Introduction (PI) (also called the Program Introduction Document (PID)), 2) Statement of Capability (SC), 3) Program Requirements Document (PRD), 4) Operations Requirements (OR), 5) Program Support Plan (PSP), and 6) the Operations Directive (OD). The UDS was developed and is regulated by the Range Commanders Council (RCC). |
| UE | Unit Equipment. |
| UEME | Unified Electro-Magnetic Effects. |
| UEWR | Upgrade Early Warning Radar. |
| UF₄ | Uranium tetra fluoride. |
| UF₆ | Uranium hexafluoride. |

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| UFG | User Focus Group. |
| UFO | UHF Follow-On [Satellite Communications System]. |
| UFP | Unit Flyaway Price. |
| UGF | Underground Facility. |
| UGS | Unattended Ground Sensors. |
| UGT | Under Ground Test. |
| UHF | Ultra High Frequency. |
| UIC | Unit Identification Code. |
| UIN | User Interaction Node. |
| UKAS | (1) UK Architecture Study (2) UK Associate Studies. |
| UKEADTB | UK Extended Air Defense Test Bed. |
| UKTB | United Kingdom Test Bed. |
| ULCS | Unit Level Circuit Switch (SINCGARS term). |
| ULS | Unit Level Switch. |
| ULSA | Ultra Low Sidebobe Antenna. |
| ULTDS | Unit Level Tactical Data Switch (SINCGARS term). |
| Ultraviolet (UV) | Electromagnetic radiation of wavelength between the shortest visible violet (about 3,850 Angstroms) and soft x-rays (about 100 Angstroms). |
| UMD | Unit Manning Document. |
| UMMIPS | Uniform Material Movement and Issue Priority System (ILS term). |
| UNAAF | Unified Action Armed Forces. |
| UNC | United Nations Command. |
| Unconventional Warfare | A broad spectrum of military and paramilitary operations conducted in enemy-held, enemy-controlled or politically sensitive territory. Unconventional warfare includes, but is not limited to, the interrelated fields of guerrilla warfare, evasion and escape, subversion, sabotage, and other operations of a low visibility, covert, or clandestine nature. |
| Unified Action Armed Forces | A publication setting forth the principles, doctrines, and functions governing the activities and performance of the Armed Forces of the United States when two or more Services or elements thereof are acting together. |
| Unified Command | A command with a broad continuing mission under a single commander and composed of significant assigned components of two or more Services, and which is established and so designated by the President, through the Secretary of Defense with the advice and assistance of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. |

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| UNISYS | UNISYS Corporation. |
| United States Army Space Command (USARSPACE) | The Army component command of USSPACECOM. Responsible for the Army elements of the SDS system. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| United States Space Command (USSPACECOM) | The unified command responsible for planning and conducting ballistic missile defense. Located in Colorado Springs, CO. |
| United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) | The DoD unified command responsible for carrying out directed nuclear and non-nuclear strategic air, intercontinental ballistic missile, and sea-launched ballistic missile offensive combat strikes. Located at Offutt AFB, NE. |
| United States Transportation Command (USTRANSCOM) | The DoD unified command responsible for providing air, land, and sea transportation for the Department of Defense, both in time of peace and time of war. It is also responsible for providing airlift, sealift, surface transport, and terminal services, and commercial air, land, and sea transportation, including as needed to support the deployment, employment, and sustainment of U.S. forces on a global basis, as directed by the Secretary of Defense. Located at Scott AFB, IL. |
| Unk | Unknown. |
| Unresolved Objects | Objects so closely spaced with respect to the sensor focal plane as to be indistinguishable from a single object. |
| UNSC | United Nations Security Council. |
| UnSecEnergy | Under Secretary of Energy. |
| UOC | Usable on Code (ILS term). |
| UOES | See User Operational Evaluation System. |
| UPD | Unconventional Passive Discrimination. |
| UPS | Uninterruptible Power Source. |
| UQT | Unit Qualification Training (ILS term). |
| URIP | University Research Initiative Support Program. |
| URL | Uniform Resource Locator (internet protocol term). |
| URT | Upgraded RTD. |
| US/UK | United States/United Kingdom. |
| USA | (1) United States Army. (2) Under Secretary of the Army. |
| USAADASCH | U.S. Army Air Defense Artillery School. |
| USAAE | U.S. Army Acquisition Executive. |

