

## An Early List of Computer Acronyms

*(Use "Ctrl F" or "Apple F" to type in the acronym and "find" what you're looking for.)*

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| AAL      | ATM Adaptation Layer                               |
| AARP     | AppleTalk Address Resolution Protocol              |
| ABM      | Asynchronous Balance Mode (HDLC)                   |
| ABR      | Available Bit Rate                                 |
| AC       | Access Control (IEEE)                              |
| ACF      | Access Control Field (DQDB)                        |
| ACK      | Acknowledgment                                     |
| ADM      | Add/Drop Multiplexer                               |
| ADSL     | Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Links                |
| AIS      | Alarm Indication Signal (SONET)                    |
| ANI      | Automatic Number Identification                    |
| ANS      | American National Standards                        |
| ANSI     | American National Standards Institute              |
| API      | Application Programming Interface                  |
| APS      | Automatic Protection Switching                     |
| ARM      | Asynchronous Response Mode (HDLC)                  |
| ARP      | Address Resolution Protocol                        |
| Async    | Asynchronous                                       |
| ATM      | Asynchronous Transfer Mode                         |
| AU       | Access Unit (DQDB)                                 |
| AUI      | Attachment Unit Interface (Ethernet 802.3)         |
| B8ZS     | Bipolar with 8 Zero Substitution                   |
| BCC      | Block Check Characters                             |
| BCD      | Binary Coded Decimal                               |
| BECN     | Backward Explicit Congestion Notification (FR)     |
| Bellcore | Bell Communications Research                       |
| BER      | Bit Error Ratio or Rate                            |
| BGP      | Border Gateway Protocol                            |
| BIP      | Bit Interleaved Parity (8)                         |
| B-ISDN   | Broadband Integrated Services Digital Network      |
| B-NT     | Broadband Network Terminator                       |
| BO       | Bit Oriented (SONET)                               |
| BOC      | Bell Operating Company                             |
| BOM      | Beginning of Message (DQDB)                        |
| BootP    | Bootstrap Protocol                                 |
| bps      | Bits per second or bytes per second                |
| BRI      | Basic Rate Interface (ISDN)                        |
| BSC      | IBM's Binary Synchronous Communications protocol   |
| B-TA     | Broadband Terminal Adapter (ATM)                   |
| B-TE     | Broadband Terminal Equipment (ATM)                 |
| CAD/CAM  | Computer Aided Design/Computer Aided Manufacturing |
| CAN      | Customer Access Node (SMDS)                        |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| CBDS     | Connectionless Broadband Data Service                      |
| CBEMA    | Computer and Business Equipment Manufacturers Association  |
| CBR      | Constant Bit Rate  |
| CCI      | Carrier-to-Carrier Interface                               |
| CCITT    | Consultative Committee International Telegraph & Telephone |
| CD       | CountDown counter (DQDB)                                   |
| CE       | Connection Endpoint  |
| CEPT     | Conference on European Post & Telegraph                    |
| CIR      | Committed Information Rate (FR)                            |
| CL       | Connectionless (SONET)                                     |
| CLEC     | Competitive Local Exchange Carrier                         |
| CLLM     | Consolidated Link Layer Management (FR)                    |
| CLNP     | Connectionless Layer Network Protocol                      |
| CLNS     | ConnectionLess Network Service (OSI)                       |
| CLSF     | ConnectionLess Server Function (ITU-T)                     |
| CMIP     | Common Management Interface Protocol (ISO)                 |
| CMIS     | Common Management Information Service (ISO)                |
| CMISE    | CMIS Element (ISO)   |
| CMT      | Connection Management (FDDI)                               |
| CNMS     | Customer Network Management System                         |
| CO       | Central Office   |
| COAM     | Customer Owned and Maintained                              |
| COCF     | Connection-Oriented Convergence Function (DQDB)            |
| COM      | Continuation of Message (DQDB)                             |
