

SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEM INDUSTRY ACRONYMS

1. GENERAL SUBMARINE CABLE SYSTEM

Acronym	Meaning
SCS	Submarine Cable System
SFOC	Submarine Fiber Optic Cable
CLS	Cable Landing Station
BMH	Beach Manhole
OGB	Ocean Ground Bed
HDD	Horizontal Directional Drilling
DWDM	Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing
WDM	Wavelength Division Multiplexing
SDM	Space Division Multiplexing
FP	Fiber Pair
OF	Optical Fiber
BU	Branching Unit
RLU	Reconfigurable Line Unit
RU	Repeater Unit
HLLB	High Loss Loopback
ILA	In-Line Amplifier
PFE	Power Feed Equipment
SLTE	Submarine Line Terminal Equipment
NMS	Network Management System
EMS	Element Management System
OSS	Operations Support System
NOC	Network Operations Center
DCN	Data Communications Network

2. OPTICAL COMPONENTS

Acronym	Meaning
EDFA	Erbium-Doped Fiber Amplifier
EDF	Erbium-Doped Fiber
VOA	Variable Optical Attenuator
VOAU	Variable Optical Attenuator Unit
OADM	Optical Add-Drop Multiplexer
ROADM	Reconfigurable Optical Add-Drop Multiplexer
MUX	Multiplexer
DEMUX	Demultiplexer
OSC	Optical Supervisory Channel
OSA	Optical Spectrum Analyzer
OTDR	Optical Time Domain Reflectometer
C-OTDR	Coherent Optical Time Domain Reflectometer
BER	Bit Error Rate
FEC	Forward Error Correction
OSNR	Optical Signal-to-Noise Ratio
SNR	Signal-to-Noise Ratio
PMD	Polarization Mode Dispersion
CD	Chromatic Dispersion
DCF	Dispersion Compensating Fiber
GFF	Gain Flattening Filter
ASE	Amplified Spontaneous Emission
Raman	Raman Amplification
DSP	Digital Signal Processor

3. CABLE CONSTRUCTION

Acronym	Meaning
LW	Lightweight Cable
LWP	Lightweight Protected Cable
SA	Single Armored
DA	Double Armored
DAH	Double Armored High Protection
PE	Polyethylene
CU	Copper Conductor
SS	Stainless Steel Tube
FRP	Fiber Reinforced Plastic
HDPE	High Density Polyethylene

4. MARINE INSTALLATION

Acronym	Meaning
CS	Cable Ship
CLV	Cable Laying Vessel
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
AUV	Autonomous Underwater Vehicle
CPT	Cable Plow Tow
PLGR	Plough Grapnel Run
PGR	Pre-Lay Grapnel Run
PLIB	Post-Lay Inspection and Burial
LBL	Long Baseline Navigation
USBL	Ultra Short Baseline
DGPS	Differential GPS
MBES	Multibeam Echo Sounder
SSS	Side Scan Sonar
SBP	Sub-Bottom Profiler
TMS	Tether Management System
RPL	Route Position List
RPLM	Route Position List Marker
KP	Kilometer Point
ECR	Engineering Change Request

5. TESTING & COMMISSIONING

Acronym	Meaning
FAT	Factory Acceptance Test
SAT	Site Acceptance Test
PAT	Power Acceptance Test
ATP	Acceptance Test Procedure
IOT	Integrated Operational Test
ORT	Operational Readiness Test
BERT	Bit Error Rate Test
OPM	Optical Power Meter
VFL	Visual Fault Locator

6. POWER SYSTEM

Acronym	Meaning
HVDC	High Voltage Direct Current
CC	Constant Current
CV	Constant Voltage
SE	Sea Earth
MEA	Marine Earth Electrode
HV	High Voltage
LV	Low Voltage
CPC	Copper Power Conductor

7. NETWORK & CAPACITY

Acronym	Meaning
IRU	Indefeasible Right of Use
SLA	Service Level Agreement
QoS	Quality of Service
MPLS	Multi-Protocol Label Switching
OTN	Optical Transport Network
SDH	Synchronous Digital Hierarchy
SONET	Synchronous Optical Network
Ethernet	IEEE 802.3 Ethernet
100GE	100 Gigabit Ethernet
400GE	400 Gigabit Ethernet
800GE	800 Gigabit Ethernet
Tbps	Terabits per Second
Gbps	Gigabits per Second

8. SURVEY & MARINE OPERATIONS

Acronym	Meaning
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
EBS	Environmental Baseline Survey
G&G	Geophysical & Geotechnical Survey
ROVSV	ROV Support Vessel
CSV	Construction Support Vessel
DP	Dynamic Positioning
DP2	Dynamic Positioning Class 2
DP3	Dynamic Positioning Class 3
AIS	Automatic Identification System
ENC	Electronic Navigational Chart

9. RELIABILITY & MAINTENANCE

Acronym	Meaning
MTBF	Mean Time Between Failures
MTTR	Mean Time To Repair
RFS	Ready For Service
O&M	Operations & Maintenance
PM	Preventive Maintenance
CM	Corrective Maintenance
RCA	Root Cause Analysis
MOP	Method of Procedure
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure

10. INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

Acronym	Meaning
ICPC	International Cable Protection Committee
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
TE SubCom	TE Connectivity SubCom
ASN	Alcatel Submarine Networks
NEC	NEC Corporation (Submarine Networks)

11. COMMERCIAL & REGULATORY

Acronym	Meaning
EPC	Engineering, Procurement & Construction
CAPEX	Capital Expenditure
OPEX	Operating Expenditure
EBITDA	Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation & Amortization
MSA	Master Services Agreement
NDA	Non-Disclosure Agreement
LOI	Letter of Intent
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
PPA	Project Participation Agreement
SPA	Supply Purchase Agreement
RFP	Request for Proposal
RFQ	Request for Quotation
PO	Purchase Order

12. ADVANCED OPTICAL & TRANSMISSION

Acronym	Meaning
C+L	Combined C-Band and L-Band operation
PCS	Probabilistic Constellation Shaping
QPSK	Quadrature Phase Shift Keying
8QAM	8-Level Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
16QAM	16-Level Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
64QAM	64-Level Quadrature Amplitude Modulation
GSNR	Generalized Signal-to-Noise Ratio
EGN	Enhanced Gaussian Noise Model
SD-FEC	Soft Decision Forward Error Correction
PM-QPSK	Polarization Multiplexed QPSK
PM-16QAM	Polarization Multiplexed 16QAM
OTN	Optical Transport Network
ODU	Optical Data Unit
OTU	Optical Transport Unit

Note: This list contains over 120 of the most frequently used acronyms across submarine cable engineering, marine installation, optical transmission, testing, operations, and commercial management.