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| USACE | United States Army Corps of Engineers. |
| USACOM | United States Atlantic Command, Norfolk, VA. |
| USAF | United States Air Force. |
| USAF/AFMC/ESC | U.S. Air Force Materiel Command, Electronic Systems Center; ex-ESD. |
| USAF/AFMC/SMC | U.S. Air Force Materiel Command, Space and Missile Systems Center; ex-USAF Systems Command /SSD. |
| USAF/OTEC | U.S. Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center. |
| USAF/SMC | U.S. Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles AFB, CA. |
| USAF/SSD | U.S. Air Force/Space Systems Division; See USAF/AFMC/SMC. |
| USAFE | U.S. Air Forces in Europe. |
| USAFANT | U.S. Air Force, U.S. Atlantic Command. |
| USAKA | U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll. |
| USAMICOM | U.S. Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, AL. |
| USAMSIC | See MSIC. |
| USAMSAA | U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity. |
| USAOEC | U.S. Army Operational Evaluation Command, Alexandria, VA. |
| USAOTEC | U.S. Army Operational Test and Evaluation Command. |
| USARCENT | U.S. Army Forces, U.S. Central Command. |
| USAREUR | U.S. Army Forces, U.S. European Command. |
| USARLANT | U.S. Army Forces, U.S. Atlantic Command. |
| USARPAC | U.S. Army Forces, U.S. Pacific Command. |
| USARSPACE | See United States Army Space Command. |
| USASDC | U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command (<1Oct 92). |
| USASSDC | U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command, Huntsville, AL |
| USATECOM | U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Command. |
| USATRADOC | U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command. |
| USB | Upgraded SBD. |
| USC | U.S. Code. |
| USCENTAF | U.S. Central Command Air Forces. |

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| USCENTCOM | United States Central Command, MacDill AFB, FL. |
| USCG | United States Coast Guard. |
| USCINCCENT | Commander in Chief, U.S. Central Command. |
| USCINCEUR | U.S. Commander in Chief, Europe. |
| USCINCLANT | Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command. |
| USCINCPAC | Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Command. |
| USCINCSpace | Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Space Command. |
| USCINCTrans | Commander in Chief, U.S. Transportation Command. |
| USCS | U.S. Customs Services. |
| USD | Under Secretary of Defense. |
| USD(A&T) | Undersecretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology). |
| USD(A) | OBSOLETE. Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition.). |
| USD(A)/STNF | Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Strategic and Tactical Nuclear Forces. |
| USD(P) | Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. |
| USDA | United States Department of Agriculture. |
| USDAO | U.S. Defense Attaché Office. |
| USDELMC | U.S. Delegation to the NATO Military Committee. |
| USDR&E | Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering. |
| User Friendly | Primarily a term used in automatic data processing (ADP); it connotes a machine (hardware) or program (software) that is compatible with a person's ability to operate it successfully and easily. |
| User Operational Evaluation System (UOES) | Prototypical system developed and tested as part of the early phases of the development process. A UOES has two objectives: (1) testing, evaluation, and training for a system proceeding through the normal acquisition process; and (2) contingency defense capability should the need arise prior to completion of the normal acquisition cycle. |
| USEUCOM | United States European Command, Stuttgart-Vaihingen, Germany. |
| USFJ | U.S. Forces Japan. |
| USFK | U.S. Forces Korea. |
| USFK/CFC | USFK Combined Forces Command. |
| USG | U.S. Government. |
| USIA | United States Information Agency. |

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| USLANTCOM | United States Atlantic Command (Now see USACOM). |
| USLANTFLT | U.S. Atlantic Fleet. |
| USMAR-FORCENT | U.S. Marine Component, U.S. Central Command. |
| USMAR-FORLANT | U.S. Marine Component, U.S. Atlantic Command. |
| USMAR-FORPAC | U.S. Marine Component, U.S. Pacific Command. |
| USMC | United States Marine Corps. |
| USMCR | United States Marine Corps Reserve. |
| USMILREP | U.S. Military Representative. |
| USN | United States Navy. |
| USNAVCENT | U.S. Naval Forces, U.S. Central Command. |
| USNAVEUR | U.S. Naval Forces, U.S. European Command. |
| USNIP | U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings. |
| USNO | U.S. Naval Observatory. |
| USNPGS | U.S. Naval Post-Graduate School. |
| USPACAF | U.S. Air Forces, U.S. Pacific Command. |
| USPACFLT | US Pacific Fleet. |
| USPACOM | United States Pacific Command, Pearl Harbor, HI. |
| USREPMC | U.S. Representative to the Military Committee (NATO). |
| USSC | United States Space Command. |
| USSOCOM | United States Special Operations Command, Tampa, FL. |
| USSOUTHCOM | United States Southern Command, Panama Canal Zone, Panama. |
| USSPACECOM | See United States Space Command. |
| USSS | United States Secret Service. |
| USSTRATCOM | See United States Strategic Command. |
| USTA | United States Telephone Association. |
| USTRANSCOM | See United States Transportation Command. |
| UT | Universal Time. |
| UTC | Unit Type Code. |

