

IEEE Std 100-1996

**The IEEE Standard
Dictionary of Electrical
and Electronics Terms**

Sixth Edition



Published by the
Institute of Electrical and
Electronics Engineers, Inc.

SH94459
1-55937-833-6
8 April 1997

general-purpose circuit breaker (alternating current high voltage circuit breakers) A circuit breaker that is not specifically designed for capacitance current switching.

(SWG) 341-1972w

general-purpose computer A computer that is designed to solve a wide variety of problems. *Contrast:* special-purpose computer. (C) [20], [85], 610.10-1994

general-purpose controller Any controller having ratings, characteristics, and mechanical construction for use under usual service conditions. *See also:* electric controller. (C/IA) [60], [85]

general-purpose current-limiting fuse A fuse capable of interrupting all currents from the rated interrupting current down to the current that causes melting of the fusible element in no less than 1 h.

(PE/SWG) C37.100-1992, C37.40-1993

general-purpose digital computer *See:* digital computer.

general-purpose enclosure (1) (electric installations on ship-board) An enclosure that primarily protects against accidental contact and slight indirect splashing but is neither drip-proof nor splashproof. (IA) 45-1983r

(2) An enclosure used for usual service applications where special types of enclosures are not required.

(PE/SWG) C37.100-1992

general-purpose floodlight (illuminating engineering) A weatherproof unit so constructed that the housing forms the reflecting surface. The assembly is enclosed by a cover glass. (EEC/IE) [126]

general-purpose induction motor (rotating machinery) Any open motor having a continuous rating of 50 degrees Celsius rise by resistance for Class A insulation, or of 80 degrees Celsius rise for Class B, a service factor as listed in the following tabulation, and designed, listed, and offered in standard ratings with standard operating characteristics and mechanical construction, for use under usual service conditions without restrictions to a particular application or type of application.

Service Factor

Horsepower	Synchronous Speed, revolutions per minute			
	3600	1800	1200	900
1/20	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
1/12	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
1/8	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
1/6	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35
1/4	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35
1/3	1.35	1.35	1.35	1.35
1/2	1.25	1.25	1.25	
3/8	1.25	1.25		
1	1.25			

See also: asynchronous machine. (PE) [9]

general-purpose low-voltage dc power circuit breaker *See:* circuit breaker, general purpose low-voltage dc power.

general-purpose low-voltage power circuit breaker (low voltage dc power circuit breakers used in enclosures) A circuit breaker that during interruption does not usually prevent the fault current from rising to its sustained value. (PE/SWG) C37.14-1979s

general-purpose motor (rotating machinery) Any motor designed, listed and offered in standard ratings with operating characteristics and mechanical construction suitable for use under usual service conditions without restrictions to a particular application or type of application. (PE) [9]

general-purpose programming language A programming language that provides a set of processing capabilities applicable to most information processing problems and that can be used on many kinds of computers. For example, Ada, COBOL, FORTRAN, and PL/1. *See also:* CAL; common language; JOSEF; Pascal; SIMULA. (C) 610.13-1993

general-purpose relay A relay that is adaptable to a variety of applications. *See also:* relay. (EEC) [87]

general-purpose register A register, usually explicitly addressable, within a set of registers, that can be used for different

purposes, for example, as an accumulator, as an index register, or as a special handler of data. *Synonym:* general register. (C) 610.10-1994

General Purpose Systems Simulation (GPSS) A problem-oriented language used in performing discrete simulation problems, based on a block diagram approach, where each block represents a physical process and transactions move from one block to another. *See also:* CSS/II. (C) 610.13-1993

general-purpose test equipment (test, measurement, and diagnostic equipment) Test equipment that is used for the measurement of a range of parameters common to two or more equipments or systems of basically different design. (MIL) [2]

general-purpose transformers (power and distribution transformers) Step-up or step-down transformers or auto-transformers generally used in secondary distribution circuits of 600 V or less in connection with power and lighting service. (PE) C57.12.80-1978r

general register *See:* general-purpose register.

general ROM format A format for the node-provided ROM. The general ROM format provides bus-dependent information and a root_directory; the root_directory directly provides additional ROM entries. (C/MM) 1212-1991s

General Space Planner A programming language based on FORTRAN that provides an interactive system for solving space planning problems. (C) 610.13-1993

general statistical terms Terms applied to the procedures of data collection, classification, and presentation. (PE/T&D) 539-1990

general support maintenance *See:* maintenance, depot.

general-use snap switch A form of general-use switch so constructed that it can be installed in flush device boxes or on outlet box covers, or otherwise used in conjunction with wiring systems recognized by this Code. (NEC/NESC) [86]

general-use switch A switch intended for use in general distribution and branch circuits. It is rated in amperes and it is capable of interrupting its rated current at its rated voltage. (NEC/NESC) [86]

generate (computers) To produce a program by selection of subsets from a set of skeletal coding under the control of parameters. (C) [20], [85]

generated address An address that has been calculated during the execution of a computer program. *Synonym:* synthetic address. *See also:* absolute address; effective address; indirect address; relative address. (C) 610.12-1990

generated error The total error resulting from the combined effects of using imprecise arguments in an inexact formula. For example, using a rounded number in a truncated series. (C) 1084-1986w

generated voltage (rotating machinery) A voltage produced in a closed path or circuit by the relative motion of the circuit or its parts with respect to magnetic flux. *See also:* asynchronous machine; Faraday's law; induced voltage; synchronous machine. (PE) [9]

generating electric field meter (gradient meter) A device in which a flat conductor is alternately exposed to the electric field to be measured and then shielded from it. *Note:* The resulting current to the conductor is rectified and used as a measure of the potential gradient at the conductor surface. *See also:* instrument. (EEC/PE) [119]

generating magnetometer (earth inductor) A magnetometer that depends for its operation on the electromotive force generated in a coil that is rotated in the field to be measured. *See also:* magnetometer. (EEC/PE) [119]

generating station (1) (power operations) A plant wherein electric energy is produced from some other form of energy (for example, chemical, mechanical, or hydraulic) by means of suitable apparatus. (PE) 858-1987s

(2) A plant wherein electric energy is produced by conversion from some other form of energy (for example, chemical, nuclear, solar, mechanical, or hydraulic) by means of suitable