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ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR THE
ENTERTAINMENT TECHNICIAN

**Essential Terminology
For the Entertainment
Technician**

Lighting and Electrics

1E

See also: First Electric

2 P&G

See also: Pin Connector

2-fer

See also: Two-fer

2/0

Pronounced 2-aught; single conductor cable with wire size "2/0" on jacket; commonly used for feeder cable

2PG

See also: Pin Connector

3-fer

See also: Three-fer

4/0

Pronounced 4-aught; single conductor cable with wire size "4/0" on jacket; commonly used for feeder cable

A**Adapter**

Electrical accessory that transitions between dissimilar connectors; may be a molded unit, box or cable assembly

Amp

See also: Amperes

Amperes

Unit of measure for the quantity of electricity flowing in a conductor
Synonym: A, Amp, Current

AMX192

Analog Multiplexing protocol for transmitting control information from a console to a dimmer or other controllable device
Synonym: AMX, USITT AMX192

Ante-proscenium

See also: Front of House (FOH) Beam

Asbestos Skirt

Obsolete term See also: Flameproof Apron

Automated Fixtures

See also: Automated Luminaire

Automated Lighting Control Console

Lighting console capable of controlling automated luminaires

Automated Luminaire

Lighting instrument with attributes that are remotely controlled

Synonym: Automated Fixture, Automated Light, Computerized Light, Intelligent Light, Motorized Light, Mover, Moving Light, More...

Automated Yoke

Remotely controlled pan and tilt device

Synonym: Yokie

B**Backlight**

A lighting source that is behind the talent or subject from the viewers perspective

Synonym: Backs, Back Wash, Bx, Hair Light, Rim Light

Backs

See also: Backlight

Balcony Front

See also: Balcony Rail

Balcony Rail

Lighting position mounted in front of or on the face of the balcony

Synonym: Balcony Front

Ballast

Electrical device required to maintain proper voltage to a discharge type (fluorescent, HMI®, HID) lamp

Banded

See also: Feeder Cable

Bare End

An electrical cable with no plug connector

Barndoor

Device that attaches to the front of a luminaire that allows for beam-shaping by blocking the beam of light

Bates®

Trade Name (Marinco Electrical Group) See also: Pin Connector

Battery

Self-contained DC electrical power source, designated by voltage or size

Beam Projector

Non-lensed luminaire with a primary and secondary reflector to produce an intense, tight beam with minimal spill

Black Foil

Trade name (Lee Filters) See also: Black Studio Foil

Black Light

See also: Ultraviolet Light

Black Studio Foil

Black coated non-reflective aluminum foil
Synonym: Black Foil, BlackWrap™, Cinefoil™

Blackout

The total absence of light on stage or set

BlackWrap™

Trade name (GAMProducts) See also: Black Studio Foil

Bluelights

See also: Running Lights

Board

See also: Lighting Console

Board Op

See also: Light Board Operator

Boom

Freestanding support for equipment

Boom Arm

Horizontal pipe attached to a vertical boom

Boom Base

Bottom member of a boom that spreads the weight over a wider area and provides an anchor to the floor holding the boom in a vertical position

Borderlight

See also: Striplight

Bottle

See also: Lamp

Box Booms

Hanging positions mounted in the house on the side walls or seating boxes of the theater

Synonym: Side Cove, Slot

Box Truss

Truss consisting of 4 linear members See also: Truss

Branch-a-laris

See also: Cuculoris

Break-in

Adapter consisting of multiple plugs (M) wired to a single multipin (FM) connector; may be a box or a cable assembly

Synonym: Break-in Box, Fan-in

Break-out

Adapter consisting of multiple receptacles (FM) wired to a single multipin (M) connector; may be a box or a cable assembly

Synonym: Break-out Box, Fan-out

Breaker

See also: Circuit Breaker

Bridge

Walkway, catwalk to access technical areas

Bridge Spot

See also: Followspot Positions

Broad

Non-lensed luminaire with a reflector that creates a wide flood of light

Bulb

See also: Lamp

Bull Switch

See also: Company Switch

Bumblebee

See also: Cable Crossover

Bundle

See also: Feeder Cable

Burger

See also: Coupler

Burn Out

Failed lamp or color media that is burned through

C**C-Clamp**

Clamp shaped like a "C" that is used to attach any item to a pipe

C-stand

Collapsible stand with telescoping shaft, and legs that nest for storage

C47

See also: Clothes Pin

Cable

See also: Stage Cable

Cable Crossover

Portable, temporary cable protectors used to cover and protect cables routed through personnel or vehicle traffic areas
Synonym: Bumble Bee®, Cable Mat, Cable Ramp, Cable Trough, More...

