

A	Aeroplane
AAIB	Air Accidents Investigation Branch of the United Kingdom. Also referring to the English name of the BFU (<i>Büro für Flugunfalluntersuchungen</i>), i.e. the STSB as it was known formerly (Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau)
ACM	Accountable manager
ACR	Aerobatics
AD	Airworthiness directive
AFM	Aircraft flight manual
AG	<i>Aktiengesellschaft</i> , public limited company
AGL	Above ground level
AIP	Swiss Aeronautical Information Publication, contains information for safe flight operations that is valid indefinitely
AIRMET	AIRMET and SIGMET are standardised warnings about hazardous weather elements. AIRMET focuses on VFR flights in the lower air space; SIGMET on IFR operations in the upper air space. See https://www.skybrary.aero/index.php/AIRMET For Switzerland (in French, Italian and German only) see https://www.meteosuisse.admin.ch/content/dam/meteoswiss/fr/service-und-publicationen/publikationen/doc/MCH_Flugwetter_2019_F_Web.pdf
Albedo	Percentage of backscattered solar radiation from the surface See UK MetOffice Glossary https://digital.nmla.metoffice.gov.uk/digital-File_92185bd2-3849-4bfb-8196-cb7a941489c7/ or https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/atmosphere/albedo
AMC	Acceptable means of compliance
AMP	Aircraft maintenance programme
AMSL	Above mean sea level
AOC	Air operator certificate
Aqua	One of the polar orbiter satellites, which observe the Earth from an altitude of about 700 km and thus provide medium-resolution images. This, however, can occur only once or twice a day for a specific location. https://aqua.nasa.gov/
ARC	Airworthiness review certificate
ARO	Authority requirements for air operations
Assimilation	Important step for the selection and preparation of data used in forecast models See https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/services/data/business-data/glossary
ATC	Air traffic control
ATPL(A)	Airline transport pilot licence aeroplane
ATS	Air traffic services
BA	Bank attitude
BAMF	<i>Bundesamt für Militärflugplätze</i> , Federal Office for Military Aerodromes
BAZL	<i>Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt</i> , Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
BEA	<i>Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'Analyses pour la Sécurité de l'Aviation Civile</i> , the French safety investigation authority
BEM	Basic empty mass
BFU	<i>Büro für Flugunfalluntersuchungen</i> , former German name of the Swiss Transportation Safety Investigation Board (STSB), Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau of Switzerland

BR	Propeller blade rate
CAME	Continuing airworthiness management exposition, manual for managing an aircraft's continued airworthiness
CAMO	Continuing airworthiness management organisation
CASA	<i>Construcciones Aeronáuticas Sociedad Anónima</i> , former Spanish aircraft manufacturer
CAT	Commercial air transport
CB	A cumulonimbus is a high reaching cumulus with an anvil-shaped top, usually generating a thunderstorm. High reaching cumuli without anvil are called TCUs (towering cumuli). In flying, TCUs and CBs often get mixed up. See https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/en/home.html or https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/clouds/low-level-clouds/cumulonimbus and https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/clouds
CEST	Central European summer time (UTC plus two hours)
CFD	Computational fluid dynamics: a branch of science that, with the help of computers, produces simulations of different fluids' flow (gases and liquids) behaviour
CG	Centre of gravity
CMD	Commander
CMM	Compliance monitoring manager
CofA	Certificate of airworthiness
COSMO	Consortium for Small-scale Modeling https://www.meteoswiss.admin.ch/home/measurement-and-forecasting-systems/warning-and-forecasting-systems/cosmo-forecasting-system.html
CR	Cylinder rate
CRM	Crew resource management
CSR	Crank shaft rate
CT	Computed tomography, an imaging procedure used in radiology; objects can be viewed three-dimensionally on a computer
CTR	Control zone
Cumulus, Cumuli	The technical term for cauliflower-shaped heap clouds, which are formed by isolated rising air parcels. Cooling during the ascent causes previously invisible water vapour to condense. A cumulus with a flat base (lower limit) is still active; a decaying one with an undefined base is no longer fed by updraughts. See also https://cloudatlas.wmo.int/en/home.html or https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/clouds/low-level-clouds/cumulus and https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/weather/types-of-weather/clouds
CVR	Cockpit voice recorder
Diurnal variation	A fluctuation of, for example, temperature or atmospheric pressure that occurs over the course of a diurnal rhythm
Density altitude	The altitude relative to the ICAO standard atmosphere at which the air density would be equal to that at the location under consideration. Instead of mentioning the explicit air density, the altitude at which this density would normally occur in the standard atmosphere is stated.
