

**ABBREVIATIONS**

**NOTE:** The abbreviations are listed alphabetically in the first column, with the French equivalent in brackets. Bold characters indicate that the abbreviation is the same in both languages.

1 CAD (1 DAC)	1 Canadian Air Division
A3 TSR (A3 Disp Op Tpt/SAR)	A3 Transport and SAR Readiness
<b>ACC</b>	area control centre
AOC (COA)	air operations centre
<b>AGL</b>	above ground level
<b>AMVER</b>	Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System
<b>ASCC</b>	Air Standardization Co-ordinating Committee
<b>ATC</b>	air traffic control
<b>BC</b>	bottom current
<b>C</b>	coverage factor
<b>CANSARP</b>	Canadian Search and Rescue Planning Program
<b>CAS</b>	co-ordinator aeronautical search
CAS (CEMFA)	Chief of Air Staff
CASARA (ACRSA)	Civil Air Search and Rescue Association (also see SERABEC)
<b>CASP</b>	Computer Assisted Search Planning system (United States Coast Guard)
CCG (GCC)	Canadian Coast Guard

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CCGA (GCAC)	Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary
CF (FC)	Canadian Forces
CFB (BFC)	Canadian Forces Base
CFS (SFC)	Canadian Forces Station
CFSRS (RRSFC)	Canadian Forces Supplementary Radio System
<i>CGFO (OFGC)</i>	<i>Coast Guard Fleet Order</i>
<b>CMCC</b>	Canadian Mission Control Centre
<i>OA (LO)</i>	<i>Oceans Act</i>
<b>COSPAS</b>	“Kosmicheskaya Sistyema Poiska Avariyny Sudov” (Russian for: Space system search for distressed vessels.)
CPI (IPC)	crash position indicator
<i>CSA (LMMC)</i>	<i>Canada Shipping Act</i>
<b>CSAD</b>	Canadian Search Area Definition
<b>CSS</b>	co-ordinator surface search
CVTS (—)	Co-operative Vessel Traffic Services
<b>CW</b>	continuous wave
<b>D</b>	total drift
<b>da</b>	aerospace trajectory
<b>D</b>	Air FE 3 (DEF Air 3) Directorate of Air Force Employment 3
<b>de</b>	individual drift error

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<b>D<sub>e</sub></b>	total drift error
<b>d<sub>e minimax</sub></b>	minimax drift error
<b>DF</b>	direction finder
<b>DFO (MPO)</b>	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
<b>DG (DG)</b>	Director General
<b>DMB</b>	datum marker buoy
<b>DND (MDN)</b>	Department of National Defence
<b>d<sub>p</sub></b>	parachute drift
<b>DR (—)</b>	dead reckoning
<b>d<sub>s</sub></b>	sinking drift
<b>DSC (ASN)</b>	digital selective calling
<b>E</b>	total probable error
<b>ECAREG CANADA</b>	Eastern Canada Traffic Zone Regulations
<b>EGC (AGA)</b>	enhanced group call
<b>ELT</b>	emergency locator transmitter
<b>EPIRB (RLS)</b>	emergency position-indicating radio beacon
<b>ETA (HPA)</b>	estimated time of arrival
<b>ETD (HPD)</b>	estimated time of departure
<b>f<sub>f</sub></b>	crew fatigue correction factor
<b>FLIR</b>	forward-looking infra-red

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<b>FM</b>	frequency modulated
<b><math>f_s</math></b>	optimal search factor
<b>FSS</b>	flight service station
<b><math>f_v</math></b>	search aircraft speed correction factor
<b><math>f_w</math></b>	weather condition correction factor
<b>GEOREF</b>	geographic reference system
<b>GHz</b>	gigahertz
<b>GMDSS (SMDSM)</b>	Global Maritime Distress and Safety System
<b>GPS</b>	Global Positioning System
<b>GRS (SRG)</b>	General Radio Service
<b>GRT (TJB)</b>	gross register ton or tonnage
<b>HF</b>	high frequencies (3 to 30 MHz)
<b>HQ (QG)</b>	headquarters
<b>ICAO (OACI)</b>	International Civil Aviation Organization
<b>ICSAR (CIRES)</b>	Interdepartmental Committee on Search and Rescue
<b>IMO (OMI)</b>	International Maritime Organization
<b>Inmarsat</b>	International Mobile Satellite Organization
<b>IRB (ESC)</b>	inshore rescue boat
<b>JETS</b>	Joint Enroute Terminal System
<b>kHz</b>	kilohertz