Cable Drop

Cable from above to a lower level

Cable Ramp

See also: Cable Crossover

Cable Tie

Strap, tie, or cord used to bundle and dress multiple cables or contain coiled cable
Synonym: Sash Cord, Tie Line, Tie-Wrap, Velcro® Strap, Wire Tie, Wire Wrap, Zip Tie =Lighting More...

Cable Tray

Overhead cable support system consisting of an open topped tray used to route cables between points within the facility

Cable Trough

Enclosed cable tray often built in the floor
Synonym: Floor Trough

CABTIRE

See also: Stage Cable

Cam

See also: Single Pole Locking Connector

Cam Connector

See also: Single Pole Locking Connector

Cam-Lok ®

Electrical - Trade name (Cooper Crouse Hinds®); also CamLok, Cam Lok
See also: Single Pole Locking Connector

Camcable

See also: Feeder Cable

Can

See also: Luminaire ◇ PAR Can Lighting & Electrics

Cannon

See also: Yoking Out

CB

See also: Circuit Breaker

CeloCuk

See also: Cuculoris

Channel

Specific control parameter encompassing single or multiple device attributes (lighting dimmers, audio signals, etc.) controlled as a unit

Channel Hookup

Paperwork designating the connection of dimmer circuits to channels of control

Chase

Lighting effect in which luminaire output fluctuates in a repeating sequence

Cheeseboro

See also: Coupler

Cheeseborough

See also: Coupler

Cheeseburger

See also: Coupler

Cinch® Jones Connector

Trade Name (Cinch® Connectors) Flat blade multicircuit connectors
Synonym: CJ, Jones Connector

Cinefoil™

Trade name (Rosco) See also: Black Studio Foil

Circuit

Path for electricity to flow from the source, through a conductor, to a device(s)

Circuit Breaker

Mechanical/Electrical device that is designed to automatically open (trip) if the current exceeds the rated level protecting the circuit; may be operated manually

Synonym: Breaker, CB, OCPD, Overcurrent Protective Device

CJ

See also: Cinch® Jones Connector

Cleaning Light

See also: Janitor Light

Clip Light

See also: Music Stand Light

Clothes Pin

Wooden clamp with a spring or fork Synonym: C47

Color Changers

Manual or automated device for changing color of the light from a luminaire

Color Extender

Top hat with color media holder

Synonym: Gel Extender

Color Frame

Metal or heat resistant device that holds the color media in front of a luminaire Synonym: Gel Frame

Color Glass

See also: Color Media

Color Media

Translucent material used to color light Synonym: Color Glass, Dichroic, Gel, Roundels

Color Wheel

Segmented manual or motorized rotating wheel with color media in front of a light source

Company Switch

Electrical panel with disconnecting means for the supply of significant amounts of electrical power to portable equipment
Synonym: Bull Switch, Disconnect, Panel, Power Panel

Computerized Light

See also: Automated Luminaire

Conductor

Material through which electricity will flow
Synonym: Cable, Feeder, Leads

Conduit

Metal or plastic tubing used to route and protect electrical and data wiring
Synonym: EMT

Connector Strip

Series of electrical receptacles or pigtails spaced in a metal wireway providing power and sometimes data outlets
Synonym: Raceway

Console

See also: Lighting Console

Console Desk

See also: Moving Light Console

Contactactor

See also: Non Dim

Continuity

An unbroken electrical path

Control Cable

Low voltage data cable

Control Desk

See also: Moving Light Console

Controller

See also: Lighting Console

Convenience outlet

An electrical receptacle designated to access power in places not normally found

Coo-koo

See also: Cuculoris

Cookie

See also: Cuculoris

Cord Clamp

See also: Strain Relief

Coupler

Hinged pipe clamp for securing two pieces of pipe or equipment
Synonym: Burger, Cheeseboro, Cheeseborough, Cheeseburger, Scaffolding Clamp, Scaff Clamp, half coupler

Cove

See also: Front of House (FOH) Beam

Crew Chief

Person in charge of a specific crew and to whom stagehands report

Cuculoris

Material placed in front of an luminaire that creates a pattern in the light projected

Synonym: Branch-a-laris, CeloCuk, Cookie, Coo-koo, Cuculoris

Cue Light

Light controlled from the stage manager's station to signal actors or crew

Cue Sheet

Paperwork with instructions for the execution of a cue

Cuk

See also: Cuculoris

Current

See also: Amperes

Cyc Light

See also: Cyclorama Light

Cyclorama Light

Non-lensed luminaire with an asymmetrical reflector, primarily used for lighting backdrops