| CONS     | Connection-Oriented Network Service (ITU-T)                |
| CPE      | Customer Premises Equipment                                |
| C/R      | Command/Response Indicator or bit                          |
| CRC      | Cyclic Redundancy Check or Test                            |
| CS       | Convergence Sublayer (DQDB)                                |
| CSMA/CD  | Carrier-Sense Multiple Access with Collision Detection     |
| CSU      | Channel Service Unit                                       |
| CTI      | Computer-to-telephony interface                            |
| DA       | Destination Address field                                  |
| DAL      | Dedicated Access Line                                      |
| DARPA    | Defense Advanced Research Program Agency                   |
| DARPAnet | Defense Advanced Research Program Agency network           |
| DAS      | Dual-Attach Station connection (FDDI)                      |
| DCE      | Data Communications Equipment                              |
| DCS      | Digital Cross-connect System                               |
| DDD      | Direct Distance Dialing                                    |
| DDS      | Digital Data Service                                       |
| DE       | Discard Eligibility (FR)                                   |
| DEC      | Digital Equipment Corporation                              |
| DH       | DMPDU Header (DQDB)  |
| DHCP     | Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol                        |
| DLCI     | Data Link Connection Identifier (FR)                       |
| DMPDU    | Derived MAC PDU (DQDB)                                     |
| DNIS     | Directory Number Information Service                       |
| DNS      | Distributed Naming Service                                 |

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| DPG     | Dedicated Packet Group (FDDI)                         |
| DoD     | Department of Defense                                 |
| DQDB    | Distributed Queue Dual Bus (IEEE)                     |
| DS0     | Digital Signal Level 0                                |
| DS1     | Digital Signal Level 1                                |
| DS3     | Digital Signal Level 3                                |
| DSAP    | Destination Service Access Point (LLC)                |
| DSG     | Default Slot Generator (DQDB)                         |
| DSP     | Digital Signal Processor                              |
| DSU     | Data Service Unit                                     |
| DT      | DMPDU trailer (DQDB)                                  |
| DTE     | Data Terminal Equipment                               |
| DTMF    | Dual Tone MultiFrequency                              |
| DVMRP   | Distance Vector MulticaRouting Protocol               |
| DXC     | Digital Cross-Connect                                 |
| DXI     | Data Exchange Interface (SMDS, ATM)                   |
| E1      | European Transmission Level 1                         |
| E3      | European Transmission Level 3                         |
| EA      | Extended Address                                      |
| ECN     | Explicit Congestion Notification (FR)                 |
| ECSA    | Exchange Carriers Standards Association               |
| ED      | End Delimiter (IEEE 802)                              |
| EDI     | Electronic Data Interchange (or document interchange) |
| EGP     | Exterior Gateway Protocol                             |
| EGRP    | Exterior Gateway Routing Protocol                     |
| EIA     | Electronics Industries Association                    |
| EIGRP   | Enhanced Interior Gateway Routing Protocol            |
| EIR     | Excess Information Rate                               |
| EMA     | Enterprise Management Architecture (DEC)              |
| EOM     | End Of Message  |
| EOT     | End Of Transmission                                   |
| ES      | End System (OSI)                                      |
| ESF     | Extended SuperFrame                                   |
| ES-IS   | End System-to-Intermediate System protocol (OSI)      |
| ETB     | End of Transmission Block                             |
| ETSI    | European Telecommunications Standards Institute       |
| ETX     | End of Text   |
| F       | Flag  |
| FC      | Frame Control field (FDDI)                            |
| FCS     | Frame Check Sequence (FR)                             |
| FDDI    | Fiber Distributed Data Interface (ANSI)               |
| FDDI-II | Fiber Distributed Data Interface Version II           |
| FDM     | Frequency Division Multiplexing                       |
