

Speak the same language across teams

Use this cheat sheet to facilitate better communication across facilities, finance, energy managers, and leadership teams. Move past the acronym alphabet soup!

ENERGYCAP[®]

HVAC

Systems & equipment

HVAC: Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning
AHU: Air Handling Unit
RTU: Rooftop Unit
VAV: Variable Air Volume
CAV: Constant Air Volume
FCU: Fan Coil Unit
DOAS: Dedicated Outdoor Air System
MAU: Make-Up Air Unit
ERV: Energy Recovery Ventilator
HRV: Heat Recovery Ventilator

Heating & cooling equipment

DX: Direct Expansion
HP: Heat Pump
GSHP: Ground Source Heat Pump
ASHP: Air Source Heat Pump
VRF: Variable Refrigerant Flow
VRV: Variable Refrigerant Volume
CH: Chiller
CT: Cooling Tower
HX: Heat Exchanger
WSHP: Water Source Heat Pump

Controls, automation, & monitoring

BAS: Building Automation System
BMS: Building Management System
DDC: Direct Digital Control
EMS: Energy Management System
PID: Proportional-Integral-Derivative (control loop)
OAT: Outside Air Temperature
RAT: Return Air Temperature
SAT: Supply Air Temperature
DAT: Discharge Air Temperature
SP: Setpoint

Performance metrics

EER: Energy Efficiency Ratio
SEER: Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio
COP: Coefficient of Performance
kW: Kilowatt
kWh: Kilowatt-hour
BTU: British Thermal Unit
MBH: Thous& BTUs per Hour
ΔT: Temperature Differential
ESP: External Static Pressure
TAB: Testing, Adjusting, & Balancing

Airflow & ventilation

CFM: Cubic Feet per Minute
ACH: Air Changes per Hour
OA: Outdoor Air
RA: Return Air
SA: Supply Air
EA: Exhaust Air
MERV: Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value
CO₂: Carbon Dioxide
RH: Relative Humidity
IAQ: Indoor Air Quality

ACCOUNTING

Financial statements

GAAP: Generally Accepted Accounting Principles
IFRS: International Financial Reporting Standards
FS: Financial Statements
BS: Balance Sheet
IS: Income Statement
P&L: Profit & Loss
CF: Cash Flow
COGS: Cost of Goods Sold
GP: Gross Profit
NI: Net Income

Assets, liabilities & equity

AR: Accounts Receivable
AP: Accounts Payable
FA: Fixed Assets
CA: Current Assets
CL: Current Liabilities
LT: Long-Term
A/P: Accounts Payable
A/R: Accounts Receivable
RE: Retained Earnings
PPE: Property, Plant, & Equipment

Compliance & operations

SOX: Sarbanes-Oxley Act
ASC: Accounting Standards Codification
GL: General Ledger
JE: Journal Entry
TB: Trial Balance
AJE: Adjusting Journal Entry
ICFR: Internal Control over Financial Reporting
KPI: Key Performance Indicator
T&E: Travel & Entertainment
FP&A: Financial Planning & Analysis

Cash & budgets

FCF: Free Cash Flow
WC: Working Capital
VAR: Variance
YTD: Year to Date
MTD: Month to Date
QTD: Quarter to Date
ROI: Return on Investment
ROA: Return on Assets
ROE: Return on Equity
IRR: Internal Rate of Return

Revenue, expenses & profitability

REV: Revenue
EXP: Expenses
EBIT: Earnings Before Interest & Taxes
EBITDA: Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation & Amortization
OPEX: Operating Expenses
CAPEX: Capital Expenditures
SG&A: Selling, General & Administrative
D&A: Depreciation & Amortization
NOPAT: Net Operating Profit After Tax
GM: Gross Margin

UTILITY BILLING

Account & meter

Acct #: Account Number
Svc: Service
Prem: Premise
Loc ID: Location ID
Meter #: Meter Number
MTU: Meter Transmission Unit
Read Dt: Read Date
Prev Rd: Previous Reading
Curr Rd: Current Reading
Days: Billing Days

Units

kWh: Kilowatt-hour
kW: Kilowatt (Dem&)
Therm: Natural Gas Unit
CCF: Hundred Cubic Feet
MCF: Thous& Cubic Feet
Dth: Dekatherm
Gal: Gallons
kGal: Thous& Gallons
CF: Cubic Feet
MBtu: Million British Thermal Units