Synonym: Cyc light

D**Dagger Pipe**

See also: Boom

Deck Electrician

Performance crew dealing with operation of lights and other electrical components on stage

Desk

See also: Lighting Console

Dichro

See also: Dichroic Filter

Dichroic

See also: Color Media

Dichroic Filter

Style of glass light filter that reflects unwanted frequencies instead of absorbing them

Synonym: Dichro

Diffusion

Translucent material that spreads or disperses light, lowering contrast

Dimmer

Electrical device between the power source and a luminaire used to adjust the intensity of the lamp

Dimmer Beach

See also: Dimmer Land

Dimmer Land

Area where portable dimmers are located
Synonym: Dimmer Beach

Dimmer Rack

Portable or permanent equipment racks that contain dimmers
Synonym: Dimmers, Packs, Rack

Discharge Lamp

Light sources that generate light by sending an electrical discharge through an ionized gas
Synonym: HMI, HID, Plasma

Disco Ball

See also: Mirror Ball

Disconnect

See also: Company Switch

Distribution Box

Flow-through device in the feeder circuit that provides protected circuits
Synonym: Distro Box

Distro Box

See also: Distribution Box

DMX

See also: DMX512

DMX512

Digital Multiplexing protocol developed by USITT for communicating control information between a console or other controller and dimmers or other stage equipment
Synonym: ANSI E1.11, More...

Dog Collar

See also: Safety Cable

Donut

Square plate with a circular hole that is placed in front of an Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight to sharpen the image

Douser

Device, internal or external, that mechanically dims a light

Drop Box

Portable electrical outlet box wired to a permanent electrical junction overhead

Synonym: Pendant

Duplex

See also: Outlet

E**Earth**

See also: Ground

Earthing

See also: Grounding

Edison Connector

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Edison Strip

See also: Plug Strip

Effects Projector

Luminaire used to project images from rotating glass or metal disks

Effects Wheel

Device attached to the front of a luminaire that provides animated effects

Elec

See also: Stage Electric

Electric

See also: Stage Electric

Electric Batten

See also: Stage Electric

Electrical Connector

Conductive device for joining electrical circuits
Synonym: Plug, Receptacle

Electrical Tape

Vinyl adhesive tape typically in a variety of colors

Electricity

Flow of electromagnetic energy (electrons) through a conductor

Electrics Crew

See also: Entertainment Electrician

Ellipsoidal

See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight

Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight

Luminaire which projects light via an elliptical reflector and a lens system
Synonym: Ellipsoidal, ERS, Leko®, Profile, Source 4®

Elliptical Reflector Flood

Non-lensed luminaire with an elliptical shaped reflector that produces a wide diffused wash of light
Synonym: ERF, scoop

EMT

See also: Conduit

Entertainment Electrician

Crew member who hangs, adjusts, operates lighting equipment, and electrical distribution
Synonym: Electrics Crew, Lighting Technician

Equity Lights

See also: Running Lights

ERF

See also: Elliptical Reflector Flood

ERS

See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight

Ethernet

A networking standard for data transmission

F**Far Cyc**

See also: Cyc Light

Feeder

See also: Feeder Cable

Feeder Cable

Portable multiconductor or multiple single conductor power cables to carry power from the source to a distribution point

Synonym: Banded, Bundle, Camcable, Feeder

Field

See also: Field of Light

Field of Light

When the beam of light (lumens or foot-candles) is at least 10 % of maximum intensity

Synonym: Field

Firefly®

See also: Cable Crossover

First Elec

See also: First Electric

First Electric

First pipe batten over the stage upstage of the proscenium or plaster line that is designated for stage lighting equipment

Synonym: First Elec, 1E, LX1,

Fixture

See also: Luminaire

Flameproof Apron

Cloth that protects drapery and scenery from the heat of the equipment in near proximity

Synonym: Asbestos (obsolete) Skirt, Nomex®, Zetex®

Flat Truss

Truss consisting of 2 linear members See also: Truss

Flo

See also: Fluorescent Luminaire

Floor Box

See also: Floor Pocket

Floor Pocket

Dedicated enclosure recessed in the floor with a hinged cover
Synonym: Floor Box, Stage Pocket

Floor Stand

Short telescoping or fixed height lightweight vertical mounting device to hold lights or speakers
Synonym: Stand

Floor Trough

See also: Cable Trough

Fluorescent Fixture

See also: Fluorescent Luminaire

Fluorescent Luminaire

Luminaires containing one or more fluorescent lamps which produce a soft diffused light
Synonym: Flo, Fluorescent Fixture