| FEBE    | Far End Block Error                                   |
| FEC     | Forward Error Correction                              |
| FECN    | Forward Explicit Congestion Notification (FR)         |
| FERF    | Far End Reporting Failure                             |
| FIFO    | First In, First Out                                   |
| FM      | Frequency Modulation                                  |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| FOIRL     | Fiber-Optic InterRepeater Link (Ethernet 802.3)      |
| fps       | Frames per second                                    |
| FR        | Frame Relay  |
| FRAD      | Frame Relay Assembler/Disassembler, or Access Device |
| FS        | Frame Status field (FDDI)                            |
| FT1       | Fractional T1  |
| FTP       | File Transfer Protocol                               |
| Gbit      | Gigabits (billions of bits)                          |
| Gbps      | Gigabits per second (10 <sup>9</sup> bps)            |
| GFC       | Generic Flow Control                                 |
| GFID      | General Format Identifier                            |
| GFI       | General Format Identifier (X.25)                     |
| GGP       | Gateway-Gateway Protocol (DoD)                       |
| GOS       | Grade of Service                                     |
| GOSIP     | Government Open System Interconnection Profile       |
| GUI       | Graphical User Interface                             |
| HCS       | Header Check Sequence (DQDB)                         |
| HDTV      | High Definition TeleVision                           |
| HDLC      | High-Level Data Link Control (ISO)                   |
| HEC       | Header Error Control                                 |
| HOB       | Head of Bus (DQDB) A or B                            |
| HSRP      | Hot Standby Routing Protocol                         |
| HSSI      | High-Speed Serial Interface                          |
| HTML      | Hypertext Markup Language                            |
| HTTP      | Hypertext Trasfer Protocol                           |
| Hz        | Hertz or cycles per second                           |
| ICF       | Isochronous Convergence Function (DQDB)              |
| ICIP      | Inter-Carrier Interface Protocol (SMDS)              |
| ICMP      | Internet Control Message Protocol                    |
| IDRP      | InterDomain Routing Protocol                         |
| IEC       | InterExchange Carrier                                |
| IEEE      | Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers    |
| IETF      | Internet Engineering Task Force                      |
| IGP       | Interior Gateway Protocol                            |
| IGP       | Interior Gateway Routing Protocol                    |
| IGRP      | Interior Gateway Routing Protocol (CiscoŠ )          |
| ILMI      | Interim Local Management Interface                   |
| IMPDU     | Initial MAC Protocol Data Unit (DQDB)                |
| IMSSI     | Inter-MAN Switching System Interface (DQDB)          |
| I-MAC     | Isochronous Media Access Control (FDDI)              |
| intraLATA | intraLocal Access Transport Area                     |
| ISN       | Initial Sequence Number (DoD)                        |
| IP        | Internet Protocol (DoD)                              |
| IPCP      | Internet Protocol Control Protocol (DoD)             |
| IPX       | Internetwork Packet Exchange protocol (Novell)       |
| IS        | Intermediate System (OSI)                            |
| ISDN      | Integrated Services Digital Network                  |
| ISDU      | Isochronous Service Data Unit (DQDB)                 |
| IS-IS     | Intermediate System-to-Intermediate System (OSI)     |

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| ISO   | International Standards Organization                     |
| ISP   | Internet Service Protocol                                |
| ISSI  | Inter-Switching System Interface (SMDS)                  |
| ISU   | Isochronous Service User (SMDS)                          |
| IT    | Integrated Technology                                    |
| ITU   | International Telecommunications Union                   |
| ITU-T | ITU - Telecommunications standardization sector          |
| IVR   | Integrated Voice Recognition                             |
| IXC   | IntereXchange Carrier                                    |
| kbit  | kilobit (thousands of bits)                              |
| kbps  | kilobits per second (103 bps)                            |
| km    | kilometers (103 meters)                                  |
