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*Marks'*  
**Standard Handbook  
for Mechanical Engineers**

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*Marks'*  
**Standard Handbook for  
Mechanical Engineers**

*Revised by a staff of specialists*

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*Tenth Edition*

**McGRAW-HILL**

New York San Francisco Washington, D.C. Auckland Bogotá  
Caracas Lisbon London Madrid Mexico City Milan  
Montreal New Delhi San Juan Singapore  
Sydney Tokyo Toronto

Library of Congress Cataloged The First Issue  
of this title as follows:

Standard handbook for mechanical engineers. 1st-ed.;

1916-

New York, McGraw-Hill.

v. Illus. 18-24 cm.

Title varies: 1916-58; Mechanical engineers' handbook.

Editors: 1916-51, L. S. Marks. — 1958- T. Baumeister.

Includes bibliographies.

1. Mechanical engineering—Handbooks, manuals, etc. I. Marks,

Lionel Simeon, 1871- ed. II. Baumeister, Theodore, 1897-

ed. III. Title; Mechanical engineers' handbook.

TJ151.S82 502'.4'621 16-12915

Library of Congress Catalog Card Number: 87-641192

MARKS' STANDARD HANDBOOK FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 DOW/DOW 9 0 1 0 9 8 7 6

ISBN 0-07-004997-1

*The sponsoring editors for this book were Robert W. Hauserman and Robert Esposito, the editing supervisor was David E. Fogarty, and the production supervisor was Suzanne W. B. Rapcavage. It was set in Times Roman by Progressive Information Technologies.*

*Printed and bound by R. R. Donnelley & Sons Company.*

This book is printed on acid-free paper.

*The editors and the publishers will be grateful to readers who notify them of any inaccuracy or important omission in this book.*

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# Dedication

On the occasion of the publication of the tenth edition of *Marks' Standard Handbook for Mechanical Engineers*, we note that this is also the eightieth anniversary of the publication of the first edition. The Editors and publisher proffer this brief dedication to all those who have been instrumental in the realization of the goals set forth by Lionel S. Marks in the preface to the first edition.

First, we honor the memory of the deceased Editors, Lionel S. Marks and Theodore Baumeister. Lionel S. Marks' concept of a *Mechanical Engineers' Handbook* came to fruition with the publication of the first edition in 1916; Theodore Baumeister followed as Editor with the publication of the sixth edition in 1958.

Second, we are indebted to our contributors, past and present, who so willingly mined their expertise to gather material for inclusion in the Handbook, thereby sharing it with others, far and wide.

Third, we acknowledge our wide circle of readers—engineers and others—who have used the Handbook in the conduct of their work and, from time to time, have provided cogent commentary, suggestions, and expressions of loyalty.

# Preface to the Tenth Edition

In the preparation of the tenth edition of “Marks,” the Editors had two major continuing objectives. First, to modernize and update the contents as required, and second, to hold to the high standard maintained for eighty years by the previous Editors, Lionel S. Marks and Theodore Baumeister.

The Editors have found it instructive to leaf through the first edition of *Marks' Handbook* and to peruse its contents. Some topics still have currency as we approach the end of the twentieth century; others are of historical interest only. Certainly, the passage of 80 years since the publication of the first edition sends a clear message that “things change”!

The replacement of the U.S. Customary System (USCS) of units by the International System (SI) is still far from complete, and proceeds at different rates not only in the engineering professions, but also in our society in general. Accordingly, duality of units has been retained, as appropriate.

Established practice combined with new concepts and developments are the underpinnings of our profession. Among the most significant and far-reaching changes are the incorporation of microprocessors into many tools and devices, both new and old. An ever-increasing number of production processes are being automated with robots performing dull or dangerous jobs.

Workstations consisting of personal computers and a selection of software seemingly without limits are almost universal. Not only does the engineer have powerful computational and analytical tools at hand, but also those same tools have been applied in diverse areas which appear to have no bounds. A modern business or manufacturing entity without a keyboard and a screen is an anomaly.

The Editors are cognizant of the competing requirements to offer the user a broad spectrum of information that has been the hallmark of the Marks' Handbook since its inception, and yet to keep the size of the one volume within reason. This has been achieved through the diligent efforts and cooperation of contributors, reviewers, and the publisher.

