

AVIATION REFERENCE MATERIAL

Abbreviations

Bureau of Meteorology › Aviation Meteorological Services

A	Altitude	FEW	Few (cloud amount description: 1 -2 octas)
ABV	Above	FIR	Flight Information Region
AERIS	Automatic En Route Information Service	FL	Flight Level
AIP	Aeronautical Information Publication	FM	From
AIRMET	Airmen's meteorological information of significance to lighter aircraft, and not already included in the relevant Area Forecast.	FRQ	Frequent
AIREP	A report from an aircraft in flight	FT	Feet
AMD	Amend(ment)	G	Gust
AMDAR	Automated Meteorological Data Relay	GR	Hail
APRX	Approximate or approximately	GS	Small Hail
ARP	AIREP (a report from an aircraft in flight)	HVY	Heavy
ARS	AIREP Special (a special report from an aircraft in flight)	HF	High frequency
ATIS	Automatic Terminal Information Services	ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ATS	Air Traffic Service	ICE	Icing
AUTO	Automatic METAR/SPECI	IFR	Instrument Flight Rules
AVFAX	Aviation Facsimile System	INTER	Intermittent (i.e. lasting less than 30 minutes) Fluctuations From Forecast Prevailing Conditions
AWIS	Automated Weather Information Service	INTSF	Intensifying
AWC	Aviation Weather Centre	ISOL	Isolated
AWS	Automatic Weather Station	KMH	Kilometres per hour
BKN	Broken (cloud amount description: 5 - 7 octas)	KT	Knots
BLW	Below	LOC	Location
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology	M	Minus
CA/GRS	Certified Air/Ground Radio Service	MAX	Maximum
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority	MET	Meteorology
CAT	Clear Air Turbulence	METAR	Meteorological Aerodrome Report
CAVOK	Cloud and Visibility OK	MO	Meteorological Office
CLD	Cloud	MOD	Moderate
CLR	Clear	MOV	Move or moving or movement
CNL	Cancelled	MPS	Metres per second
DECTALK	Automated briefing service	MSL	Mean Sea Level
DS	Duststorm	MT	Mount
EMBD	Embedded	MTW	Mountain Wave
ERSA	Enroute Supplement Australia	MWO	Meteorological Watch Office
FAC	Facilities	NAIPS	National Aeronautical Information Processing System
FCST	Forecast	NC	No Change



NCD	No Cloud Detected (by cloud sensor)	SWH	Significant Weather Prognosis High
NM	Nautical miles	SWM	Significant Weather Prognosis Medium
NOTAM	Notice to Airmen	TAF	Aerodrome Forecast
NOSIG	No Significant Change	TC	Tropical Cyclone
NSW	No Significant Weather	TEMPO	Temporary (i.e. lasting 30 or more but less than 60 minutes) Fluctuations From Forecast Prevailing Conditions
OBS	Observed	TILL	Until
OBSC	Obscured	TOP	Cloud top height
OVC	Overcast (cloud amount description)	TS	Thunderstorm
PCA	Planning Chart Australia	TTF	Trend Forecast
PROB 30	30% Probability of Occurrence of Forecast Phenomenon	TURB	Turbulence
QNH	Altimeter Setting (to indicate height above MSL)	UNICOM	A Non-ATS Communications Service Provided by Airservices (may include general weather reports)
RAAF	Royal Australian Air Force	UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
RE	Recent	VA	Volcanic Ash
RF	Rainfall	VACC	Volcanic Ash Advisory Centre
RFC	Regional Forecast Centre	VFR	Visual Flight Rules
RMK	Remark(s)	VMC	Visual Meteorological Conditions
RSWT	Route Sector Winds and Temperatures	VOLMET	Routine broadcast containing aviation weather reports and warnings.
SAR	Search and Rescue	VRB	Variable
SCT	Scattered (cloud amount: 3 - 4 octas)	WAFC	World Area Forecast Centre
SEV	Severe	WAFS	World Area Forecast System
SFC	Surface	WI	Within (area)
SIG	Significant	WKN	Weakening
SIGMET	Significant Meteorological Information	WS	Wind Shear
SKC	Sky Clear	WX	Weather
SPECI	Special Meteorological Aerodrome Report	Z	Code for UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)
SQL	Squall Line		
SS	Sandstorm		
STNR	Stationary		



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology

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The Australian Bureau of Meteorology provides a wide range of observations, synoptic charts, satellite and radar images, forecast and warnings via the internet at www.bom.gov.au.

A vertical line in the margin indicates a text amendment since last update.