| LAN   | Local Area Network                                       |
| LANE  | LAN Emulation  |
| LAP-B | Link Access Procedure - Balanced (X.25)                  |
| LAP-D | Link Access Procedure - D Channel (ISDN/Frame Relay)     |
| LAP-F | Link Access Procedure - Frame Mode                       |
| LAT   | Local Area Transport protocol (DEC)                      |
| LATA  | Local Access Transport Area                              |
| LB    | Letter Ballot  |
| LCD   | Liquid Crystal Display                                   |
| LCGN  | Logical Channel Group Number                             |
| LCP   | Link Control Protocol                                    |
| LEC   | Local Exchange Carrier                                   |
| LECS  | LAN Emulation Configuration Server                       |
| LES   | LAN Emulation Server                                     |
| LLC   | Logical Link Control (IEEE 802.X)                        |
| LME   | Layer Management Entity (DQDB)                           |
| LMI   | Local Management Interface (FR)                          |
| LSB   | Least Significant Bit                                    |
| LT    | Line Termination   |
| LTE   | Line Terminating Equipment (SONET)                       |
| LU    | Logical Unit (SNA)                                       |
| m     | meter  |
| MAC   | Media Access Control (IEEE 802.X)                        |
| MAN   | Metropolitan Area Network (DQDB, FDDI)                   |
| Mbit  | Megabits (millions of bits)                              |
| Mbps  | Megabits per second (106 bps)                            |
| MCF   | MAC Convergence Function (DQDB)                          |
| MCP   | MAC Convergence Protocol (DQDB)                          |
| MHz   | Megahertz  |
| MIB   | Management Information Base (SNMP)                       |
| MIC   | Media Interface Connector (FDDI)                         |
| MID   | Message IDentifier (DQDB), Multiplexing IDentifier (ATM) |
| MIPS  | Millions of Instructions Per Second                      |
| MMF   | Multimode Fiber  |
| MOP   | Maintenance and Operation Protocol (DEC)                 |
| MOSPF | Multicast Open Shortest Path First                       |
| MPEG  | Motion Picture Encoding Group                            |

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| MPOA     | MultiprotocolOver ATM  |
| ms       | millisecond (one-thousandth of a second, 10 <sup>-3</sup> seconds) |
| μs       | microsecond (10 <sup>-6</sup> second)                              |
| MSAP     | MAC Service Access Point (SMDS)                                    |
| MSB      | Most Significant Bit   |
| MSDU     | MAC Service Data Unit (SMDS)                                       |
| MSS      | MAN Switching System (SMDS)  |
| MTU      | Maximum Transmission Unit  |
| MUX      | Multiplexer  |
| NANP     | North American Numbering Plan                                      |
| NBP      | Name Binding Protocol  |
| NCP      | Network Control Protocol or Point (SNA)                            |
| NE       | Network Element  |
| NetBIOS  | Network Basic Input/Output System protocol                         |
| NFS      | Network File Server  |
| nm       | nanometer (10 <sup>-9</sup> meter)                                 |
| NIC      | Network Interface Card   |
| NMP      | Network Management Process (SMDS)                                  |
| NMS      | Network Management System or Station                               |
| NNI      | Network-Node Interface (SONET)                                     |
| NNI      | Network-to-Network Interface (FR)                                  |
| NOS      | Network Operating System   |
| NP       | Network Performance  |
| NPA      | Numbering Plan Area  |
| NRM      | Normalized Response Mode (ISO)                                     |
| NRZ      | Non-return to zero   |
| NRZI     | Non-return to zero invert ones                                     |
| ns       | nanosecond (10 <sup>-9</sup> second)                               |
| NSAP     | Network Service Access Point                                       |
| NTx      | Network Termination x (where X = 1, 2, ...)                        |
| OAM      | Operations and Maintenance   |
| OC-N     | Optical Carrier Level N (SONET)                                    |
| OCR      | Optical Character Recognition                                      |
| OH       | Overhead   |
| OID      | Object Identifier (SNMP)   |
| OOF      | Out of Frame   |
| ONA      | Open Network Architecture  |
| OS       | Operating System   |