Focus

Process of aiming a luminaire so that the beam falls in the desired location and shape

Followspot

Luminaire that is operator controlled to follow action on stage
Synonym: Front Light, Spot

Followspot Position

Any designated location for followspots
Synonym: Bridge Spot, Followspot booth, Spot Booth, Spot Chair, Truss Spot

Followspot Booth

See also: Followspot Position

Followspot Operator

Electrician or Stagehand who operates followspots

Synonym: Frontlight Operator, Spot Operator

Foot Lights

Lights mounted horizontally around the down stage lip of the stage at floor level - often some form of strip light

Framing Shutter

Movable metal plates, in an ellipsoidal reflector spotlight, that shape the light beam

Synonym: Shutter

Fresnel

Luminaire which projects a soft-focus light via a spherical reflector and a flat, concentric ringed lens

Front Light

A lighting source that illuminates the talent or subject from the direction of the viewers point of view

Front of House (FOH) Beam

Lighting position mounted in the house ceiling in front of the stage

Synonym: Antepro, Ante-proscenium, AP, Cove, Port Position

Frontlight Operator

See also: Followspot Operator

FUG

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Fuse

Overcurrent protection device that fails open (blows) when the current exceeds its rating

Gate

Secondary focal point of an ellipsoidal reflector spotlight where accessories (gobo, iris, shutters) can shape the light beam

Gel

See also: Color Media

Gel Book

See also: Swatch Book

Gel Extender

See also: Color Extender

Gel Frame

See also: Color Frame

Gen-set

See also: Power Generator

Genny

See also: Power Generator

GFCI

See also: Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

GFI

See also: Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

Ghost Light

Single lamp in a safety cage on a floor stand that remains illuminated on stage when the theater is not in use

Globe

See also: Lamp

Gobo

See also: Pattern

Gobo Holder

See also: Pattern Holder

Gobo Rotators

See also: Pattern Rotator

Gobo Slot

See also: Pattern Slot

Going Dark

Warning given when the stage is going to a blackout

Synonym: Going to Black

Going to Black

See also: Going Dark

GP

See also: Pin Connector

Green Wire

See also: Ground Conductor

Ground

Electrical conductor that is physically connected to the Earth

Ground Conductor

Conductor that physically connects circuit to the Earth

Synonym: Green Wire (North America), Ground Wire

Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter

Mechanical/Electrical device designed to protect from electrical shock hazard by interrupting a circuit

Synonym: GFCI, GFI

Ground Wire

See also: Ground Conductor

Grounding

Creating a continuous conductive path to the earth

Synonym: Earthing

GTL

See also: Twist Lock Connector

H**Hair Light**

See also: Backlight

Halation

Illumination that is outside the controlled beam of light
Synonym: Spill

Half Coupler

A clamp that secures a device to a pipe See also: Coupler

Halogen Lamp

See also: Tungsten-halogen lamp

Hang Plot

See also: Light Plot

Hard Patch

Physical connection of a circuit to a dimmer
Synonym: Patch

Hard Wired

Electrical equipment that is directly wired to a circuit without having a connector

Head

See also: Head High

Head High

Luminaire mounted at head height above the floor
Synonym: Head, High

Heads

Warning given when someone overhead has dropped something or a dangerous situation is occurring overhead

Heat Shield

Transparent filter designed to extend the life of flexible color media

Highs

See also: Head Highs

House Lights

Audience lighting
Synonym: House

I

Illuminator

Light source for fiber optic displays

Incandescent Lamp

Light source created by a filament that glows when current passes through it

Instrument

See also: Luminaire

Insulation

Nonconductive material around the electrical conductor

Intelligent Light

See also: Automated Luminaire

Iris

Device that adjusts the beam circumference larger or smaller

J

Janitor Light

Lighting designated to be on for the cleaning of that space
Synonym: Cleaning Light

Jones Connector

See also: Cinch® Jones Connector

Jumper

A short extension cable
Synonym: Shortie

K

Kellems® Grip

Trade name (Hubbell) Wire mesh strain relief

Kicker

See also: Shinbuster

L

L5-20

See also: Twist Lock Connector

L6-20

See also: Twist Lock Connector

Ladder Truss

Truss consisting of 2 linear members See also: Truss

Lamp

Transparent or translucent glass housing containing a filament and/or gas that produces light when voltage is applied