DME	Distance measuring equipment, a transponder-based measuring system for the slant range distance from a beacon

EASA	European Union Aviation Safety Agency, formerly the European Aviation Safety Agency (prior to September 2018)
EASA-OPS	Colloquial term for the rules laid down in European Regulation 965/2012
EC	European Community
EDTG	ICAO code for Bremgarten Airport (Germany)
EEC	European Economic Community
ELBA	Emergency locator beacon aircraft, an emergency transmitter carried on an aircraft
ESD	Electrostatic discharge
ETE	Estimated time elapsed
ETO	Estimated time overhead
EU	European Union
EUMETSAT	International organisation for the operation of European weather satellites https://www.eumetsat.int
EU-OPS	Colloquial term for the rules laid down in European Regulation 3922/91, amended by European Regulation 859/2008
FDM	Flight data monitoring
FDR	Flight data recorder
FI	Flight instructor
FIS-LW	Air Force command and information system
FL	Flight level
FOCA	Federal Office of Civil Aviation, <i>Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt (BAZL)</i>
FOQA	Flight operations quality assurance, a system where flights and their parameters such as position, altitude, speed, bank attitude, etc. are recorded, analysed and compared against a standard benchmark; a common synonym for flight data monitoring (FDM) in American English
FOR	Zurich Forensic Science Institute
FPA	Flight path angle: the angle between the tangent to the flight path and the horizontal plane in the geodetic coordinate system
ft AMSL	Feet above mean sea level
ft/min	Feet per minute, a unit of measurement for vertical speed
GAFOR	General aviation forecast for the weather conditions prevailing along the main VFR flight routes in Switzerland
GEN	General requirements
GIN	<i>Gemeinsame Informationsplattform Naturgefahren</i> , Common Information Platform for Natural Hazards https://www.natural-hazards.ch/home/about-us/federal-agencies-with-responsibility-for-natural-hazards.html
GM	Guidance material
GND	Ground
GoPro	A type of robust and weatherproof small action camera used for video recording
GPS	Global Positioning System, a satellite-based navigation system
GS	Ground speed, speed of the aircraft in relation to the ground over which it is flying, i.e. in relation to the geodetic coordinate system
Gust, gusts	Gusts, also referred to as turbulence, are deviations from the average wind speed, which can have both positive and negative values. Information on

	gusts in aviation weather reports (code G), however, denote the wind speed in wind peaks (positive gusts).
Heap cloud	See cumulus
Histogram	A bar chart that shows the relative or absolute number of classed values
Hotspot	An identified high-risk flight situation
hPa	Hectopascal (100 Pa), the internationally standardised unit of pressure; 1 hPa corresponds to 1 millibar (mbar), a unit that is also still widely used
Hz	Hertz, the unit of measurement for frequency, expressing the number of oscillations per second
IAS	Indicated airspeed
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
IDE	Instruments, data, equipment
IFR	Instrument flight rules
IMC	Instrument meteorological conditions
Interpolation	The insertion of an intermediate value calculated between two supporting values (e.g. from a table); this can be either a simple linear interpolation or based on an algorithm adapted to the data set
ISA	International standard atmosphere according to the ICAO
Isotherm	Lines of equal temperature on a corresponding diagram
Isothermal layer	A layer of air in which the temperature does not change with altitude; an isothermal layer is a stable layer (see neutral stratification)
ISP	In-flight service personnel, flight attendant
JAA	Joint Aviation Authorities
JAR-OPS 1	Joint aviation requirements for operations
JFM	Junkers Flugzeug- und Motorenwerke AG
Joint	The Ju 52/3m g4e is designed as an all-metal aircraft featuring a truss-construction airframe. The spars are connected to each other with cross bracings and struts. The connection points are called joints.