| OSI      | Open Systems Interconnection                                       |
| OSI CLNS | Connectionless Network System (OSI)                                |
| OSIRM    | OSI Reference Model  |
| OSPF     | Open Shortest Path First   |
| OTC      | Operating Telephone Company  |
| PA       | Prearbitrated segment or slot (DQDB)                               |
| PABX     | Private Automatic Branch Exchange                                  |
| PAD      | Packet Assembler/Disassembler (X.25)                               |
| PAF      | Prearbitrated Function (DQDB)                                      |
| PBX      | Private Branch Exchange  |
| PCN      | Personal Communications Network                                    |

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| PCR    | Peak Cell Rate  |
| PCS    | Personal Communications Services                        |
| PDC    | Packet Data Channel (FDDI)                              |
| PDH    | Plesiochronous Digital Hierarchy                        |
| PDN    | Public Data Network                                     |
| PDS    | Packet Driver Specification for public domain           |
| PDU    | Protocol Data Unit (IEEE)                               |
| Ph-SAP | Physical layer SAP (DQDB)                               |
| PHY    | Physical layer standard (FDDI)                          |
| PID    | Protocol IDentification                                 |
| PIM    | Protocol Independent Multicast                          |
| Ping   | Packet Internet Groper                                  |
| PIR    | Protocol Independent Routing                            |
| PL     | PAD Length (DQDB)                                       |
| PLCP   | Physical Layer Convergence Protocol (DQDB)              |
| PM     | Performance Monitoring                                  |
| PMD    | Physical Layer Medium Dependent standard (FDDI)         |
| POH    | Path Overhead (SONET)                                   |
| POI    | Path Overhead Identifier (DQDB)                         |
| PON    | Passive Optical Network                                 |
| PoP    | Point of Presence                                       |
| POTS   | Plain Old Telephone Service                             |
| PPP    | Point-to-Point Protocol (Internet)                      |
| Pps    | Packets per second                                      |
| PRI    | Primary Rate Interface (ISDN)                           |
| PSPDN  | Packet-Switched Public Data Network                     |
| PT     | Payload Type  |
| PTE    | Path-Terminating Equipment (PTE)                        |
| PTT    | Postal, Telegraph & Telephone Ministry/Administration   |
| PU     | Physical Unit (SNA)                                     |
| PVC    | Permanent Virtual Circuit or Channel (FR, X.25)         |
| QA     | Queued Arbitrated (DQDB) segment, slot, access function |
| QAF    | Queued Arbitrated Function (DQDB)                       |
| QoS    | Quality of Service                                      |
| QPSX   | Queued Packet and Synchronous Exchange                  |
| RBOC   | Regional Bell Operating Company                         |
| RCP    | Remote Console Protocol (DEC)                           |
| RDI    | Remote Defect Indication (ATM)                          |
| REJ    | Reject frame  |
| RFC    | Request for Comments                                    |
| RIP    | Routing Information Protocol                            |
| RISC   | Reduced Instruction Set Computer                        |
| RJE    | Remote Job Entry  |
| RMT    | Ring Management (FDDI)                                  |
| RNR    | Receive Not Ready                                       |
| RQ     | Request Counter (DQDB)                                  |
| RR     | Receive Ready frame                                     |
| RSVP   | Resource Reservation Protocol                           |
| RTMP   | Routing and Management Protocol (Apple)                 |

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| RTP    | Routing Update Protocol                               |
| s      | second  |
| SA     | Source Address field                                  |
| SAP    | Service Access Point (ISO)                            |
| SAPI   | Service Access Point Identifier (ISO)                 |
| SAR    | Segmentation and Re-assembly (ATM)                    |
| SAS    | Single-Attach Station connection (FDDI)               |
| SD     | Start Delimiter                                       |
| SDH    | Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (ITU-T)                 |
| SDLC   | Synchronous Data Link Control protocol (IBM)          |
