



Designation: **D1600—14 D1600 – 18**

Standard Terminology for Abbreviated Terms Relating to Plastics¹

This standard is issued under the fixed designation D1600; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reappraisal. A superscript epsilon (ϵ) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reappraisal.

This standard has been approved for use by agencies of the U.S. Department of Defense.

1. Scope*

1.1 The purpose of this terminology is to provide uniform contractions of terms relating to plastics. Abbreviated terminology has evolved through widespread common usage. This compilation has been prepared to avoid both the occurrence of more than one abbreviated term for a given plastics term and multiple meanings for abbreviated terms.

1.2 The scope of these abbreviated terms includes plastics terms pertaining to composition and relating to type or kind according to mode of preparation or principle distinguishing characteristics. Also included are abbreviated terms for terms relating to copolymers, blends and alloys of plastics, and additives such as plasticizers, fillers, etc.

NOTE 1—A code relating to the composition of rubbers is given in Practice **D1418**.

1.3 No attempt is made here to systematize formally a shorthand terminology for polymers. Terminology, including nomenclature, codes, symbols, and formula designations for use in scientific literature in the field of natural and synthetic polymers, are being studied and standardized by the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.²

1.4 These abbreviated terms are by no means all-inclusive of plastics terminology. They represent, in general, those terms that have come into established use. Since it is recognized that abbreviated terms serve no useful purpose unless they are generally accepted and used, no attempt has been made to establish a rigorous code for devising standard abbreviated terms. This would result in awkward departures from established usage of existing and accepted abbreviated terms and lead to cumbersome combinations in the future, which would not be likely to receive widespread acceptance. The abbreviated terms now in use have grown naturally out of the need for convenient, readily comprehended shorthand for long chemical names. This process can be expected to continue along the natural lines of least resistance and will serve as a basis for further standardization as the need arises. A general guide for the preparation of abbreviated terms appears desirable, however, to facilitate more organized and uniform standardization in the future. An appendix is attached, which suggests a uniform way to prepare abbreviated terms.

1.5 Note that the uppercase letter F should be used to designate phosphate and that other elements may also be designated F.

1.6 An abbreviated term (FR) and code numbers are provided to identify classes of materials used as flame retardants added to plastics. The system is provided for use in situations where marking of plastics products is desired.

NOTE 2—Many of the abbreviated terms, codes, numbers, and symbols in ISO 1043 parts 1 through 4 and in ISO/DIS 1043-4 are the same as the corresponding item in ASTM D1600. D1600 includes a number of abbreviated terms that are not in ISO 1043.

1.7 This international standard was developed in accordance with internationally recognized principles on standardization established in the Decision on Principles for the Development of International Standards, Guides and Recommendations issued by the World Trade Organization Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) Committee.

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 *ASTM Standards*:³

[D883 Terminology Relating to Plastics](#)

[D1418 Practice for Rubber and Rubber Latices—Nomenclature](#)

[D1972 Practice for Generic Marking of Plastic Products \(Withdrawn 2014\)](#)⁴

¹ This terminology is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee **D20** on Plastics and is the direct responsibility of Subcommittee **D20.92** on Terminology. Current edition approved Feb. 1, 2014/Jan. 1, 2018. Published March 2014/February 2018. Originally approved in 1958. Last previous edition approved in 2013/2014 as **D1600 – 13; D1600 – 14**. DOI: [10.1520/D1600-14](https://doi.org/10.1520/D1600-14); [10.1520/D1600-18](https://doi.org/10.1520/D1600-18).

² "Report on Nomenclature in the Field of Macromolecules," *Journal of Polymer Science*, Vol VIII, 1952, pp. 257–277.

³ For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

⁴ The last approved version of this historical standard is referenced on www.astm.org.

*A Summary of Changes section appears at the end of this standard

E176 Terminology of Fire Standards

2.2 ISO Standards:⁵

ISO 472:1988 Plastics—Vocabulary

ISO 1043-1:2001 Plastics—Symbols—Part 1: Basic Polymers and Their Special Characteristics

ISO 1043-2:2000 Plastics—Symbols—Part 2: Fillers and Reinforcing Materials

ISO 1043-3:1996 Plastics—Symbols—Part 3: Plasticizers

ISO 1043-4:1998 Plastics—Symbols and Abbreviated Terms—Part 4: Flame Retardants

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of general terms, see Terminology D883.