Last, the Handbook is ultimately the responsibility of the Editors. Meticulous care has been exercised to avoid errors, but if any are inadvertently included, the Editors will appreciate being so informed so that corrections can be incorporated in subsequent printings of this edition.

*Ardsley, NY*  
*Newark, DE*

EUGENE A. AVALLONE  
THEODORE BAUMEISTER III

# Preface to the First Edition\*

This Handbook is intended to supply both the practicing engineer and the student with a reference work which is authoritative in character and which covers the field of mechanical engineering in a comprehensive manner. It is no longer possible for a single individual or a small group of individuals to have so intimate an acquaintance with any major division of engineering as is necessary if critical judgment is to be exercised in the statement of current practice and the selection of engineering data. Only by the cooperation of a considerable number of specialists is it possible to obtain the desirable degree of reliability. This Handbook represents the work of fifty specialists.

Each contributor is to be regarded as responsible for the accuracy of his section. The number of contributors required to ensure sufficiently specialized knowledge for all the topics treated is necessarily large. It was found desirable to enlist the services of thirteen specialists for an adequate handling of the "Properties of Engineering Materials." Such topics as "Automobiles," "Aeronautics," "Illumination," "Patent Law," "Cost Accounting," "Industrial Buildings," "Corrosion," "Air Conditioning," "Fire Protection," "Prevention of Accidents," etc., though occupying relatively small spaces in the book, demanded each a separate writer.

A number of the contributions which deal with engineering practice, after examination by the Editor-in-Chief, were submitted by him to one or more specialists for criticism and suggestions. Their cooperation has proved of great value in securing greater accuracy and in ensuring that the subject matter does not embody solely the practice of one individual but is truly representative.

An accuracy of four significant figures has been assumed as the desirable limit; figures in excess of this number have been deleted, except in special cases. In the mathematical tables only four significant figures have been kept.

The Editor-in-Chief desires to express here his appreciation of the spirit of cooperation shown by the Contributors and of their patience in submitting to modifications of their sections. He wishes also to thank the Publishers for giving him complete freedom and hearty assistance in all matters relating to the book from the choice of contributors to the details of typography.

*Cambridge, Mass.*  
*April 23, 1916*

LIONEL S. MARKS

\* Excerpt.

# Symbols and Abbreviations

For symbols of chemical elements, see Sec. 6; for abbreviations applying to metric weights and measures and SI units, Sec. 1; SI unit prefixes are listed on p. 1-19.

Pairs of parentheses, brackets, etc., are frequently used in this work to indicate corresponding values. For example, the statement that “the cost per kW of a 30,000-kW plant is \$86; of a 15,000-kW plant, \$98; and of an 8,000-kW plant, \$112,” is condensed as follows: The cost per kW of a 30,000 (15,000) [8,000]-kW plant is \$86 (98) [112].

In the citation of references readers should always attempt to consult the latest edition of referenced publications.