Synonym: Bottle, Bulb, Globe, Light Bulb

Lamp Bar

Prewired section of pipe with designated outlets and attachment points

Lamp Lead

Electrical cable assembly for connecting a luminaire to its plug

Synonym: Lead, Pig Tail, Tail

LD

See also: Lighting Designer

Lead

See also: Lamp Lead

Leads

See also: Conductor

LED

Light Emitting Diode

LED Luminaire

Luminaire which uses light emitting diodes as light source

Leko®

Trade name (Philips Strand Lighting) See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector
Spotlight

Light

See also: Luminaire

Light Ladders

Hanging positions shaped like ladders

Light Board Operator

Person who may set up, program and operate the lighting console
Synonym: Board Op

Light Boom

See also: Boom

Light Bulb

See also: Lamp

Light Fixture

See also: Luminaire

Light Pipe

See also: Stage Electric

Light Plot

Scale drawing that shows the locations of lighting equipment
Synonym: Hang Plot, Lighting Plan, Plot

Light Stand

See also: Floor Stand

Light Tree

See also: Boom

Lighting Batten

Pipe battens dedicated for attaching luminaires and stage equipment
Synonym: Elec, Electric Batten, Electric, Light Pipe

Lighting Boom

Vertical mounting position for lighting and other electrical equipment
Synonym: Boom

Lighting Boom Base

Bottom element of a temporary lighting boom in contact with the floor
Synonym: Boom Base

Lighting Bridge

Lighting position that consists of a catwalk with pipes mounted on one or both sides

Lighting Console

Device that controls lighting and stage equipment
Synonym: Board, Console, Controller, Desk

Lighting Crew

Persons involved in hanging, circuiting, focusing, maintaining and running the entertainment light systems

Lighting Cue

1) A designed lighting effect or image; 2) Action that an electrician or light board operator does during the course of a performance
Synonym: Look, Q, State

Lighting Design

Artistic vision of the lighting designer

Lighting Designer

Person who creates the lighting design for a production
Synonym: LD

Lighting Director

Person who stays with the show to maintain lighting design

Lighting Inventory

Equipment that is available at a venue or is used in a production

Lighting Paper Work

Documentation of the lighting design that may include the following: light plot, magic sheet, cue sheet, channel hookup, instrument schedule, shop order, etc.

Lighting Plan

See also: Light Plot

Lighting Technician

See also: Entertainment Electrician

Lighting Towers

Scaffolding or purpose built structures on which lighting equipment is attached

Lighting Tree

See also: Boom

Linnebach Projector

Lensless luminaire used to project scenic images

Look

See also: Lighting Cue

Loom

Bundled multicables

Luminaire Schedule

Paperwork with information about each luminaire used for a show: color, circuit, channel, pattern, etc.

Lunch Box

Flow-through device in the feeder circuit without overcurrent protection, typically used for branch circuits

LX 1

See also: First Electric

M

Mid

See also: Mid High

Mid High

Luminaire mounted waist high above the floor

Synonym: Mid

Mini-Strip™

Trade name (Lighting and Electronics) See also: MR16 Striplight

Mirror Ball

Ball with mirrored facets that reflects specks of light Synonym: Disco Ball, Shower Ball

Monitor

Device that allows one to view or hear real-time performance or operation of systems

Synonym: Audio Monitor, Video Monitor, Rigging Control Monitor

Motorized Lighting

See also: Automated Luminaire

Mouse Hole

See also: Pass-through

Moving Light Board

See also: Moving Light Console

Moving Light Console

Lighting console dedicated to automated luminaires

Synonym: Control Desk, Console Desk, Lighting Console, Moving Light Board

Moving Light Operator

Person who operates moving light system

Moving Light Programmer

Person who sets up and programs a moving light console

Moving Lights

See also: Automated Fixtures

Moving Mirror Instrument

Intelligent luminaire that uses a mirror to direct the light beam

Synonym: Scanner

MR16

Multifaceted reflector lamp measuring 16 eighths of an inch in diameter

MR16 Striplight

Luminaire containing a linear array of MR16 lamps

MUG

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Mult

See also: Multiconductor Cable

Multi-strip

See also: Plug Strip

Multicable

Multiconductor cable with multipin connectors installed

Synonym: Mult, Multi, Socapex®, Veam, VSC

Multicable Connector

See also: Multipin Connector

Multiconductor Cable

Cable with multiple circuits sheathed in an outer jacket

Multipin Connector

Electrical connector commonly used with multiconductor cable to carry 6 to 12 circuits

Synonym: Multipin, Socapex®, Veam VSC, Pyle-National, Soca

Music Stand Light

Light that attaches to a music stand

Synonym: Clip Light, Stand Light

N

National Electrical Code®

A set of rules regarding electrical installation and some practices for the safeguarding of persons and property from the hazards arising from the use of electricity, adopted by municipalities and other government agencies as law