| SDU    | Service Data Unit (DQDB)                              |
| SES    | Severely Errored Seconds                              |
| SF     | SuperFrame  |
| SIG    | SMDS Interest Group                                   |
| SIP    | SMDS Interface Protocol (SMDS)                        |
| SIR    | Sustained Information Rate (SMDS)                     |
| SMDS   | Switched Multimegabit Data Service                    |
| SMF    | Single-Mode Fiber                                     |
| SMT    | System Management protocol (FDDI)                     |
| SMTP   | Simple Mail Transfer Protocol                         |
| SN     | Sequence Number                                       |
| SNA    | System Network Architecture (IBM)                     |
| SNAP   | SubNetwork Access Protocol (SMDS)                     |
| SNI    | Subscriber Network Interface (SMDS)                   |
| SNMP   | Simple Network Management Protocol (DoD)              |
| SOH    | Section Overhead                                      |
| SONET  | Synchronous Optical Network (ANSI)                    |
| SPE    | Synchronous Payload Envelope (SONET)                  |
| SPF    | Shortest Path First protocol                          |
| SPM    | FDDI-to-SONET Physical Layer Mapping standard         |
| SQL    | Structured Query Language                             |
| SREJ   | Select Reject frame                                   |
| SRT    | Source Route Transparent protocol                     |
| SS     | Switching System (SMDS)                               |
| SSAP   | Source Service Access Point (LLC)                     |
| SSCOP  | Service-Specific Connection Oriented Protocol (ATM)   |
| SSCS   | Service-Specific Convergence Sublayer (ATM)           |
| STE    | Section Terminating Equipment (SONET)                 |
| STM    | Synchronous Transfer Mode or Station Management (SDH) |
| STM-n  | Synchronous Transport Module level n (SDH)            |
| STP    | Shielded Twisted Pair                                 |
| STP    | Spanning Tree Protocol (IEEE 802.1d)                  |
| STS-n  | Synchronous Transport Signal Level n (SONET)          |
| STS-Nc | Concatenated Synchronous Transport Signal Level N     |
| SVC    | Switched Virtual Circuit or Signaling Virtual Channel |
| SYN    | Synchronous Idle                                      |
| t      | time  |
| TA     | Terminal Adapter                                      |
| TAPI   | Telephony Application Program Interface               |



|        |   |
|--------|---|
| TC     | Transmission Convergence sub-layer of PHY layer (ATM) |
| TCP    | Transmission Control Protocol (DoD)                   |
| TCP/IP | Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (DoD) |
| TDM    | Time Division Multiplexing                            |
| TDMA   | Time Division Multiple Access                         |
| TE     | Terminal Equipment                                    |
| TP     | Transport Protocol (CCITT)                            |
| TP4    | Transport Protocol Class 4 (ISO)                      |
| TR     | Technical Report                                      |
| TSAPI  | Telephony Services Application Programmers Interface  |
| UBR    | Unspecified Bit Rate                                  |
| UDP    | User Datagram Protocol (DoD)                          |
| UNI    | User-to-Network Interface                             |
| UNMA   | Unified Network Management Architecture (AT&T)        |
| UTP    | Unshielded Twisted Pair                               |
| VBR    | Variable Bit Rate                                     |
| VC     | Virtual Channel or Virtual Call                       |
| VCC    | Virtual Channel Connection                            |
| VCI    | Virtual Channel or Circuit Identifier (DQDB)          |
| VC-n   | Virtual Container-n (SDH)                             |
| VLSI   | Very Large Scale Integration                          |
| VP     | Virtual Path (ATM)                                    |
| VPI    | Virtual Path Identifier (ATM)                         |
| VPN    | Virtual Private Network                               |
| VT     | Virtual Tributary (SONET)                             |
| VTx    | VT of size x (currently x = 1.5, 2, 3, 6)             |
| VTx-Nc | Concatenated Virtual Tributary (SONET)                |
| WAN    | Wide Area Network                                     |
| XNS    | Xerox Network Systems protocol (XEROX)                |
| ZIP    | Routing and Management protocol (Apple)               |

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