A or Å	Angstrom unit = $10^{-10}$ m; $3.937 \times 10^{-11}$ in	ANSI	American National Standards Institute
A	mass number = N + Z; ampere	antilog	antilogarithm of
AA	arithmetical average	API	Am. Petroleum Inst.
AAA	Am. Automobile Assoc.	approx	approximately
AAMA	American Automobile Manufacturers' Assoc.	APWA	Am. Public Works Assoc.
AAR	Assoc. of Am. Railroads	AREA	Am. Railroad Eng. Assoc.
AAS	Am. Astronautical Soc.	ARI	Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Inst.
ABAI	Am. Boiler & Affiliated Industries	ARS	Am. Rocket Soc.
abs	absolute	ASCE	Am. Soc. of Civil Engineers
a.c.	aerodynamic center	ASHRAE	Am. Soc. of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers
a-c, ac	alternating current	ASLE	Am. Soc. of Lubricating Engineers
ACI	Am. Concrete Inst.	ASM	Am. Soc. of Metals
ACM	Assoc. for Computing Machinery	ASME	Am. Soc. of Mechanical Engineers
ACRMA	Air Conditioning and Refrigerating Manufacturers Assoc.	ASST	Am. Soc. of Steel Treating
ACS	Am. Chemical Soc.	ASTM	Am. Soc. for Testing and Materials
ACSR	aluminum cable steel-reinforced	ASTME	Am. Soc. of Tool & Manufacturing Engineers
ACV	air cushion vehicle	atm	atmosphere
A.D.	anno Domini (in the year of our Lord)	<i>Auto. Ind.</i>	Automotive Industries (New York)
AEC	Atomic Energy Commission (U.S.)	avdp	avoidupois
a-f, af	audio frequency	avg, ave	average
AFBMA	Anti-friction Bearings Manufacturers' Assoc.	AWG	Am. Wire Gage
AFS	Am. Foundrymen's Soc.	AWPA	Am. Wood Preservation Assoc.
AGA	Am. Gas Assoc.	AWS	American Welding Soc.
AGMA	Am. Gear Manufacturers' Assoc.	AWWA	American Water Works Assoc.
ahp	air horsepower	b	barns
AIChE	Am. Inst. of Chemical Engineers	bar	barometer
AIEE	Am. Inst. of Electrical Engineers (see IEEE)	B&S	Brown & Sharp (gage); Beams and Stringers
AIME	Am. Inst. of Mining Engineers	bb	barrels
AIP	Am. Inst. of Physics	B.C.	before Christ
AISC	American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc.	B.C.C.	body centered cubic
AISE	Am. Iron & Steel Engineers	Bé	Baumé (degrees)
AISI	Am. Iron and Steel Inst.	B.G.	Birmingham gage (hoop and sheet)
a.m.	ante meridiem (before noon)	bgd	billions of gallons per day
a-m, am	amplitude modulation	BHN	Brinnell Hardness Number
<i>Am. Mach.</i>	Am. Machinist (New York)	bhp	brake horsepower
AMA	Acoustical Materials Assoc.	BLC	boundary layer control
AMCA	Air Moving & Conditioning Assoc., Inc.	B.M.	board measure; bench mark
amu	atomic mass unit	bmep	brake mean effective pressure
AN	ammonium nitrate (explosive); Army-Navy Specification	B of M,	Bureau of Mines
AN-FO	ammonium nitrate-fuel oil (explosive)	BuMines	
ANC	Army-Navy Civil Aeronautics Committee	BOD	biochemical oxygen demand
ANS	Am. Nuclear Soc.		