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 For definitions of general terms, see Terminology D883.

3.2 Definitions of Terms Specific to This Standard:

3.2.1 *flame retardant, FR, n*—a substance that markedly retards the propagation of a flame. (See ISO 472.) which, when added to a combustible material, inhibits flame spread of the resulting substance or material when exposed to flame impingement. (E176)

3.2.1.1 Discussion—

Flame retardants may be incorporated in plastics as additives (external(additive flame retardant) or as chemical groups in the base polymer by use of reactive intermediates in the polymerization process (internal(reactive flame retardant). The code numbers in Section 7 of this standard are restricted to externaladditive flame retardants.

3.2.2 *flame retardant, adj*—not a defined term. Use only as a modifier with defined compound terms: flame-retardant chemical, flame-retardant coating, and flame-retardant treatment. (E176)

4. Terms and Abbreviated Terms

4.1 Plastics and Resins:⁶

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|--|------------------|
| Acrylonitrile/butadiene plastics | AB |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-acrylate plastics | ABA |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics | ABS |
| Acrylonitrile-chlorinated polyethylene-styrene plastics | ACPES |
| Acrylonitrile-ethylene-styrene plastics | AES |
| Acrylonitrile-methyl acrylate-acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber | AMAB |
| Acrylonitrile-methyl methacrylate plastics | AMMA |
| Acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate plastics | ASA |
| Acrylonitrile/ethylene-propylene-diene/styrene | AEPDMS |
| Aromatic polyester | ARP |
| Carboxymethyl cellulose | CMC |
| Casein | CS |
| Caseine-formaldehyde resin | CSF |
| Cellulose acetate | CA |
| Cellulose acetate-butyrate | CAB |
| Cellulose acetate propionate | CAP |
| Cellulose formaldehyde | CEF |
| Cellulose nitrate | CN |
| Cellulose plastics, general | CE |
| Cellulose propionate | CP |
| Cellulose triacetate | CTA |
| Chlorinated poly(vinyl chloride) | CPVC |
| Chlorinated polyethylene | CPE |
| Cresol-formaldehyde resin | CF |
| Epoxy, epoxide | EP |
| Ethyl cellulose | EC |
| Ethylene acrylate | EA |
| Ethylene-chlorotrifluoroethylene copolymer | E-CTFE |
| Ethylene-ethyl acrylate plastics | EEA |
| Ethylene-methacrylic acid plastics | EMA |
| Ethylene-propylene polymer | EPM |

⁵ Available from American National Standards Institute (ANSI), 25 W. 43rd St., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10036, <http://www.ansi.org>.

⁶ To prevent any confusion with or misuse of the registered trademark, PET[®] Milk, the guidelines of 8.1 shall be followed.