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| UTM | Universal Transverse Mercator. |
| UTMDS | Upper Tier Theater Missile Defense System. See THAAD System. |
| UUT | Unit Under Test (ILS term). |
| UV | Ultraviolet. |
| UV Electro-Optics | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the wavelength spectrum shorter than visible (e.g., less than 4,000 Å). |
| UVPI | Ultraviolet Plume Instrument. |
| UW | Unconventional Warfare. |

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| V | Volt. |
| V&H | Vulnerability and Hardening. |
| V&V | Verification and Validation. (See Verification, Validation, and IV&V.) |
| V/STOL | Vertical Short Takeoff and Landing [aircraft]. |
| VAFB | Vandenberg Air Force Base, CA. |
| Validation | Confirmation that the processes and outputs from a test resource parallel real world processes and are realistically sensitive to change in the environment, tactical situation, system design, tactics, and threat. |
| VAMOSC | Visibility and Management of O&S Costs. |
| VAR | Visitor Access Request. |
| Variability | The manner in which the probability of damage to a specific target decreases with the distance from ground zero; or, in damage assessment, a mathematical factor introduced to average the effects of orientation, minor shielding, and uncertainty of target response to the effects considered. |
| VBO | Vertical Burn-Out (velocity). |
| VCC | Voice Communications Circuit. |
| VCRM | Verification Cross Reference Matrix. |
| VCS | Voice Communications System. |
| VDC | Volts Direct Current. |
| VDD | Version Description Document. |
| VDU | Visual Display Unit. |
| VE | Value Engineering. |
| VECP | Value Engineering Change Proposal. |
| Verification | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Confirmation that all data inputs, logic, calculations and engineering representations of a T&E resource accurately portray the characteristics, calculations, logic, and interactions of the system under evaluation. (2) The process of evaluating a system or component during or at the end of the development process to determine whether it satisfies specified requirements. |
| VESA | Video Electronics Standards Association. |
| VFR | Visual Flight Rules. |
| VGA | Video Graphics Array (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| VHF | Very High Frequency. |
| VHSIC | Very High Speed Integrated Circuit. |

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| VIDS | Vehicle Integrated Defense Software (USA term). |
| VIGILANTE | Viewing Image/Gimbaled Instrumentation Lab-Analog Neural Three-D Experiment. VIGILANTE involves building a small computer (ANTE) offering 1/12 Operation Per Second (OPS), using a mixture of experimental three-dimensional circuitry and commercial components. Project also demonstrates VIRGIL, a gimbaled airborne sensor with visible, experimental UV and quantum-well IR cameras capable of tracking targets that can be detected, identified, and precision-tracked with the ANTE processor. |
| VIM | Vibration Isolation Module. |
| VINSON | Encrypted Ultra High Frequency Communications System. |
| VIS | Visible. |
| VIS/UV | Visible/Ultraviolet. |
| Visibility Range (or Visibility) | The horizontal distance (in kilometers or miles) at which a large dark object can just be seen against the horizon's sky in daylight. The visibility is related to the clarity of the atmosphere ranging from 170 miles (280 kilometers) for an exceptionally clear atmosphere to 0.6 mile (1.0 kilometer) or less for dense haze or fog. The visibility on an average clear day is taken to be 12 miles (19 kilometers). |
| Visible Electro-Optics | Technologies/techniques employed by optical sensors in the visible portion of the wavelength spectrum. |
| VLAR | Vertical Launch and Recovery (UAV JPO term). |
| VLF | Very Low Frequency. |
| VLOS | Vertical Line of Sight. |
| VLS | Vertical Launch System. |
| VLSI | Very Large Scale Integration. |
| VLSIC | VLSI Circuits. |
| VLWIR | Very Long Wavelength Infrared. |
| VME | Versa Modular European [standards]. |
| VMF | Variable Message Format (Telecomm term). |
| VOX | Voice Actuation. |
| VRI | Vanguard Research, Inc., Fairfax, VA. |
| VTC | Video Teleconference. |
| VTOL | Vertical Takeoff and Landing [aircraft]. |
| VTOL-UAV | Vertical Takeoff and Landing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle. |
| VUE | Visible Light/Ultraviolet Experiment. |