## xx SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

bp	boiling point	d-c, dc	direct current
Bq	bequerel	def	definition
bsfc	brake specific fuel consumption	deg	degrees
BSI	British Standards Inst.	diam. (dia)	diameter
Btu	British thermal units	DO	dissolved oxygen
Btuh, Btu/h	Btu per hr	D <sub>2</sub> O	deuterium (heavy water)
bu	bushels	d.p.	double pole
<i>Bull.</i>	Bulletin	DP	Diametral pitch
Buweaps	Bureau of Weapons, U.S. Navy	DPH	diamond pyramid hardness
BWG	Birmingham wire gage	DST	daylight saving time
c	velocity of light	$d^2$ tons	breaking strength, $d$ = chain wire diam, in.
°C	degrees Celsius (centigrade)	DX	direct expansion
C	coulomb	$e$	base of Napierian logarithmic system (= 2.7182 +)
CAB	Civil Aeronautics Board	EAP	equivalent air pressure
CAGI	Compressed Air & Gas Inst.	EDR	equivalent direct radiation
cal	calories	EEl	Edison Electric Inst.
C-B-R	chemical, biological & radiological (filters)	eff	efficiency
CBS	Columbia Broadcasting System	e.g.	exempli gratia (for example)
cc, cm <sup>3</sup>	cubic centimeters	ehp	effective horsepower
CCR	critical compression ratio	EHV	extra high voltage
c to c	center to center	<i>El. Wld.</i>	Electrical World (New York)
cd	candela	elec	electric
c.f.	centrifugal force	elong	elongation
<i>cf.</i>	confer (compare)	emf	electromotive force
cfh, ft <sup>3</sup> /h	cubic feet per hour	<i>Engg.</i>	Engineering (London)
cfm, ft <sup>3</sup> /min	cubic feet per minute	<i>Engr.</i>	The Engineer (London)
C.F.R.	Cooperative Fuel Research	ENT	emergency negative thrust
cf/s, ft <sup>3</sup> /s	cubic feet per second	EP	extreme pressure (lubricant)
cg	center of gravity	ERDA	Energy Research & Development Administration (successor to AEC; see also NRC)
cgs	centimeter-gram-second	Eq.	equation
<i>Chm. Eng.</i>	Chemical Eng'g (New York)	est	estimated
chu	centrigrade heat unit	etc.	et cetera (and so forth)
C.I.	cast iron	et seq.	et sequens (and the following)
cir	circular	eV	electron volts
cir mil	circular mils	evap	evaporation
cm	centimeters	exp	exponential function of
<i>CME</i>	Chartered Mech. Engr. (IMechE)	exsec	exterior secant of
C.N.	cetane number	ext	external
coef	coefficient	°F	degrees Fahrenheit
COESA	U.S. Committee on Extension to the Standard Atmosphere	F	farad
col	column	FAA	Federal Aviation Agency
colog	cologarithm of	F.C.	fixed carbon, %
const	constant	FCC	Federal Communications Commission; Federal Constructive Council
cos	cosine of	F.C.C.	face-centered-cubic (alloys)
cos <sup>-1</sup>	angle whose cosine is, inverse cosine of	ff.	following (pages)
cosh	hyperbolic cosine of	flhp	friction horsepower
cosh <sup>-1</sup>	inverse hyperbolic cosine of	Fig.	figure
cot	cotangent of	F.I.T.	Federal income tax
cot <sup>-1</sup>	angle whose cotangent is (see cos <sup>-1</sup> )	f-m, fm	frequency modulation
coth	hyperbolic cotangent of	F.O.B.	free on board (cars)
coth <sup>-1</sup>	inverse hyperbolic cotangent of	FP	fore perpendicular
covers	covered sine of	FPC	Federal Power Commission
c.p.	circular pitch; center of pressure	fpm, ft/min	feet per minute
cp	candle power	fps	foot-pound-second system
<i>cp</i>	coef of performance	ft/s	feet per second
CP	chemically pure	F.S.	Federal Specifications
CPH	close packed hexagonal	FSB	Federal Specifications Board
cpm,	cycles per minute	fsp	fiber saturation point
cycles/min		ft	feet
cps, cycles/s	cycles per second	fc	foot candles
CSA	Canadian Standards Assoc.	fL	foot lamberts
csc	cosecant of	ft · lb	foot-pounds
csc <sup>-1</sup>	angle whose cosecant is (see cos <sup>-1</sup> )	g	acceleration due to gravity
csch	hyperbolic cosecant of	g	grams
csch <sup>-1</sup>	inverse hyperbolic cosecant of	gal	gallons
cu	cubic	gc	gigacycles per sec
cyl	cylinder		
db, dB	decibel		