JU-OPF	Ju-Air's flight planning software
kt	A unit of speed commonly used in aviation; 1 kt = 1 nautical mile per hour = 1.852 km/h = 0.5144 m/s
Lee	The side sheltered from the direction of the air current; concerning wind, lee in relation to a northerly wind is located on the southern side of the crest (see windward)
LES	Large eddy simulation, a simulation similar to CFD; see also PALM
Lidar	Laser detection and ranging – a measuring system that emits laser pulses and evaluates the backscattered light from the atmosphere, in this case with regard to the Doppler effect; in this investigation, it was used for the three-dimensional measurement of wind above the site; https://www.zxlidars.com/wind-lidars/zx-300/
LSMD	ICAO code for Dübendorf Air Base
LSMM	ICAO code for Meiringen Air Base
LSZA	ICAO code for Lugano Airport
LSZC	ICAO code for Buochs Airport
LSZH	ICAO code for Zurich Airport
LSZL	ICAO code for Locarno Aerodrome
LSZT	ICAO code for Lommis Airfield

LTA	<i>Lufttüchtigkeitsanweisung</i> , airworthiness directive issued by a supervisory authority
m AMSL	Height (altitude for flights or elevation for terrain) in metres above mean sea level
m/M	<i>Meter über Meer</i> , German for metres above mean sea level
m/s	Speed in metres per second; 1 m/s = 3.6 km/h = 1.944 kt or approximately 1 m/s \cong 2 kt
MAB	Mass and balance
MAR	March
MEM	Management evaluation meeting
METAR	Meteorological aviation routine weather report is a coded message, reporting the present weather conditions on airports. See https://www.skybrary.aero/index.php/Meteorological_Terminal_Air_Report_(METAR) For Switzerland (in French, Italian and German only) see: https://www.meteosuisse.admin.ch/content/dam/meteoswiss/fr/service-und-publikationen/publikationen/doc/MCH_Flugwetter_2019_F_Web.pdf
MeteoSwiss	Abbreviation for the Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology https://www.meteoswiss.admin.ch/home.html?tab=overview
mm/h	Millimetres per hour: a measure of the intensity of precipitation as rain, snow, sleet, soft hail, etc., which also corresponds to one litre per square metre per hour; this indication of intensity can also be applied to precipitation with a duration of less than one hour
MME	Maintenance management exposition, manual for managing an aircraft's maintenance
Mode S	Secondary radar, radar data from a transponder with mode S functionality
MOE	Maintenance organisation exposition, manual for a maintenance organisation
MOPSC	Maximum operational passenger seating configuration
MPA	Motor-powered aircraft
MRT	Multi-radar tracking
MS	Abbreviation for the Dassault Mirage III S fighter aircraft
Neutral stratification	The vertical temperature distribution (temperature profile, ambient temperature profile) of a rising or sinking air parcel determines whether it continues to rise or fall unhindered (neutral), accelerates (unstable), or is slowed down (stable). Neutral stratification with a temperature decrease of 1°C per 100 m of altitude is always achieved when non-condensing ('dry') air is mixed vertically, which is typical for sunny days below clouds. If condensation (cumuli) occurs in a neutrally stratified atmosphere, it continues to grow until a stable layer with a temperature decrease of less than approx. 0.5°C per 100 m prevents it. The exact values depend on humidity and altitude, which are represented on diagrams or in calculation models.