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| Vulcan | UK bomber. |
| VV&A | Verification, Validation, and Accreditation. |
| VVER | Pressurized water type nuclear power reactor. |
| VVIRF | Verification and Validation Information Request Form. |

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| W/ | With. |
| w/o | Without. |
| W/TD | Warning/Threat Detection. |
| WAA | Wide Aperture Array. |
| WALEX | Warfare Analysis Laboratory Exercise. |
| WAM | (1) Worldwide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS). (2) Wide Area Munition. (3) Wide Area Mine. (4) Wide Area Missile. |
| WAN | Wide Area Network (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| WAP | Wide Azimuth Probe. |
| War Game | A simulation, by whatever means, of a military operation involving two or more opposing forces, using rules, data, and procedures designed to depict an actual or assumed real life situation. |
| Wargame 2000 | Title of MDA program for development of a state-of-the-art simulation tool at the JNTF for use in CONOPS validation, missile defense program design verification, validation and accreditation, and support CinC/Allied wargames and assessments. |
| Warhead | A weapon, usually thermonuclear, contained as the payload of a missile. |
| Warhead Mating | The act of attaching a warhead section to a rocket or missile body, torpedo, airframe, motor, or guidance section. |
| Warhead Section | A completely assembled warhead including appropriate skin sections and related components. |
| WARM | Wartime Reserve Modes. |
| Warning of Attack | A warning to national policymakers that an adversary is not only preparing its armed forces for war, but intends to launch an attack in the near future. |
| Warning Order | A preliminary notice of an order or action that is to follow. |
| WARSIM | Warfighter Simulation (US Army term). |
| WARSIM 2000 | Warfighter Simulation 2000 (US Army term). |
| Wartime Reserve Modes (WARM) | Characteristics and operating procedures of sensor, communications, navigation aids, threat recognition, weapons, and countermeasures systems that (1) will contribute to military effectiveness if unknown to or misunderstood by opposing commanders before they are used, but (2) could be exploited or neutralized if known in advance. Wartime reserve modes are deliberately held in reserve for wartime or emergency use and seldom, if ever, applied or intercepted prior to such use. |
| WAS | Wide Area Sensor. |
| WASP | Wide-body Airborne Surveillance Platform. A modified DC-10. |

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| WASHDC | Washington, District of Columbia. |
| Wastage (Max) | The maximum number of defense weapons which, when used, will be ineffective in contributing to the defeat of the offense. |
| Watch Condition (WATCHCON) | Series of readiness conditions used by the intelligence community to alert staffs to watchfulness without raising DEFCON. |
| WATS | Wide Area Telephone System. |
| WAVE | Wideband Angular Vibration Experiment. |
| Wavelength | The distance between two points having the same phase in two consecutive cycles of a periodic wave, along a line in the direction of propagation. |
| WB | Wideband. |
| WBM | Weapons Battle Manager(s). |
| WBS | See Work Breakdown Structure. |
| WCC | (1) See Wing Control Center. (2) Weapons Control Computer. |
| WCG | Workstation Computer Graphics (Computer term). |
| WCP | (1) Weapon Control Processor. (2) Weapon Control Platform. |
| WCS | Weapons Control System. |
| WDM | Wavelength Division Multiplexon. |
| Weapon Enabling | The set of control functions without which defense weapons cannot be launched. |
| Weapon Engagement Zone | In air defense, airspace of defined dimensions within which the responsibility normally rests with a particular weapon system. |
| Weapons Allocation | Designation of a certain weapon to attack a certain threat after Engagement Authorization is given. |
| Weapons Assignment | In air defense, the process by which weapons are assigned to individual air weapons controllers for use in accomplishing an assigned mission. Assignment of a particular interceptor to a particular target. |
| Weapons Commitment | Authorization to allocate certain weapons to designated targets thus permitting checklist actions to be taken. |
| Weapons Control | The varying degree of formal control an area air defense commander exercises over all air defense weapons in his area of responsibility. |
| Weapons Enablement | Authorization to place a weapon into its most ready state but prior to release. |
| Weapons Free | A weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may be fired at any target not positively recognized as friendly. |