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|--|------------------|
| Ethylene-propylene-diene plastics | EPD |
| Ethylene-tetrafluoroethylene copolymer | ETFE |
| Ethylene-vinyl acetate plastics | EVA |
| Ethylene-vinyl alcohol copolymer | EVOH |
| Fluorocarbon perfluoromethoxy | MPA |
| Furan formaldehyde resin | FF |
| General purpose polystyrene | GPPS |
| High density polyethylene plastics | HDPE |
| High impact-resistant polystyrene | HIPS |
| Impact resistant polystyrene | IPS |
| Linear low density polyethylene plastics | LLDPE |
| Linear medium density polyethylene plastics | LMDPE |
| Liquid crystal polymer | LCP |
| Low density polyethylene plastics | LDPE |
| Medium density polyethylene plastics | MDPE |
| Melamine-formaldehyde resin | MF |
| Melamine/phenol-formaldehyde resin | MPF |
| Methacrylate-butadiene-styrene plastics | MBS |
| Methyl cellulose | MC |
| Methyl methacrylate-acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resin | MMABS |
| Nylon (see also polyamide) | PA |
| Perfluoro(alkoxy alkane) | PFA |
| Perfluoro(ethylene-propylene) copolymer | FEP |
| Perfluoromethoxy resin | MFA |
| Phenol-formaldehyde resin | PF |
| Phenol-furfural resin | PFF |
| Poly(acrylic acid) | PAA |
| Poly(allyl diglycol carbonate) | PADC |
| Poly(aryl ether ketone) | PAEK |
| Poly(butyl acrylate) | PBA |
| Poly(butylene adipate-co-succinate) | PBAS |
| Poly(butylene adipate-co-terephthalate) | PBAT |
| Poly(butylene succinate) | PBS |
| Poly(butylene terephthalate) | PBT |
| Poly(cyclohexylenedimethylene cyclohexandicarboxylate), glycoland acid comonomer | PCCE |
| Poly(cyclohexylenedimethylene terephthalate) | PCT |
| Poly(cyclohexylenedimethylene terephthalate), acid comonomer | PCTA |
| Poly(cyclohexylenedimethylene terephthalate), glycol | PCTG |
| Poly(diallyl phthalate) | PDAP |
| Poly(ester urethane) | PAUR |
| Poly(ether block amide) | PEBA |
| Poly(ether sulfone) | PES |
| Poly(ether urethane) | PEUR |
| Poly(ethylene furanoate) | PEF |
| Poly(ethylene oxide) | PEOX |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate) | PET ⁶ |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate) acid comonomer | PETA |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate) glycol comonomer | PETG |
| Poly(lactic acid) | PLA |
| Poly(methyl methacrylate) | PMMA |
| Poly(methyl methacrylimide) | PMMI |
| Poly(methyl- α -chloroacrylate) | PMCA |
| Poly(phenyl sulfone) | PPSU |
| Poly(phenylene ether) (or Poly(phenylene oxide), a deprecated term) | PPE |
| Poly(phenylene sulfide) | PPS |
| Poly(phenylene sulfone) | PPSU |
| Poly(propylene oxide) | PPOX |
| Poly(vinyl acetate) | PVAC |
| Poly(vinyl alcohol) | PVOH |
| Poly(vinyl butyral) | PVB |
| Poly(vinyl carbazole) | PVK |
| Poly(vinyl chloride) | PVC |
| Poly(vinyl chloride-acetate) | PVCA |
| Poly(vinyl fluoride) | PVF |

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|--|------------------|
| Poly(vinyl formal) | PVFM |
| Poly(vinyl pyrrolidone) | PVP |
| Poly(vinylidene chloride) | PVDC |
| Poly(vinylidene fluoride) | PVDF |
| Poly(ϵ -caprolactone) | PCL |
| Poly-4-methylpentene-1 | PMP |
| Poly- α -methylstyrene | PMS |
| Poly-p-oxybenzoate | POB |
| Polyacrylonitrile | PAN |
| Polyamide (nylon) | PA |
| Polyamide 10 | PA10 |
| Polyamide 1010 | PA1010 |
| Polyamide 11 | PA11 |
| Polyamide 12 | PA12 |
| Polyamide 1212 | PA1212 |
| Polyamide 46 | PA46 |
| Polyamide 410 | PA410 |
| Polyamide 6 | PA6 |
| Polyamide 610 | PA610 |
| Polyamide 612 | PA612 |
| Polyamide 66 | PA66 |
| Polyamide 69 | PA69 |
| Polyamide 6I | PA6I |
| Polyamide 6T | PA6T |
| Polyamide-imide | PAI |
| Polyarylate | PAR |
| Polyaryl amide | PARA |
| Polyarylether | PAE |
| Polyarylsulfone | PAS |
| Polybutadiene-acrylonitrile | PBAN |
| Polybutadiene-styrene | PBS |
| Polybutene-1 | PB |
| Polycarbonate | PC |
| Polychlorotrifluoroethylene | PCTFE |
| Polyester alkyd (or polyacrylate) | PAK |
| Polyetheretherketone | PEEK |
| Polyetheretherketoneketone | PEEKK |
| Polyetherketoneetherketoneketone | PEKEKK |
| Polyetherketoneketone | PEKK |
| Polyetherimide | PEI |
| Polyetherketone | PEK |
| Polyethylene | PE |
| Poly(ethylene naphthalate) | PEN |
| Polyhydroxy butyrate | PHB |
| Polyimide | PI |
| Polyimidesulfone | PISU |
| Polyisobutylene | PIB |
| Polyisocyanurate | PIR |
| Polyketone | PK |
| Polymethacrylimide | PMI |
| Polyoxymethylene, polyacetal | POM |
| Polyphenylene | PPH |
| Polyphthalamide | PPA |
| Polypropylene | PP |
| Homopolymer polypropylene | HPP |
| Random copolymer polypropylene | RPP |
| Impact copolymer polypropylene | CPP |
| Polystyrene | PS |
| Polysulfone | PSU |
| Polytetrafluoroethylene | PTFE |
| Polyurethane | PUR |
| Saturated polyester plastic | SP |
| Silicone plastics | SI |
| Styrene- α -methylstyrene plastic | SMS |
| Styrene-acrylonitrile plastic | SAN |
| Styrene-butadiene plastic | SB |
| Styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer | SBS |
| Styrene-ethylene/butylene-styrene block copolymer | SEBS |
| Styrene-ethylene/propylene-styrene block copolymer | SEPS |
| Styrene-isoprene-styrene block copolymer | SIS |
| Styrene-maleic anhydride plastics | S/MA |
| Styrene-rubber plastics | SRP |
| Thermoplastic elastomer | TPE |
| Thermoplastic elastomer, ether-ester | TEEE |