NEC®

See also: National Electrical Code®
Synonym: NEC® and National Electrical Code are trademarked

Neutral

Conductor that is a part of an electrical circuit which connects the load back to the source
Synonym: White Wire (North America)

NFPA 70

See also: National Electrical Code®

Nomex ®

Trade Name (Dupont) See also: Flameproof Apron

Non Dim

Remotely controlled on/off circuit
Synonym: Relay, Contactor

Number 1 Pipe

See also: First Electric

O

OCPD

See also: Circuit Breaker

Open Circuit

Electric path that is interrupted (open)

Outlet

A point in an electrical wiring system where equipment is connected via a receptacle or is hard-wired
Synonym: Duplex, Receptacle

Outlet Strip

See also: Plug Strip

Overcurrent Protective Device

See also: Circuit Breaker

Overheads

See also: Worklights

Overload

Exceeding normal full-load rating or a conductor in excess of rated amperage

P**Packs**

See also: Dimmer Rack

Pan

Horizontal movement of a luminaire

Panel

See also: Company Switch

PAR

See also: PAR Can

PAR Can

Luminaire with a PAR lamp mounted inside
Synonym: Can, PAR, Par Light

PAR Lamp

Parabolic Aluminized Reflector Lamp

Par Light

See also: PAR Can

Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

15 or 20 Amp North American standard electrical connector
Synonym: Edison Connector, FUG, MUG, PBG, Straight Blade, U Ground

Pass-through

Opening in the facility wall used for the temporary routing of cables
Synonym: Chase, Mouse Hole

Patch

The connection of a circuit to dimmer or assignment of a dimmer to channel
Synonym: Hard Patch, Soft Patch

Patch Panel

Electrical panel for making physical connections
Synonym: Patch Bay

Patch Plot

Paperwork that designates the connection between two elements

Pattern

Image or cutout that is inserted into the gate of an ellipsoidal spotlight to project the pattern with the light
Synonym: Gobo, Template

Pattern Holder

Metal plate with a heat resistant handle that is used to insert a pattern into the pattern slot of an Ellipsoidal Reflector Spot
Synonym: Gobo Holder, Template Holder

Pattern Rotator

Device inserted in the pattern slot of a ERS that provides for rotation of patterns at a fixed or variable speed via local or remote control
Synonym: Gobo Rotators, Rotator

Pattern Slot

Opening at the gate of an Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight where accessories can be inserted
Synonym: Gobo Slot, Template Slot

PBG

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

PC

1) Luminaire with a single plano convex lens, and spherical reflector See also: 2) Plano Convex Lens

Pendant

See also: Drop Box

PG

See also: Pin Connector

Photoflood

Photography lamp that produces a daylight color temperature

Pigtail

Cable with cord connector only on one end

Pin Beam

See also: Pin Spot

Pin Connector

Electrical connectors with 3 split pins or sleeves configured in a rectangular housing

Synonym: 2P&G, 2PG, Bates®, GP, PC, Pin Plug, Stage Pin

Pin Plug

See also: Pin Connector

Pin Spot

Luminaire producing a very narrow beam of light

Synonym: Pin Beam, Rain Light

Pipe Grid

Pipes arranged in a pattern used as hanging positions above the house or above the stage

Pipe Stiffener

Side-arm attached to a pipe batten and then attached to a lift line keeping the batten from rotating

Synonym: Sidearming a Pipe

Plano Convex Lens

Lens characterized by one flat and one outwardly curved surface

Plot

See also: Light Plot

Plug

Male connectors using pins or blades as the conductors

Plug Strip

Electrical device with one male connector and multiple female receptacles, generally in a linear array that may contain an on/off switch and a circuit breaker

Synonym: Edison Strip

Port Position

See also: Front of House (FOH) Beam

Power Drop

Electrical supply cable that comes from a power distribution panel

Power Generator

A device that produces voltage and supplies current

Synonym: Genny, Gen-set

Power Panel

See also: Company Switch

Power Source

Either an installed building electrical system, portable generators, transformers, or batteries

Power Strip

See also: Plug Strip

Practicals

Functional electrical devices such as light fixtures and switches that are a part of a scenic setting

Production Electrician

Person who assembles and installs the lighting equipment of a production and supervises the electrical crew

Profile

European terminology See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector Spotlight

Profile Spot

European terminology See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector Spot