NLR	<i>Koninklijk Nederlands Lucht- en Ruimtevaartcentrum</i> , Royal Netherlands Aerospace Centre
NPCA	Nominated person continuing airworthiness
NPFO	Nominated person flight operations
NPGO	Nominated person ground operations
OFF	Operational flight plan
OM	Operations manual

OM A	Part A of the operations manual
OM B	Part B of the operations manual
OMM	Operation management manual
OP	Operating procedures
OPS	Operations, prefix for EU-OPS rules
OR	Occurrence report, operations report or operational report
ORO	Organisation requirements for air operations
PA	Pitch attitude
PA	Public address, announcement of information to passengers using the on-board communication system
PALM	The parallelized large-eddy simulation model https://palm.muk.uni-hannover.de/trac
PAX, Pax	Passenger, passengers
PF	Pilot flying
PIL	Pending items list
PM	Pilot monitoring, pilot not flying, assisting pilot
POL	Aircraft performance and operating limitations
Pressure gradient	Pressure difference per mostly horizontal distance
PS	<i>Pferdestärke</i> , metric horsepower, a historical unit of power; 1 PS corresponds to 0.736 kW
QFE	Atmospheric pressure at the location under consideration
QFF	The atmospheric pressure measured at a location (at a certain altitude) or determined in a model (QFE), which has been converted to the theoretical pressure at sea level, taking into account the local temperature, to allow ground weather maps to be drawn
QNH	Atmospheric pressure reduced to sea level, calculated using values for ICAO standard atmosphere. Like the QFF, this is a purely theoretical value. Because no actual ambient temperature is taken into account, the QNH is even further away from reality than the QFF, depending on the season. The primary use of the QNH is in internationally standardised handling of altitude measurement for medium- and low-level air traffic (e.g. in the vicinity of airports) based on pressure measurement.
RAC	Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Service, chapter within the Swiss Aeronautical Information Publication (see also AIP)
Radar	Radio detection and ranging, a measuring system that emits radio waves that are scattered by objects. In meteorology, it is used to record the distribution of precipitation in a radius of about 100 km and more at different altitudes. Details for Switzerland can be found at https://www.meteoswiss.admin.ch/home/measurement-and-forecasting-systems/atmosphere/weather-radar-network.html
REGA	<i>Schweizerische Rettungsflugwacht</i> , Swiss air rescue service
rpm	Revolutions per minute, unit of measurement
SACA	Safety assessment of community aircraft
SAFA	Safety assessment of foreign aircraft
Safety altitude	A deliberate choice of words referring to the flight altitude necessary for safe piloting. Depending on the situation, this may be the legal minimum required flight altitude or another safe distance from the ground in mountainous areas. Experience shows that, depending on the combination of

	topography and weather conditions, even greater minimum altitudes are required for safe mountain flying.