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|---|---------------------|
| Thermoplastic elastomer, fully crosslinked elastomer alloy | FCEA |
| Thermoplastic elastomer, highly crosslinked thermoplastic vulcanizate | HCTPV |
| Thermoplastic elastomer, olefinic | TEO |
| Thermoplastic elastomer, polyether block amide | PEBA |
| Thermoplastic elastomer, styrenic | TES |
| Thermoplastic elastomer styrenic, saturated | TESS |
| Thermoplastic elastomer styrenic, unsaturated | TESU |
| Thermoplastic polyester | TPES |
| Thermoplastic polyester: | |
| Copolyester [poly(aryl terephthalate)] | ARP |
| Polyarylate [poly(aryl terephthalate)]—liquid crystal polymer | PAT |
| Thermoplastic polyurethane | TPU |
| Thermoplastic polyurethane, reinforced | RTPU |
| Thermoplastic starch | TPS |
| Thermoset polyurethane | TSPU |
| Ultra-high molecular weight polyethylene | UHMWPE |
| Unsaturated polyester | UP |
| Urea-formaldehyde resin | UF |
| Vinyl chloride-ethylene resin | VCE |
| Vinyl chloride-ethylene-methyl acrylate resin | VCEMA |
| Vinyl chloride-ethylene-vinyl acetate resin | VCEVAC |
| Vinyl chloride-methyl acrylate resin | VCMA |
| Vinyl chloride-methyl methacrylate resin | VCMMA |
| Vinyl chloride-octyl acrylate resin | VCOA |
| Vinyl chloride-vinyl acetate resin | VCVAC |
| Vinyl chloride-vinylidene chloride resin | VCVDC |
| Vinylidene fluoride | VDF |

4.2 Blends and Alloys of Plastics:

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|---|------------------------|
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-acrylate plastics + poly(methyl methacrylate) | ABA+PMMA |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-acrylate plastics+poly(vinyl chloride) | ABA+PVC |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-acrylate plastics+polycarbonate | ABA+PC |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+poly(vinyl chloride) | ABS+PVC |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+polyphenylene sulfone | ABS+PPSU |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+polytetrafluoroethylene | ABS+PTFE |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+styrene maleic anhydride | ABS+SMA |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+thermoplastic polyurethane | ABS+TPU |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+polyamide | ABS+PA |
| Acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene plastics+polycarbonate | ABS+PC |
| Acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate plastics+poly(methyl methacrylate) | ASA+PMMA |
| Acrylonitrile-styrene-acrylate plastics+polycarbonate | ASA+PC |
| Fully crosslinked elastomeric alloy | FCEA |
| Poly(butylene terephthalate)+poly(ethylene terephthalate) | PBT+PET ⁶ |
| Poly(butylene terephthalate)+rubber | Abbreviated PBT+RBR |
| Poly(ethylene naphthalate) | PEN |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate)+poly(methyl methacrylate) | PET ⁶ +PMMA |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate)+poly(phenylene sulfone) | PET ⁶ +PPSU |
| Poly(ethylene terephthalate)+rubber | PET ⁶ +RBR |
| Poly(phenylene ether)+impact resistant polystyrene | PPE+IPS |
| Poly(phenylene sulfide)+polytetrafluoroethylene | PPS+PTFE |
| Poly(vinyl chloride)+chlorinated polyethylene | PVC+CPE |
| Poly(vinyl chloride)+nitrile-butadiene rubber | PVC+NBR |
| Poly(vinyl chloride)+poly(methyl methacrylate) | PVC+PMMA |
| Poly(vinyl chloride) plastics+polyurethane | PVC+PUR |
| Polyamide (amorphous) blend | PA + |