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS xxi

GCA	ground-controlled approach	J&P	joists and planks
g · cal	gram-calories	<i>Jour.</i>	Journal
gd	Gudermannian of	JP	jet propulsion fuel
G.E.	General Electric Co.	<i>k</i>	isentropic exponent; conductivity
GEM	ground effect machine	K	degrees Kelvin (Celsius abs)
GFI	gullet feed index	K	Knudsen number
G.M.	General Motors Co.	kB	kilo Btu (1000 Btu)
GMT	Greenwich Mean Time	kc	kilocycles
GNP	gross national product	kcps	kilocycles per sec
gpcd	gallons per capita day	kg	kilograms
gpd	gallons per day; grams per denier	kg · cal	kilogram-calories
gpm, gal/min	gallons per minute	kg · m	kilogram-meters
gps, gal/s	gallons per second	kip	1000 lb or 1 kilo-pound
gpt	grams per tex	kips	thousands of pounds
H	henry	km	kilometers
<i>h</i>	Planck's constant = $6.624 \times 10^{-27}$ erg-sec	kmc	kilomegacycles per sec
$\hbar$	Planck's constant, $\hbar = h/2\pi$	kmcps	kilomegacycles per sec
HEPA	high efficiency particulate matter	kpsi	thousands of pounds per sq in
h-f, hf	high frequency	ksi	one kip per sq in, 1000 psi (lb/in <sup>2</sup> )
hhv	high heat value	kts	knots
horiz	horizontal	kVA	kilovolt-amperes
hp	horsepower	kW	kilowatts
h-p	high-pressure	kWh	kilowatt-hours
HPAC	Heating, Piping, & Air Conditioning (Chicago)	L	lamberts
hp · hr	horsepower-hour	l, L	litres
hr, h	hours	£	Laplace operational symbol
HSS	high speed steel	lb	pounds
H.T.	heat-treated	L.B.P.	length between perpendiculars
HTHW	high temperature hot water	lhv	low heat value
Hz	hertz = 1 cycle/s (cps)	lim	limit
IACS	International Annealed Copper Standard	lin	linear
IAeS	Institute of Aerospace Sciences	ln	Napierian logarithm of
ibid.	ibidem (in the same place)	loc. cit.	loco citato (place already cited)
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization	log	common logarithm of
ICC	Interstate Commerce Commission	LOX	liquid oxygen explosive
ICE	Inst. of Civil Engineers	l-p, lp	low pressure
ICI	International Commission on Illumination	LPG	liquified petroleum gas
I.C.T.	International Critical Tables	lpw, lm/W	lumens per watt
I.D., ID	inside diameter	lx	lux
i.e.	id est (that is)	L.W.L.	load water line
IEC	International Electrotechnical Commission	lm	lumen
IEEE	Inst. of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (successor to AIEE, <i>q.v.</i> )	m	metres
IES	Illuminating Engineering Soc.	M	thousand; Mach number; moisture, %
i-f, if	intermediate frequency	mA	milliamperes
IGT	Inst. of Gas Technology	<i>Machy.</i>	Machinery (New York)
ihp	indicated horsepower	max	maximum
IMechE	Inst. of Mechanical Engineers	MBh	thousands of Btu per hr
imep	indicated mean effective pressure	mc	megacycles per sec
Imp	Imperial	m.c.	moisture content
in., in	inches	Mcf	thousand cubic feet
in. · lb,	inch-pounds	mcps	megacycles per sec
in · lb		<i>Mech. Eng.</i>	Mechanical Eng'g (ASME)
INA	Inst. of Naval Architects	mep	mean effective pressure
<i>Ind. &amp; Eng. Chem.</i>	Industrial & Eng'g Chemistry (Easton, PA)	METO	maximum, except during take-off
int	internal	me V	million electron volts
i-p, ip	intermediate pressure	MF	maintenance factor
ipm, in/min	inches per minute	mhc	mean horizontal candles
ipr	inches per revolution	mi	mile
IPS	iron pipe size	MIL-STD	U.S. Military Standard
IRE	Inst. of Radio Engineers (see IEEE)	min	minutes; minimum
IRS	Internal Revenue Service	mip	mean indicated pressure
ISO	International Organization for Standardization	MKS	meter-kilogram-second system
isoth	isothermal	MKSA	meter-kilogram-second-ampere system
ISTM	International Soc. for Testing Materials	mL	millilamberts
IUPAC	International Union of Pure & Applied Chemistry	ml, mL	millilitre = 1.000027 cm <sup>3</sup>
J	joule	mlhc	mean lower hemispherical candles
		mm	millimetres
		mm-free	mineral matter free