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| Weapons Hold | A weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may be fired in self-defense or in response to a formal order. |
| Weapons Initiation | State when a weapon system is to be placed in the highest state of readiness shy of weapon allocation. It is possible to go direct to weapons allocation or release without first initiation or allocation. |
| Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) | In arms control usage, weapons that are capable of a high order of destruction and/or of being used in such a manner as to destroy large numbers of people. |
| Weapons Readiness State | The degree of readiness of air defense weapons which can become airborne or be launched to carry out an assigned task. Weapons readiness states are expressed in number of weapons and number of minutes. |
| Weapons Release Authority (WRA) | The order that gives weapon controllers the authority to fire. (USSPACECOM) |
| Weapons System | Items that can be used directly by the armed forces to carry out combat missions and that cost more than \$100,000 or for which the eventual total procurement cost is more than \$10,000,000. That term does not include commercial items sold in substantial quantities to the general public. |
| Weapon System Control | That set of assessment, decision, and direction functions normally implemented automatically to assure that individual weapons are pointed, fired, and guided as necessary to intercept the designated attackers. |
| Weapon Target Assignment (WTA) | The assignment of an interceptor to a particular threat object. In Midcourse, a WTA requires in-flight communication between the Battle Manager and an in-flight interceptor. To ensure the Battle Manager maintains the ephemeris of the interceptor, the WTA will constraint the interceptor's flight error. |
| Weapons Tight | A weapon control order imposing a status whereby weapons systems may be fired only at targets recognized as hostile. |
| Weapons System Employment Concept | A description in broad terms, based on established outline characteristics, of the application of a particular equipment or weapon system within the framework of tactical concept and future doctrines. |
| Western Test Range (WTR) | Beginning at Vandenberg AFB, CA, this range stretches halfway around the globe where it meets the Eastern Test Range. An array of launch complexes, sensors, and tracking sites makes up the Western Test Range. It is operated by the Space and Missile Test Organization (SAMTO), a unit of AFSPACECOM as of 1 October 1990. |
| WESTPAC | Western Pacific. |
| WEU | Western European Union |
| WEZ | Weapon Engagement Zone. |
| WFF | Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, VA. |
| WFOV | Wide Field of View. |
| WFX | Warfighter Exercise. |

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| WG | Working Group. |
| WGET | Working Group on Encryption and Telecommunications. |
| WH | White House. |
| WHDEVAL | Warhead Evaluation. |
| WILTEL | Williams Telecommunications Group Incorporated. |
| Wing Control Center (WCC) | A second Space Wing center that logistically/administratively controls operational satellite systems operated by them at worldwide locations. |
| WIPT | Working-level Integrated Product (Process) Team. |
| WIS | WWMCCS Information System. |
| Withhold | 1. A term used in a pre-planned response option (PRO) to identify the withholding of part of the space or ground weapon inventory against detected threat launches, in anticipation of follow-on attacks. 2. (Nuclear) The limiting of authority to employ nuclear weapons by denying their use within specified geographical areas of certain countries. |
| WL | Wright Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH. |
| WLR | Weapons Launch Report. |
| WMD | Weapons of Mass Destruction. |
| WMF | Windows Metafile. |
| WMP | War and Mobilization Plan. |
| WNINTEL | Warning Notice - Intelligence Sources or Methods Involved. |
| WOC | Wing Operations Center. |
| WON | Work Order Number. |
| Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) A product-oriented family tree division of hardware, software, services, and other work tasks which organizes, defines, and graphically displays the product to be produced, as well as the work to be accomplished to achieve the specified product. (2) A hierarchical diagram used to depict the tasks, capital, and resources required during the development of a product. |
| Work Packages | Detailed short-span jobs, or material items, identified by the contractor for accomplishing work required to complete the contract. |
| Worldwide Indications Monitoring System (WWIMS) | A confederation of national, unified, and specified command and other intelligence centers and facilities. The primary mission of the WWIMS system is to monitor, maintain, and report on Indications and Warning (I&W) activity. |