SAG	Safety action group
SANA	Safety assessment of national aircraft
SB	Service bulletin
SD card	Secure digital memory card, a digital storage medium
SEP	Single engine piston
SERA	Standardised European rules of the air
SIGMET	See AIRMET and https://www.skybrary.aero/index.php/SIGMET
SLS	<i>Schweizerische Luftverkehrsschule</i> , Swiss Aviation School
SM	Safety manager
SMS	Safety management system
SOP	Standard operating procedures
SPI	Safety performance indicator
SRB	Safety review board
SSID	Supplemental structural inspection document
ST	The <i>Sicherheit Flugtechnik</i> (Flight Safety) division of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
Stable stratification	See neutral stratification
STEH	The <i>Entwicklung und Herstellung</i> (Design and Production) department of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
STLZ	The <i>Lufttüchtigkeit Flugmaterial Zürich</i> (Aircraft Airworthiness Zurich) department of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
STOB	The <i>Technische Organisation Bern</i> (Technical Organisations Bern) department of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
STOZ	The <i>Technische Organisation Zürich</i> (Technical Organisations Zurich) department of the Federal Office of Civil Aviation (FOCA)
SUST	<i>Schweizerische Sicherheitsuntersuchungsstelle</i> , Swiss Transportation Safety Investigation Board (STSB), formerly the <i>Schweizerische Unfalluntersuchungsstelle</i> , Swiss Accident Investigation Board
SWC	Significant weather chart, a weather chart with various characteristics that represent the most important weather elements for the respective users
TAF	Terminal aerodrome forecasts are standardised coded messages, describing the expected weather for airports during the next 9 or 30 hours (short or long, resp.). See https://www.skybrary.aero/index.php/Weather_Forecast#Weather_Forecast . For Switzerland (in French, Italian and German only) see: https://www.meteosuisse.admin.ch/content/dam/meteoswiss/fr/service-und-publicationen/publikationen/doc/MCH_Flugwetter_2019_F_Web.pdf
TAS	True airspeed, the true airspeed relative to the surrounding air
TAWS	Terrain awareness and warning system
TC	Type certificate
TCU	Towering cumulus, cumulus congestus clouds without an anvil-shaped top (see CB)
TE	Abbreviation for the Northrop Tiger F-5E fighter aircraft
TERRA	An Earth observing satellite (see Aqua), https://terra.nasa.gov/
TM	<i>Technische Mitteilung</i> , technical communication

TMA	Terminal area
TOM	Take-off mass
TORA	Take-off run available, available distance for take-off roll
TOW	Take-off weight
TR	Type rating
Transponder	An on-board device (part of the avionics) that is triggered by air traffic control radar signals and automatically sends a response. This makes the aircraft identifiable for air traffic control, and also allows other data to be transmitted.
TRE	Type rating examiner
TRI	Type rating instructor
TSB	Transportation Safety Board of Canada
TT	True track, navigational heading, actual path of the aircraft
UeG	<i>Überwachungsgeschwader</i> , Swiss surveillance unit
UTC	Universal time coordinated
UVEK	<i>Eidgenössisches Departement für Umwelt, Verkehr, Energie und Kommunikation</i> , Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications (DETEC)
VF Flab	<i>Verein der Freunde der Fliegerabwehrtruppen</i> , association of the friends of the air defence corps
VFL	<i>Verein der Freunde der Schweizerischen Luftwaffe</i> , Association of the Friends of the Swiss Air Force
VFMF	<i>Verein der Freunde des Museums der Schweizerischen Fliegertruppen</i> , association of the friends of the Swiss air corps museum
VFR	Visual flight rules
VfV	<i>Verantwortlicher für Flugvorbereitung</i> , person responsible for flight preparation
VLL	<i>Verordnung des UVEK über die Lufttüchtigkeit von Luftfahrzeugen</i> , DETEC Ordinance on the Airworthiness of Aircraft
VOR	VHF omnidirectional radio range, ultra-short-wave rotating beacon
VSZV	<i>Verordnung über die Sicherheitsuntersuchung von Zwischenfällen im Verkehrswesen</i> , Ordinance on the Safety Investigation of Transport Incidents (OSITI)
WGS	World geodetic system
Wind shear	A change in wind speed or wind direction. This is usually understood to mean the change in horizontal wind with a change in altitude. However, a change in vertical wind or in horizontal wind over a horizontal distance is also a wind shear. In flying, anything that changes the flow of air around an aircraft without the pilot having initiated control manoeuvres can be called wind shear.
Windward	The side facing into the direction of the air current; concerning wind, windward in relation to a northerly wind is located on the northern side of the crest (see lee)
ZFH	<i>Zürcher Fachhochschule</i> , Zurich University
ZHAW	<i>Zürcher Hochschule für Angewandte Wissenschaften</i> , Zurich University of Applied Sciences, is a university that has been offering a course in aviation and operating a centre for aviation in Winterthur since 2006