Pyle-National

Trade Name (Amphenol Corporation) See also: Multipin Connector

Q**Q**

See also: Cue

Quad Box

Electrical box with four receptacles

Quartz Lamp

See also: Tungsten-halogen Lamp

R**Raceway**

Cable duct containing permanently installed electrical wiring

Raceways

See also: Connector Strips

Radio Control

Operation of stage equipment such as pyrotechnics, practicals and props controlled by radio signals

Synonym: Wireless Control

Rain Light

See also: Pin Spot

Receptacle

Female connectors using sockets as the conductors

Relay

See also: Non Dim

RG

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Rim Light

See also: Backlight

Road Box

Storage container with wheels
Synonym: Road Case

Road Case

See also: Road Box

Rope Light

Flexible plastic tube containing a series of miniature lamps
Synonym: Snake Light

Rotator

See also: Pattern Rotator

Roundel

Heat resistant round convexed glass plain and stippled color media

Rover

See also: Floor Stand; on wheels

Running Lights

Lighting used during a performance or rehearsal to allow visibility backstage
Synonym: Bluelights, Equity Lights, Safety Lights

S**Safety Cable**

Accessory used to back up the primary attachment
Synonym: Dog Collar, Safety

Safety Lights

See also: Running Lights

Sash Cord

See also: Cable Tie

SC

See also: Stage Cable

Scaff Clamp

See also: Coupler

Scaffolding Clamp

See also: Coupler

Scanner

See also: Moving Mirror Instrument

Scenery Bumper

Ring with a clamp that attaches to a batten to keep drapery, lighting, and scenery apart

Scoop

See also: Elliptical Reflector Flood

Scroller

Accessory placed in front or internal to a luminaire that contains a color string or roll

Shin

See also: Shinbuster

Shinbuster

Luminaire mounted just above the floor
Synonym: Kicker, Shinkicker, Shin

Shinkicker

See also: Shinbuster

Shop Order

Paperwork that indicates all the elements, parts and pieces being included in a rental

Short

See also: Short Circuit

Short Circuit

Occurs when the current carrying wire connects to either the opposite polarity or the ground causing the current to bypass the intended electrical path
Synonym: Short

Shortie

See also: Jumper

Shower Ball

See also: Mirror Ball

Shutter

See also: Framing Shutter

Side Arm

C-clamp with short piece of 1/2" diameter pipe and one or more sliding mounts

Side Cove

See also: Box Booms

Side Light

Light that comes from the luminaire that is mounted on either side of the stage

Sidearming a Pipe

See also: Pipe Stiffener

Single Pole Locking Connector

Large, rubber-sheathed, locking connector (typically color-coded); suitable for connecting single conductor feeder cable
Synonym: Cam, Cam Connector, Cam-lok® Single Pole Separable More...

Single Pole Separable Connector

See also: Single Pole Locking Connector

Skirt

See also: Flameproof Apron

Slide Dimmer

An analog slider directly connected to a dimmer

Slot

See also: Box Booms

Snake

Control line to FOH

Snake Light

See also: Rope Light

Snoot

See also: Top Hat

SO

See also: Stage Cable

Soca

See also: Multipin Connector

Socapex®

Trade Name (Amphenol Corporation) See also: Multipin Connector

Soft Patch

Software assignment of a channel to a dimmer

Synonym: Patch

SOOW

See also: Stage Cable

Source Four®

Trade name (Electronic Theatre Controls) See also: Ellipsoidal Reflector
Spotlight

Special

Luminaire that is used on its own

Spider

An extension cord with multiple receptacles commonly used in an
orchestra pit to power stand lights

Spider Box

Flow-through device in the feeder circuit without overcurrent protection

Spill

Unwanted light hitting scenery or some other element

Spot

See also: Followspot

Spot Booth

See also: Followspot Position

Spot Chair

See also: Followspot Position

Spot Operator

See also: Followspot Operator

Spot Platform

Permanent or temporary position on which a follow spot is located

Spotting Light

Light source that provides dancers with a point of reference, typically red and usually located on a balcony front at the centerline of the stage

Stage Cable

Portable, extra-hard usage electrical cable
Synonym: Cable, CABTIRE, SC, SO, SOOW

Stage Electric

Position over the stage where luminaires are mounted
Synonym: Elec, Electric, Electric Batten, Light Pipe

Stage Electrician

Person who works with electricity on stage

Stage Pin

See also: Pin Connector

Stage Plug

See also: Pin Connector

Stage Pocket

See also: Floor Pocket

Stand

See also: Floor Stand

Stand Light

See also: Music Stand Light

State

See also: Lighting Cue

Straight Blade

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Strain Relief

Mechanical clamp to protect internal electrical connections from tension;
2) Line or device attached along a cable to relieve tension on the connector

