

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF  
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COMMISSION ON MACROMOLECULAR NOMENCLATURE

LIST OF STANDARD  
ABBREVIATIONS (SYMBOLS)  
FOR SYNTHETIC POLYMERS  
AND POLYMER MATERIALS  
1974

LONDON  
BUTTERWORTHS

**LIST OF STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS (SYMBOLS)  
FOR SYNTHETIC POLYMERS AND POLYMER  
MATERIALS 1974**

The purpose of these abbreviations is to provide uniform contractions of names used for synthetic polymers and polymer materials. Abbreviated terms have evolved through widespread common usage. This compilation of abbreviations has been prepared to promote one rather than several abbreviations for a given material and to avoid the use of the same abbreviation for more than one material.

The abbreviations listed here may be used in the scientific and industrial literature of polymer science without further definition. All others, even those appearing in recent lists compiled by the IUPAC<sup>1</sup> and the ISO<sup>2</sup>, should be defined at least once in any document in which they are used.

This short list of abbreviations is based on common usage and it is not intended as a model for forming other abbreviations.

These abbreviations should be written or printed in capital letters.

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† *Chairman*: K. L. Loening (USA); *Secretary*: L. C. Cross (UK); *Members*: P. Corradini (Italy), R. B. Fox (USA), G. J. Smets (Belgium), C. Suhr (GFR), T. Tsuruta (Japan).

**Abbreviations used substantively; these abbreviations can stand alone:**

PAN	Polyacrylonitrile
PCTFE	Poly(chlorotrifluoroethylene)
PEO	Poly(ethylene oxide)
PETP	Poly(ethylene terephthalate)
PE	Polyethylene
PIB	Polyisobutylene
PMMA	Poly(methyl methacrylate)
POM	Poly(oxymethylene); polyformaldehyde
PP	Polypropylene
PS	Polystyrene
PTFE	Poly(tetrafluoroethylene)
PVAC	Poly(vinyl acetate)
PVAL	Poly(vinyl alcohol)
PVC	Poly(vinyl chloride)
PVDC	Poly(vinylidene dichloride)
PVDF	Poly(vinylidene difluoride)
PVF	Poly(vinyl fluoride)

Comments should be addressed to the Chairman,  
 Chemical Abstracts Service,  
 c/o Ohio State University,  
 Columbus, Ohio 43210, USA.

**REFERENCES**

- <sup>1</sup> *Pure and Applied Chemistry*, **18**, 583-9 (1969).
- <sup>2</sup> ISO Recommendation, R 1043, Abbreviations (Symbols) for Plastics, April 1969.