

OBSOLESCE
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Glossary of

Aeronautical and astronautical terms —

Section 1: General

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Foreword

This glossary owes its inception to the appointment by the Aeronautical Society in 1909 of a Committee to prepare a preliminary list of terms peculiar to aeronautics, which was issued in 1910, a revised and extended list appearing in 1994. The Committee was reorganized in 1916 and the first complete glossary was published in 1918.

In 1920, at the request of the Royal Aeronautical Society, the work was taken over by the British Standards Institution and the first British Standard Glossary of aeronautical terms was issued as BS 185 in 1923, a revised edition being published in 1933. A further revised provisional edition, for war time use, was issued in 1940.

Further revised editions, which were necessitated by the rapid development of aeronautics, were published in 1950–1951, and in 1962–1965. Many new terms, in particular in the field of gas turbines and jet propulsion, were included in the former and new sections covering terms relating to ballistic and guided missiles, personnel and aviation medicine were introduced during the latter revision.

The present revised edition has been prepared to take account of development since 1965. In particular, it includes a new subsection in Section 3 dealing with fatigue terms and new sections covering terms relating to aerial survey and astronautics. The title of the glossary has also been amended to take account of the latter new section. The revised glossary will comprise the following sections:

- *Section 1: General;*
- *Section 2: Motion of aircraft;*
- *Section 3: Structures;*
- *Section 4: Aerodynamics;*
- *Section 5: Heavier-than-air aircraft (Aerodynes);*
- *Section 6: Ballistic and guided missiles;*
- *Section 7: Lighter-than-air aircraft (Aerostats);*
- *Section 8: Power plant;*
- *Section 9: Propellers;*
- *Section 10: Auxiliary services;*
- *Section 11: (Not allotted);*
- *Section 12: Parachutes;*
- *Section 13: Air-traffic and ground services;*
- *Section 14: Radiocommunication and radiolocation;*
- *Section 15: Meteorology;*
- *Section 16: Personnel;*
- *Section 17: Aerospace medicine;*
- *Section 18: Astronautics.*

The revision is published in loose-leaf form to enable the various sections to be issued as they are completed, and to facilitate the task of keeping the glossary up to date as far as is practicable. As a result, it will be found that, until all the revised sections have been published, some terms appearing in particular sections in the 1962–1965 edition also appear in different sections in this edition with revised definitions: in such cases the latter only are referred to in the revised index and these should be taken as the standard definitions e.g. the definition of “rectified airspeed” is that given in Term No. 4320 in this edition, not Term No. 11133 in the previous edition). It is recognized that some of the sections may need review immediately upon the completion of the current revision, to take account of usages established during the period over which it has been prepared.