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## Glossary of Terms

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### A

**ATTENUATOR.** A device for reducing the strength of an incoming signal. This is achieved by means of a set of resistors. Each device is impedance specific, and not interchangeable.

### B

**BINDING POST ADAPTOR.** A device which has a connector at one end and a 4mm plug receptacle at the other which has a cross hole drilled in it, and an insulated knob which is screwed down to capture a test cable.

**BULKHEAD CONNECTORS.** These are connectors which are retained in a panel by means of a single nut at the front or rear of the connector. They generally have what is referred to as a D flat on the mount thread which prevents the connector rotating in the panel.

**BULKHEAD PLUG.** A plug (male) connector which is retained in a panel by means of a single mount hole and nut. Can be both spill and cable entry types.

**BULKHEAD JACK.** A jack (female) connector which is retained in a panel by means of a single mount hole and nut. These are cable entry connectors, for solder spill types, see BULKHEAD SOCKETS.

**BULKHEAD SOCKETS.** A jack (female) receptacle with a solder spill which is retained in a panel by means of a single hole and nut.

### C

**CABLE ASSEMBLIES.** This is an assembly consisting of a piece of cable which is terminated on at least one end with a connector. The impedance of the assembly is determined by the choice of cable.

**CABLE ENTRIES.** These are currently unique to our 7-16 range and are used in conjunction with a Combi-connector to make up straight and/or right angle connectors.

**COMBI-CONNECTORS.** These are connector mating faces only, plugs, jacks, and panel jacks which are assembled with a cable entry to make up a complete connector in either straight or right angle configuration.

**CRIMP.** This is a method of terminating a connector onto a piece of cable by means of a special set of pliers known as a crimp tool. It does not require a soldering iron, and is there

fore quicker to assemble. It is however not possible to re-work the connector once assembled.

### D

**DIRECT SOLDER.** A means of attaching a connector to Semi-Rigid cables. The centre contact and connector housing are both soldered in this case.

**DUST CAP (& CHAIN).** These are empty shells of connectors, both plugs and jacks which are used to protect the mating face of a connector on a panel when not in use. They are available both with and without chains.

### E

**ELBOW (RIGHT ANGLE) CONNECTORS.** These are connectors where the mating face is at 90 degrees to the cable entry/connection point.

**ELBOW JACKS.** These are cable entry jack (female) connectors where the mating face is at 90 degrees to the cable entry point. These would be used in an application where there is limited space behind the equipment.

**ELBOW PLUG.** These are plug (male) connectors where the mating face is at 90 degrees to the cable entry point. These would be used in an application where there is limited space behind the equipment.

### F

**FEEDTHROUGH.** This is a device for passing a cable through a panel. It does not have a connector mating face and is both bulkhead single hole and nut, and panel multi hole and screw mountable.

**FIXED ADAPTOR.** This is a double-ended device for joining two cable assemblies, which is mounted into a panel. This can be either bulkhead single hole and nut or panel, multi hole and screw mounted. The connector can have any combination of plug and jack mating faces.

**FREE ADAPTOR.** This is a device for joining two cable assemblies, which do not have to be retained. The adaptors will have a combination of mating faces and can be both straight or right angle (elbow).

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**FREQUENCY.** This is the measurement of the signal which is being passed and refers to the number of signal pulses per second (Hz).

### I

**IMPEDANCE.** A piece of cable acts like a resistor when inserted into a circuit, the value of this resistance is measured in Ohms per metre. The higher the impedance the greater the signal loss over a measured distance. To obtain the best possible performance from a connector cable combination, the connector should match as closely as possible the impedance of the cable. i.e. 50 Ohm connectors are used with 50 Ohm cable.

**INTER-SERIES.** A term used for adaptors which join connectors of differing ranges together i.e. N to BNC.

### L

**LAUNCHER.** This is a special device for use in Wireless Applications which offers a means of terminating an impedance matched circuit to an external port. There are three main methods for mounting which is Bulkhead, Panel and Press-Fit.

### P

**PANEL JACK.** This is a jack (female) connector that has a flange for fixing to a panel. The flange will typically have either 2 or 4 holes. The connector is cable entry terminated.

**PANEL PLUG.** This is a plug (male) connector that has a flange for fixing to a panel. The flange will typically have either 2 or 4 holes. The connector can be either cable entry or solder spill terminated.

**PANEL SOCKET.** This is a female connector that has a flange for fixing to a panel. The flange will typically have either 2 or 4 holes. The connector is solder spill terminated.

**PCB PLUG.** This is a male connector that is mounted directly onto a printed circuit board. This helps to reduce interference and signal loss. There are exceptions to this rule in the sub-miniature ranges, (SMB/SMC) where the contacts are female.

**PCB SOCKET.** This is a female connector that is mounted directly onto a printed circuit board. This helps to reduce interference and signal loss. There are exceptions to this rule in the sub-miniature ranges, (SMB/SMC) where the contacts are male.

**PLUG LAUNCHER.** This is similar to the PANEL PLUG connector in that it has a flange for mounting it to a panel, however in this case the contact detail at the rear of the connector is to a special design requirement, and may also include an extended Dielectric (Insulator). There are three basic forms of contact detail for launchers these are:- Slotted, stub, or tab. This device does NOT use the solder spill configuration.

**PRESS-FIT.** This is a means by which a connector is fitted to a panel or cabinet. The connector has no flange or mount thread, instead it has an external knurled area. This holds the connector in position when assembled.

### S

**SEALED CONNECTORS.** This term refers to the sealing of the connector housing and single path from the elements. This is achieved by use of special gaskets both inside and outside of the connector.

**SOCKET LAUNCHER.** This is similar to the PANEL SOCKET connector in that it has a flange for mounting it to a panel, however in this case the contact detail at the rear of the connector is to a special design requirement and may also include an extended Dielectric (Insulator). There are three basic forms of contact detail for launchers these are:- Slotted, stub, or tab. This device does NOT use the solder spill configuration.

**SOLDER CLAMP.** A means for attaching a connector to a cable. The centre contact is soldered to the centre conductor, and braid is clamped by means of a nut and gasket.

**STRAIGHT JACK.** This is a jack (female) connector for terminating on to a cable. It normally has a female centre pin, and an external method of connecting it to a mating half. There are exceptions to this rule in the sub-miniature ranges, (SMB/SMC) where the contacts are female.

**STRAIGHT PLUG.** This is a plug (male) connector for terminating onto a cable. It normally has a male centre pin, and an integral method of connecting it to a mating half. There are exceptions to this rule in the sub-miniature ranges, (SMB/SMC) where the contacts are female.

**STUB TUNER.** This is a device for Wireless Applications which is used to protect a transmitter or receiver from Lightning strikes. This is achieved by means of a Stub at right angles to the signal path which absorbs the pulse as it comes down the line. The device is frequency specific.

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**SURGE ARRESTOR.** A device that contains a special element for preventing damage to a system when it is struck by lightning. In this unit there is a special ceramic capsule which contains a non-radioactive gas. When the unit to which it is fixed is struck, the gas evaporates and causes a break in the signal path, thus preventing damage to the system.

### T

**TERMINATION.** A device plug or jack which is fitted with a resistor instead of a cable entry. The purpose of this is to create a return loop for network systems to maintain the flow of information.

### U

**U-LINK.** This is a special device that is used to link to ports together which have a fixed distance between them. Typical Applications include DDFs for Telecoms, and Wireless base stations.

### V

**V.S.W.R.** Voltage standing wave reflection (Ratio). This is the measurement of the effect that the connector has on the signal path. When a signal meets a connector, the join can never be perfect as a result of which some of it is reflected back up the line.