xxii SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

mmf	magnetomotive force	psi, lb/in <sup>2</sup>	lb per sq in
mol	mole	psia	lb per sq in. abs
mp	melting point	psig	lb per sq in. gage
MPC	maximum permissible concentration	pt	point; pint
mph, mi/h	miles per hour	PVC	polyvinyl chloride
MRT	mean radiant temperature	Q	10 <sup>18</sup> Btu
ms	manuscript; milliseconds	qt	quarts
msc	mean spherical candles	q.v.	quod vide (which see)
MSS	Manufacturers Standardization Soc. of the Valve & Fittings Industry	r	roentgens
Mu	micron, micro	R	gas constant
MW	megawatts	R	deg Rankine (Fahrenheit abs); Reynolds number
MW day	megawatt day	rad	radius; radiation absorbed dose; radian
MWT	mean water temperature	RBE	see rem
<i>n</i>	polytropic exponent	R-C	resistor-capacitor
<i>N</i>	number (in mathematical tables)	RCA	Radio Corporation of America
N	number of neutrons; newton	R&D	research & development
N <sub>s</sub>	specific speed	RDX	cyclonite, a military explosive
NA	not available	rem	Roentgen equivalent man (formerly RBE)
NAA	National Assoc. of Accountants	rev	revolutions
NACA	National Advisory Committee on Aeronautics (see NASA)	r-f, rf	radio frequency
NACM	National Assoc. of Chain Manufacturers	RMA	Rubber Manufacturers Assoc.
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration	rms	square root of mean square
nat.	natural	rpm, r/min	revolutions per minute
NBC	National Broadcasting Company	rps, r/s	revolutions per second
NBFU	National Board of Fire Underwriters	RSHF	room sensible heat factor
NBS	National Bureau of Standards	ry.	railway
NCN	nitrocarbonitrate (explosive)	<i>s</i>	entropy
NDHA	National District Hearing Assoc.	s	seconds
NEC®	National Electric Code® (National Electrical Code® and NEC® are registered trademarks of the National Fire Protection Association, Inc., Quincy, MA.)	S	sulfur, %; siemens
NEMA	National Electrical Manufacturers Assoc.	SAE	Soc. of Automotive Engineers
NFPA	National Fire Protection Assoc.	sat	saturated
NLGI	National Lubricating Grease Institute	SBI	steel Boiler Inst.
nm	nautical miles	scfm	standard cu ft per min
No. (Nos.)	number(s)	SCR	silicon controlled rectifier
NPSH	net positive suction head	sec	secant of
NRC	Nuclear Regulator Commission (successor to AEC; see also ERDA)	sec <sup>-1</sup>	angle whose secant is (see cos <sup>-1</sup> )
NTP	normal temperature and pressure	Sec.	Section
O.D., OD	outside diameter (pipes)	sech	hyperbolic secant of
O.H.	open-hearth (steel)	sech <sup>-1</sup>	inverse hyperbolic secant of
O.N.	octane number	segm	segment
op. cit.	opere citato (work already cited)	SE No.	steam emulsion number
OSHA	Occupational Safety & Health Administration	sfc	specific fuel consumption, lb per hphr
OSW	Office of Saline Water	sfm, sfpm	surface feet per minute
OTS	Office of Technical Services, U.S. Dept. of Commerce	shp	shaft horsepower
oz	ounces	SI	International System of Units (Le Système International d'Unites)
p. (pp.)	page (pages)	sin	sine of
Pa	pascal	sin <sup>-1</sup>	angle whose sine is (see cos <sup>-1</sup> )
P.C.	propulsive coefficient	sinh	hyperbolic sine of
PE	polyethylene	sinh <sup>-1</sup>	inverse hyperbolic sine of
PEG	polyethylene glycol	SME	Society of Manufacturing Engineers (successor to ASTM)
P.E.L.	proportional elastic limit	SNAME	Soc. of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers
PETN	an explosive	SP	static pressure
pf	power factor	sp	specific
PFI	Pipe Fabrication Inst.	specif	specification
PIV	peak inverse voltage	sp gr	specific gravity
p.m.	post meridiem (after noon)	sp ht	specific heat
PM	preventive maintenance	spp	species unspecified (botanical)
P.N.	performance number	SPS	standard pipe size
ppb	parts per billion	sq	square
PPI	plan position indicator	sr	steradian
ppm	parts per million	SSF	sec Saybolt Furol
press	pressure	SSU	seconds Saybolt Universal (same as SUS)
Proc.	Proceedings	std	standard
PSD	power spectral density, g <sup>2</sup> /cps	SUS	Saybolt Universal seconds (same as SSU)
		SWG	Standard (British) wire gage
		T	tesla