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| World-Wide Military Command and Control System (WWMCCS) | The system that provides the means for operational direction and technical administrative support involved in the function of command and control of U.S. military forces. The system comprises: The NMCS - The command and control systems of the unified and specified commands - The WWMCCS-related management/information systems of the headquarters of the Military Departments - The command and control systems of the headquarters of the service component commands - The command and control support systems of DoD agencies. The system furnishes a multi-path channel of secure communications to transmit information from primary sources to those who must make decisions (including the President) and to transmit their decisions (in the form of military orders) to subordinates. |
| WP | (Former) Warsaw Pact Countries. |
| WPAFB | Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton OH. |
| WPC | Warsaw Pact Countries. |
| WPD | Work Package Directive. |
| WPN | Weapon Procurement Navy. |
| WR | Western Range. |
| WR/AFB | Western Range/Vandenberg Air Force Base. |
| WRA | See Weapons Release Authority. |
| WRM | War Reserve Materiel. |
| WSK | War Reserve Spares Kit. |
| WRTTM | Warhead Replacement Tactical Telemetry Module (USAF term). |
| WS | Warning System. |
| WSE | Weapon Support Equipment. |
| WSEM | Weapons System Evaluation Program. |
| WSESRB | Weapons System Explosive Safety Review Board. |
| WSI | Wafer-Scale Integration. |
| WSM | Waterspace Management (USN term). |
| WSMC | Western Space and Missile Center, Vandenberg AFB, CA. |
| WSMR | (1) White Sands Missile Range, NM (2) Western Space and Missile Range. |
| WTA | Weapon Target Assignment. |
| WTO | Warsaw Treaty Organization. |
| WTP | Weapon Test Plan. |
| WTR | Western Test Range. |

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| WUC | Work Unit Code (ILS term). |
| WWABNCP | Worldwide Airborne Command Post. |
| WWG | Wideband Waveform Generator. |
| WWIMS | See Worldwide Indications Monitoring System. |
| WWMCCS | See World-Wide Military Command and Control System. |
| WWW | World Wide Web. |
| WX | Weather. |

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| X-ON/X-OFF | Transmitter On/Transmitter Off (Telecomm/Computer term). |
| X-Ray Laser (XRL) | A laser that generates a beam or beams of x-rays. Also called an "X-raser." |
| X-Rays | Electromagnetic radiation of high energy, which results from either the release of energy from electrons changing orbits about the nucleus (discrete) or the inelastic collision of charged particles with the electromagnetic field of the nucleus. X-rays have wavelengths shorter than those in the ultraviolet region, e.g., less than 10E-6 cm or 100 Angstroms. Materials at very high temperatures (millions of degrees) emit such radiations; they are then called thermal x-rays. As generally produced by x-ray machines, they are "bremsstrahlung" resulting from the interaction of electron of 1 kilo electron-volt or more energy with a metallic target. (See Electromagnetic Radiation and Thermal X-Rays.) |
| XBR | X-Band Radar. |
| XCVR | Transceiver. |
| XDS | Exoatmospheric Defense System. |
| XGA | Extended Graphics Array. |
| XIWT | Cross Industry Working Team. |
| XMTR/CVR | Transmitter/Receiver. |
| XO | Executive Officer. |
| XoDis | Exoatmospheric Discrimination. |
| XOX | Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (Office Code). |
| XRL | See X-Ray Laser. |
| XRS | USAF/ESC Staff Symbol. |
| XTB | Exoatmospheric Test Bed. |
| XTV | Experimental Test Vehicle. |
| Xwindows | Unix graphics interface. |
| Yield (or Energy Yield) | The total effective energy released in a nuclear (or atomic) explosion. It is usually expressed in terms of the equivalent tonnage of TNT required to produce the same energy release in an explosion. The total energy yield is manifested as nuclear radiation, thermal radiation, and shock (and blast) energy, the actual distribution being primarily dependent upon the medium in which the explosion occurs, as well as the type of weapon and the time after detonation. |
| Zero Point | The location of the center of a burst of a nuclear weapon at the instant of detonation. The zero point may be in the air or on or beneath the surface of land or water, dependent upon the type of burst; it is thus to be distinguished from ground zero. |
| ZIF | Zero Insertion Force. |
| ZULU | Time Zone Indicator for Universal Time. |