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|--|---------------------|
| Polyamide plastics+ethylene-methacrylic acid (ionomer) | PA+EMA |
| Polyamide+poly(phenylene ether) | PA+PPE |
| Polyamide+polyethylene | PA+PE |
| Polyamide+rubber | PA+RBR |
| Polyamide+styrene-acrylonitrile plastics | PA+SAN |
| Polycarbonate+poly(butylene terephthalate) | PC+PBT |
| Polycarbonate+poly(ethylene terephthalate) | PC+PET ⁶ |
| Polycarbonate+polyethylene | PC+PE |
| Polycarbonate+styrene-maleic anhydride | PC+SMA |
| Polycarbonate+thermoplastic polyurethane | PC+TPU |
| Polyoxymethylene+polytetrafluoroethylene | POM+PTFE |
| Polyoxymethylene+rubber | POM+RBR |
| Polyurethane+polyisocyanate | PUR+PIR |
| Styrene-maleic anhydride plastics+impact resistant polystyrene | SMA+IPS |
| Thermoplastic elastomer-chlorinated ethylene alloy | TECEA |

NOTE 3—In general, blends and alloys of plastics shall be identified as Abbreviation 1+ Abbreviation 2 + Abbreviation n, where abbreviation n represents the abbreviation for component n, and the percentage, by weight, of component 1> the percentage, by weight of component 2> the percentage, by weight of component n.

4.3 Plastic and Resin Additives:

| Term | Abbreviated Term |
|--|------------------|
| Alkylsulfonic acid ester | ASE |
| Benzyl butyl phthalate | BBP |
| Benzyl octyl adipate (benzyl 2-ethylhexyl adipate) | BOA |
| Benzyl octyl phthalate (benzyl 2-ethylhexyl phthalate) | BOP |
| Di-n-octyl phthalate | DNOP |
| Dibutylphthalate | DBP |
| Dibutyl sebacate | DBS |
| Dicapryl phthalate | DCP |
| Dicylohexyl phthalate | DCHP |
| Didecyl phthalate | DDP |
| Diethyl phthalate | DEP |
| Diheptyl phthalate | DHP |
| Dihexyl phthalate | DHXP |
| Diisobutyl phthalate | DIBP |
| Diisodecyl adipate | DIDA |
| Diisodecyl phthalate | DIDP |
| Diisooctyl phthalate | DIHP |
| Diisohexyl phthalate | DIHXP |
| Diisononyl adipate | DINA |
| Diisononyl phthalate | DINP |
| Diisooctyl adipate | DIOA |
| Diisooctyl phthalate | DIOP |
| Diisopentyl phthalate | DIPP |
| Diisotridecyl phthalate | DITDP |
| Dimethyl phthalate | DMP |
| Dinonyl phthalate | DNP |
| Diethyl adipate | DOA |
| Diethyl azelate | DOZ |
| Diethyl isophthalate (di-2-ethylhexyl isophthalate) | DOIP |
| Diethyl phthalate | DOP |
| Diethyl sebacate | DOS |
| Diethyl terephthalate (di-2-ethylhexyl terephthalate) | DOTP |
| Diphenyl octyl phosphate | DPOF |
| Diphenyl cresyl phosphate | DPCF |
| Diphenyl 2-ethylhexyl phosphate | DPOF |
| Diundecyl phthalate | DUP |
| Epoxidized linseed oil | ELO |
| Epoxidized soya bean oil | ESO |
| Heptyl nonyl undecyl adipate | HNUA |
| Heptyl nonyl undecyl phthalate | HNUP |
| Hexyl octyl decyl adipate | HXODA |
| Hexyl octyl decyl phthalate | HXODP |
| n-Octyl decyl trimellitate | ODTM |
| Nonyl undecyl adipate | NUA |
| Nonyl undecyl phthalate | NUP |