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS xxiii

TAC	Technical Advisory Committee on Weather Design Conditions (ASHRAE)	USS	United States Standard
tan	tangent of	USSG	U.S. Standard Gage
$\tan^{-1}$	angle whose tangent is (see $\cos^{-1}$ )	UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
tanh	hyperbolic tangent of	V	volt
$\tanh^{-1}$	inverse hyperbolic tangent of	VCF	visual comfort factor
TDH	total dynamic head	VCI	visual comfort index
TEL	tetraethyl lead	VDI	Verein Deutscher Ingenieure
temp	temperature	vel	velocity
THI	temperature-humidity (discomfort) index	vers	versed sine of
thp	thrust horsepower	vert	vertical
TNT	trinitrotoluol (explosive)	VHF	very high frequency
torr	= 1 mm Hg = 1.332 millibars (1/760) atm = (1.013250/760) dynes per $\text{cm}^2$	VI	viscosity index
TP	total pressure	viz.	videlicet (namely)
tph	tons per hour	V.M.	volatile matter, %
tpi	turns per in	vol	volume
TR	transmitter-receiver	VP	velocity pressure
Trans.	Transactions	vs.	versus
T.S.	tensile strength; tensile stress	W	watt
tsi	tons per sq in	Wb	weber
<i>ttt</i>	terminal temperature difference	W&M	Washburn & Moen wire gage
UHF	ultra high frequency	w.g.	water gage
UKAEA	United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority	WHO	World Health Organization
UL	Underwriters' Laboratory	W.I.	wrought iron
ult	ultimate	W.P.A.	Western Pine Assoc.
UMS	universal maintenance standards	wt	weight
USAF	U.S. Air Force	yd	yards
USCG	U.S. Coast Guard	Y.P.	yield point
USCS	U.S. Commercial Standard; U.S. Customary System	yr	year(s)
USDA	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture	Y.S.	yield strength; yield stress
USFPL	U.S. Forest Products Laboratory	<i>z</i>	atomic number; figure of merit
USGS	U.S. Geologic Survey	<i>Zeit.</i>	Zeitschrift
USHEW	U.S. Dept. of Health, Education & Welfare	$\Delta$	mass defect
USN	U.S. Navy	$\mu\text{c}$	microcurie
USP	U.S. Pharmacopoeia	$\sigma, s$	Boltzmann constant
USPHS	U.S. Public Health Service	$\mu$	micro (= $10^{-6}$ ), as in $\mu\text{s}$
		$\mu\text{m}$	micrometer (micron) = $10^{-6}$ m ( $10^{-3}$ mm)
		$\Omega$	ohm

MATHEMATICAL SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

+	plus (sign of addition)	$\neq$	not equal to
+	positive	$\rightarrow \doteq$	approaches
-	minus (sign of subtraction)	$\propto$	varies as
-	negative	$\infty$	infinity
$\pm$ ( $\mp$ )	plus or minus (minus or plus)	$\sqrt{\quad}$	square root of
$\times$	times, by (multiplication sign)	$\sqrt[3]{\quad}$	cube root of
$\cdot$	multiplied by	$\therefore$	therefore
$\div$	sign of division	$\parallel$	parallel to
/	divided by	$() [] \{ \}$	parentheses, brackets and braces; quantities enclosed by them to be taken together in multiplying, dividing, etc.
:	ratio sign, divided by, is to	$\overline{AB}$	length of line from A to B
::	equals, as (proportion)	$\pi$	pi (= 3.14159 <sup>+</sup> )
<	less than	$^{\circ}$	degrees
>	greater than	'	minutes
$\ll$	much less than	"	seconds
$\gg$	much greater than	$\sphericalangle$	angle
=	equals	$dx$	differential of <i>x</i>
$\equiv$	identical with	$\Delta$	(delta) difference
$\sim$	similar to	$\Delta x$	increment of <i>x</i>
$\approx$	approximately equals	$\partial u / \partial x$	partial derivative of <i>u</i> with respect to <i>x</i>
$\cong$	approximately equals, congruent	$\int$	integral of
$\leq$	qual to or less than		
$\geq$	equal to or greater than		

xxiv SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

$\int_a^b$	integral of, between limits $a$ and $b$	$4!$	factorial $4 = 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1$
$\oint$	line integral around a closed path	$ x $	absolute value of $x$
$\Sigma$	(sigma) summation of	$\dot{x}$	first derivative of $x$ with respect to time
$f(x), F(x)$	functions of $x$	$\ddot{x}$	second derivative of $x$ with respect to time
$\exp x = e^x$	$[e = 2.71828$ (base of natural, or Napierian, logarithms)]	$\mathbf{A} \times \mathbf{B}$	vector product; magnitude of $\mathbf{A}$ times magnitude of $\mathbf{B}$ times sine of the angle from $\mathbf{A}$ to $\mathbf{B}$ ; $AB \sin \overline{AB}$
$\nabla$	del or nabla, vector differential operator	$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$	scalar product; magnitude of $\mathbf{A}$ times magnitude of $\mathbf{B}$ times cosine of the angle from $\mathbf{A}$ to $\mathbf{B}$ ; $AB \cos \overline{AB}$
$\nabla^2$	Laplacian operator		
$\mathcal{L}$	Laplace operational symbol		