

Acronyms

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| 3G | Third Generation Mobile |
| ACT | Action for Children's Television |
| AMARC | World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters |
| ANATEL | Brazilian Telecom Regulator |
| AOL | America Online |
| ARPU | Average Revenue Per User |
| ASEAN | Association of South East Asian Nations |
| AT&T | American Telephone and Telegraph |
| AU\$ | Australian Dollar |
| B2B | Business-to-business |
| B2C | Business-to-consumer |
| BBC | British Broadcasting Corporation |
| CALEA | Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (US) |
| CANTO | Caribbean Association of National Telecommunication Organizations |
| CARICOM | Caribbean Community |
| CBC | Canadian Broadcasting Corporation |
| CCF | China-China-Foreign (policy and financing model) |
| CCIR | Comité Consultatif International des Radio Communications (International Radio Consultative Committee), now ITU-R (see below) |
| CCITT | Comité Consultatif International de Télégraphique et Téléphonique (International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee), now ITU-T (see below) |
| CD | Compact Disc |
| CELAET | Center of Latin American Studies of Economics of Telecommunications |

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| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| CERN | China Educational Research Network |
| CII | Critical Information Infrastructure |
| CIRCIT | Centre for International Research on Communication and Information Technologies (Australia) |
| CLEC | Competitive Local Exchange Carrier |
| CPNP | Calling Party Network Pays |
| CPQD | National Institute of Telecom Technology (Brazil) |
| CPB | Corporation for Public Broadcasting |
| CPR | Communication Policy Research |
| CRTC | Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission |
| CSIRO | Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation |
| CTI | Center for Tele-Information (at the Technical University of Denmark) |
| CTU | Caribbean Telecommunication Union |
| DECT | Digital European Cordless Telecommunications |
| DG | Directorate General (European Commission) |
| DSL | Digital Subscriber Line |
| ESRC | Economic and Social Research Council (UK) |
| EU | European Union |
| FBI | Federal Bureau of Investigation (US) |
| FCC | Federal Communications Commission (US) |
| FUNTTTEL | Technology Research Fund (Brazil) |
| G-8 | Group of Eight (Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Russia and the United States) |
| GATS | General Agreement on Trade in Services |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| GILC | Global Internet Liberty Campaign |
| GMPCS | Global Mobile Personal Communications by Satellite |
| GSM | Global System for Mobile Communications |
| HEI | Higher Education Institution |

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|-----------|---|
| IBM | International Business Machines |
| ICANN | Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers |
| ICT | Information and Communication Technology |
| IFRB | International Frequency Regulation Board |
| ILEC | Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers |
| IMCs | Independent Media Centres |
| IP | Internet Protocol |
| IS | Information Society |
| ISP | Internet Service Provider |
| IST | Information Society Technology |
| IT | Information Technology |
| ITAP | Information Technology Advisory Panel (UK) |
| ITU | International Telecommunication Union |
| ITU-D | ITU Development Sector |
| ITU-R | ITU Radiocommunication Sector |
| ITU-T | ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector |
| IXC | Interexchange Carrier |
| KPN | Koninklijke PTT Nederland (Royal Dutch Postservices) Former Dutch PTT |
| LIRNE.NET | Learning Initiatives for Reforms in Network Economies |
| M&A | Merger and Acquisition |
| MCI | Formerly Microwave Communications Inc., then MCI, now Worldcom |
| MII | Ministry of Information Industry (China) |
| MIT | Massachusetts Institute of Technology |
| NAB | National Association of Broadcasters (US) |
| NPR | National Public Radio (US) |
| NPV | Net Present Value |
| NRA | National Regulatory Authority (or Agency) |
| NTT | Nippon Telephone and Telegraph (Japan) |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| OFTEL | Office of Telecommunications (UK) |

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|--------|---|
| ONP | Open Network Provision |
| OPTA | Onafhankelijke Post en Telecommunicatie Autoriteit, Netherlands (Dutch Regulator) |
| PBS | Public Broadcasting Service (US) |
| PC | Personal Computer |
| PICT | Programme on Information and Communication Technologies (UK) |
| PSTN | Public Switched Telephone Network |
| R&D | Research and Development |
| RBHC | Regional Bell Holding Company |
| RCA | Radio Corporation of America |
| SIM | Subscriber Interface Module |
| SPRU | Science and Technology Policy Research, University of Sussex (UK) |
| TCI | Tele-Communications, Inc |
| TNC | Transnational Corporation |
| UMTS | Universal Mobile Telecommunication Service |
| UN | United Nations |
| UNDP | United Nations Development Program |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNICEF | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund |
| US\$ | US dollar |
| USAID | US Agency for International Development |
| USO | Universal Service Obligation |
| VoIP | Voice over Internet Protocol |
| VSAT | Very Small Aperture Terminal |
| WAP | Wireless Application Protocol |
| WB | World Bank |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| WLL | Wireless Local Loop |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |
| Y2K | Year 2000 |