Units of Measurement

| <u>Keyword/Symbol</u> | <u>Unit Name</u> | <u>Aspect Measured</u> |
|-----------------------|--|---|
| [a] | ampere | electric current |
| [angstrom] | angstrom | length |
| [b] | bit | binary digit 0 or 1 |
| [bps] | bit per second | bit transfer rate |
| [C] | coulomb | electric charge |
| [c; Ci] | curie | radioactivity |
| [cal] | calorie | energy |
| [cal/sq cm] | calorie per square centimeter | energy per area |
| [chan] | channel | frequency path |
| [cm] | centimeter | length |
| [cu cm] | cubic centimeter | volume |
| [dB] | decibel | signal strength |
| [deg] | degree | plane angle |
| [deg K] | degree, Kelvin | temperature |
| [deg/s] | degree per second | plane angle change rate |
| [deg/s/s] | degree per second per second | slew acceleration |
| [diam] | diameter | length |
| [dyn] | dyne | force |
| [eV] | electron-volt | energy |
| [G] | gauss | magnetic flux density |
| [g] | 1) 9.808 meters per second per second; 2) gram | 1) gravitational acceleration constant; 2) mass |
| [GHz] | gigahertz | frequency |
| [Gy] | gray | absorbed dose |
| [h] | hour | time |
| [Hz] | hertz | frequency |
| [J] | joule | energy |
| [J-T] | Joule -Thomson | temperature change |
| [K] | Kelvin | temperature |
| [kA] | kiloampere | electric current |
| [kb] | kilobit | binary digit |
| [kb/s] | kilobit per second | velocity (binary digit) |
| [KeV] | kiloelectron-volt | energy |
| [kg/sq m] | kilogram per square meter | pressure |
| [KHz] | kilohertz | frequency |
| [kJ] | kilojoule | energy |
| [kJ/kg] | kilojoule per kilogram | specific energy |
| [kJ/sq cm] | kilojoule per square centimeter | laser lethality |
| [km] | kilometer | length |
| [km/s] | kilometer per second | velocity |
| [KT] | kiloton | yield |
| [kV] | kilovolt | electromotive force |
| [kW] | kilowatt | power |
| [kW/kg] | kilowatt per kilogram | specific power |

Keyword/Symbol Unit Name Aspect Measured

| | | |
|---------------|---|-------------------------|
| [kW/m] | kilowatt per meter | thermal transport |
| [kW/sq cm] | kilowatt per square centimeter | energy flux |
| [m] | meter | length |
| [Mbps] | megabit per second | bit transfer rate |
| [MeV] | megaelectron-volt | energy |
| [MFLOPS] | million floating point operations per second | processing performance |
| [MHz] | megahertz | frequency |
| [micro] | micro | a one-millionth part |
| [micron] | micrometer | length |
| [milli] | milli | a one-thousandth part |
| [mJ] | millijoule | |
| [min] | minute | time |
| [mips] | million instructions per second | processing speed |
| [MJ] | megajoule | energy |
| [mm] | millimeter | length |
| [mops] | million operations per second | processing performance |
| [mrad] | milliradian | plane angle |
| [m/s] | meter per second | velocity |
| [ms] | millisecond | time |
| [MT] | megaton | yield |
| [MV/m] | megavolt per meter | electric field strength |
| [MW] | megawatt | power |
| [MW/sr] | megawatt per steradian | laser brightness |
| [N-s] | newton-second | force |
| [ns] | nanosecond | frequency |
| [parsec] | parsec | astronomical distance |
| [Pa-s] | pascal-second | pressure |
| [R] | roentgen | radiation dose |
| [RAD] | rad | absorbed dose |
| [radian] | radian | plane angle |
| [rad/s] | radian per second | angular drift |
| [ratio] | percentage | efficiency |
| [rem] | rem | ionizing radiation |
| [s] | second | time |
| [sq m] | square meter | area |
| [sq m/yr] | square meter per year | area per time |
| [sr] | steradian | absorbed radiation dose |
| [mrad] | microradian | plane angle |
| [V] | volt | electromotive force |
| [W] | watt | power |
| [W/kg] | watt per kilogram | specific power |
| [W/sq cm] | watt per square centimeter | heat flux |
| [W/sq m] | watt per square meter | energy flux |
| [W/sr] | watt per steradian | radiant intensity |
| [W/sr sq m] | watt per steradian square meter | radiance |
| [yr] | year | time |