Rates & charges

TOU: Time of Use
On-Pk: On-Peak
Off-Pk: Off-Peak
Mid-Pk: Mid-Peak
kW Dem: Kilowatt Dem&
Max Dem: Maximum Dem&
Rat Sch: Rate Schedule
FAC: Fuel Adjustment Charge
PCA: Power Cost Adjustment
Dem & Chg: Demand Charge

Taxes & fees

T&D: Transmission & Distribution
Dist Chg: Distribution Charge
Trans Chg: Transmission Charge
French Fee: Franchise Fee
Env Chg: Environmental Charge
Rider: Rate Rider
Adj: Adjustment
Late Fee: Late Payment Fee
Tax: Sales/Utility Tax
Bal Fwd: Balance Forward

Power quality

PF: Power Factor
LF: Load Factor
ICAP: Installed Capacity
NCAP: Network Capacity
PLC: Peak Load Contribution
ESCO: Energy Service Company
REC: Renewable Energy Certificate
GHG: Greenhouse Gas
CO₂e: Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
EUI: Energy Use Intensity

Reporting

ESG: Environmental, Social, & Governance
CSR: Corporate Social Responsibility
CSRD: Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (EU)
GRI: Global Reporting Initiative
SASB: Sustainability Accounting Standards Board
TCFD: Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures
ISSB: International Sustainability Standards Board
SEC: Securities & Exchange Commission

Finance

TCM: Transition Carbon Metric
ETS: Emissions Trading System
CBAM: Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
IRA: Inflation Reduction Act
SFDR: Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (EU)

CAPEX: Capital Expenditures (sustainability investments)
OPEX: Operating Expenses
ROI: Return on Investment
KPIs: Key Performance Indicators
RFP: Request for Proposal

Carbon & emissions

GHG: Greenhouse Gas
CO₂e: Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
Scope 1: Direct Emissions
Scope 2: Indirect Energy Emissions
Scope 3: Value Chain Emissions
NDC: Nationally Determined Contribution
IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
GWP: Global Warming Potential
LCA: Life Cycle Assessment

Efficiency

RE: Renewable Energy
REC: Renewable Energy Certificate
PPA: Power Purchase Agreement
EE: Energy Efficiency
EUI: Energy Use Intensity
NZ: Net Zero
ZEB: Zero Energy Building
LEED: Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design
BREEAM: Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method
ASHRAE: American Society of Heating, Refrigerating & Air-Conditioning Engineers

Environmental management

EMS: Energy Management System
ISO: International Organization for Standardization
ISO 14001: Environmental Management Standard
EHS: Environment, Health, & Safety
EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment
WRI: World Resources Institute
SBTi: Science Based Targets initiative
GHGP: Greenhouse Gas Protocol

Building & end-use

BE: Building Electrification
EE: Energy Efficiency
HP: Heat Pump
ASHP: Air Source Heat Pump
GSHP: Ground Source Heat Pump
DHP: Ductless Heat Pump
ERWH: Electric Resistance Water Heater
HPWH: Heat Pump Water Heater
IH: Induction Heating
1EWH: Electric Water Heater

Transportation

EV: Electric Vehicle
BEV: Battery Electric Vehicle
PHEV: Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle
HEV: Hybrid Electric Vehicle
EVSE: Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment
L1/L2: Level 1/Level 2 Charging
DCFC: DC Fast Charging
V2G: Vehicle-to-Grid
V2B: Vehicle-to-Building
V2H: Vehicle-to-Home

Grid & infrastructure

DER: Distributed Energy Resource
DR: Demand Response
AMI: Advanced Metering Infrastructure
BESS: Battery Energy Storage System
T&D: Transmission & Distribution
ISO: Independent System Operator
RTO: Regional Transmission Organization
PCC: Point of Common Coupling
SCADA: Supervisory Control & Data Acquisition
PF: Power Factor

Energy markets & rates

TOU: Time-of-Use
CPP: Critical Peak Pricing
RTP: Real-Time Pricing
NEM: Net Energy Metering
PPA: Power Purchase Agreement
REC: Renewable Energy Certificate
GEC: Green-e Energy Certificate
IRA: Inflation Reduction Act
ITC: Investment Tax Credit
PTC: Production Tax Credit

Policy & planning

NZ: Net Zero
GHG: Greenhouse Gas
CO₂e: Carbon Dioxide Equivalent
SBTi: Science Based Targets initiative
EUI: Energy Use Intensity
LCOE: Levelized Cost of Energy
IECC: International Energy Conservation Code
NEVI: National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
BPS: Building Performance Standard
IRA Rebates: Inflation Reduction Act Consumer Rebates