Synonym: 1) Cord Clamp, 2) Kellems® Grip

Striplight

Luminaire with a linear arrangement of lamps

Synonym: Borderlight, Strips, X-Rays

Strips

See also: Striplight

Swatch Book

Samples of color media in a bound format

Synonym: Gel Book

T**Tail**

See also: Lamp Lead

Template

See also: Pattern

Template Holder

See also: Pattern Holder

Template Slot

See also: Pattern Slot

Test Light

Portable lamp used to troubleshoot a circuit

Three-fer

Electrical accessory enabling three different devices to be plugged to one electrical receptacle

Tie Line

See also: Cable Tie

Tie-Wrap

See also: Cable Tie

TLG

See also: Twist Lock Connector

Top Hat

Accessory that fits on to the front of a luminaire to reduce spill and glare

Synonym: Snoot

Tormentor

See also: Tormentor Curtain

Tormentor Curtain

First set of legs upstage of the proscenium arch Synonym: Leg, Tormentor

Tormentor Pipe

Lighting position behind the tormentor or false proscenium Synonym:

Torms

Torms

See also: Tormentor Pipe

Track Lighting

System of electrified track and repositionable luminaires

Tree

See also: Boom

Tri-truss

See also: Triangular Truss

Triangular Truss

Truss consisting of 3 linear members See also: Truss

Tripod

See also: Floor Stand

Truss

Module(s) consisting of two or more linear members fabricated with cross bracing assembled to carry load over a distance; may be box shaped, triangular or flat

Synonym :Box Truss, Flat Truss, Ladder Truss, Triangular Truss, Tri-truss, Truss Batten

Truss Batten

See also: Truss

Truss Spot

See also: Followspot Position

Tungsten-halogen Lamp

Incandescent lamp with a tungsten filament in a quartz glass envelope filled with a halogen gas

Synonym: Quartz Lamp

Twist

See also: Twist Lock Connector

Twist Lock Connector

Round electrical connector with multiple interlocking curved contacts

Synonym: GTL, L5-20, L6-20, TLG, Twist

Twist-Lock ®

Registered trademark (Hubbell®); type of electrical connector

Two-fer

Electrical accessory enabling two devices to be plugged in to one receptacle

Synonym: 2-fer

Ty-wrap

See also: Cable Tie

U**U Ground**

See also: Parallel Blade Grounded Connector

Ultraviolet B

See also: Ultraviolet Light

Ultraviolet Light

An extremely high frequency light that is invisible to the human eye; use with caution as improper exposure can damage skin and eyes and cause fading to inanimate materials

Synonym: Black Light, UV, UVB, Ultra-violet B

Unit

See also: Luminaire

UV

See also: Ultraviolet Light

UVA

See also: Ultraviolet Light

UVB

See also: Ultraviolet Light

V**Veam VSC**

Trade Name (ITT Corporation) See also: Multipin Connector

Velcro® Strap,

See also: Cable Tie

Video Monitor

Electronic visual display device without television tuner

Synonym: Monitor

Volt-Ohm Meter

Instrument which measures volts, ohms (electrical resistance), amperes (electrical current), and continuity

Synonym: VOM Meter

Volts

Unit of measure for the difference in electrical potential (pressure) between two points

VOM Meter

See also: Volt-Ohm Meter

W

W

See also: Watt

Wall Box

Electrical junction box mounted to facility wall

Wall Pockets

Dedicated enclosure in the wall, sometimes with a cover similar to a floor pocket

Watt

Unit of measurement for power consumed
Synonym: W, Wattage

Wattage

See also: Watt

White Wire

See also: Neutral

Wiggle Lights

See also: Automated Fixtures

Wire Tie

See also: Cable Tie

Wire Wrap

See also: Cable Tie

Wireless Control

See also: Radio Control

Worklights

Lighting fixtures used for general illumination other than during performances
Synonym: Overheads, Works

Works

See also: Worklights

X

X-Rays

See also: Striplight

Y

Yellow Jacket

See also: Cable Crossover

Yokie

See also: Automated Yoke

Yoking Out

Hanging a piece of equipment at an angle from a batten

Synonym: Cannon

Z

Zetex®

Trade Name (Newtex) See also: Flameproof Apron

Zip Strip

Trade name (Altman Lighting) See also: MR16 Striplight

Zip Tie

See also: Cable Tie

Zoom

See also: Zoom Luminaire

Zoom Luminaire

Luminaire with adjustable lens system that enables a range of focal lengths

Synonym: Zoom