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<b>LC</b>	lake current
<b>LKP</b>	last known position
<b>LM SAR (—)</b>	Lead Minister for Search and Rescue
<b>Loran</b>	LOng RAnge Navigation
<b>LSC</b>	long shore current
<b>LUT</b>	local user terminal (satellite tracking station)
<b>LW</b>	leeway
<b>M</b>	nautical mile
<b>MAJAJD (CATAIR)</b>	major aeronautical disaster
<b>MANOT</b>	missing aircraft notice
<b>MARB (—)</b>	maritime assistance request broadcast
<b>MARLANT [FMAR (A)]</b>	Maritime Forces Atlantic
<b>MARPAC [FMAR (P)]</b>	Maritime Forces Pacific
<b>MCC</b>	mission control centre
<b>MCTS (SCTM)</b>	Marine Communications and Traffic Services
<b>MCTSO (OSCTM)</b>	Marine Communications and Traffic Services Officer
<b>MCW</b>	modulated continuous wave
<b>medevac</b>	medical evacuation
<b>MF</b>	medium frequencies (300 to 3000 kHz)
<b>MHz</b>	megahertz

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<b>MRSC</b>	maritime rescue sub-centre
<b>MSI</b>	maritime safety information
<b>MVFR</b>	Mountain Visual Flight Rules
N/A (s/o)	not applicable
<b>NATO (OTAN)</b>	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
<b>NBDP (IDBE)</b>	narrow-band direct-printing telegraphy
<b>NDHQ (QGDN)</b>	National Defence Headquarters
<b>NDOC (CODN)</b>	National Defence Operations Centre
<b>NIF (FNI)</b>	new search and rescue initiatives fund
<b>NOCL</b>	notice of crash/casualty location
<b>NOK (—)</b>	next-of-kin
<b>NORAD</b>	North American Air Defence
<b>NORDREG CANADA</b>	Arctic Canada Traffic System
<b>NOTAM</b>	notice to airmen
<i>NSM (MSN)</i>	<i>National Search and Rescue Manual</i>
<b>NSP (PNRS)</b>	National Search and Rescue Program
<b>NSS (SNRS)</b>	National Search and Rescue Secretariat
<b>NVGs (—)</b>	night vision goggles
<b>OBS (BSN)</b>	Office of Boating Safety
<b>OIC (—)</b>	Officer in Charge

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<b>OSC</b>	on-scene commander
<b>PEP</b>	Provincial Emergency Program (volunteer organization in British Columbia)
<b>PIW</b>	person in water
<b>PLB</b>	personal locator beacon
<b>POB</b>	persons on board
<b>POC</b>	probability of containment
<b>POD</b>	probability of detection
<b>Radar</b>	RAdio Detection And Ranging
<b>RC</b>	river current
<b>RCAF (ARC)</b>	Royal Canadian Air Force
<b>RCC</b>	rescue co-ordination centre
<b>RCMP (GRC)</b>	Royal Canadian Mounted Police
<b>RD (DR)</b>	Regional Director
<b>RSER (SSIE)</b>	Rescue, Safety and Environmental Response
<b>RSMS (RRSM)</b>	Regional Supervisor, Maritime Search and Rescue
<b>S</b>	track spacing
<b>SAR</b>	search and rescue
<b>SAREX</b>	search and rescue exercise
<b>SARSAT</b>	Search and Rescue Satellite-Aided Tracking



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<b>SARSUM</b> (—)	search and rescue summary
<b>SART</b>	search and rescue (radar) transponder
<b>SAR Tech</b> (SAR Tec)	Search and Rescue Technician
<b>SC</b>	sea current
<b>SERABEC</b>	“Sauvetage et recherches aériens du Québec” (also see CASARA)
<b>SICOFAA</b>	“Sistema de Cooperacion Fuerzas Aereas Americanas” (Spanish for: System of co-operation among the American Air Forces.)
<b>SITREP</b>	situation report
<b>SKAD</b>	survival kit air droppable
<b>SLDMB</b>	self-locating datum marker buoy
<b>SM</b> (—)	searchmaster
<b>SMC</b>	search and rescue mission co-ordinator
<b>SOLAS</b>	<i>International Convention of the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974</i>
<b>SOPs</b> (IPO)	standard operating procedures
<b>SRR</b>	search and rescue region
<b>SRU</b>	search and rescue unit
<b>SURPIC</b>	surface picture
<b>TC</b>	tidal current



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<b>TSB (BST)</b>	Transport Safety Board—working title for the Canadian Transportation Accident Investigation Safety Board (CTAISB)
<b>TWC</b>	total water current
<b>U</b>	wind speed in knots
<b>UHF</b>	ultra high frequencies (300 to 3000 MHz)
<b>UN SAR</b>	unnecessary search and rescue alert
<b>US (—)</b>	United States
<b>USAF</b>	United States Air Force
<b>USCG</b>	United States Coast Guard
<b>UTC</b>	Co-ordinated Universal Time
<b>VFR</b>	visual flight rules
<b>VHF</b>	very high frequencies (30 to 300 MHz)
<b>VTS (STM)</b>	vessel traffic services
<b>W</b>	sweep width
<b>WC</b>	wind driven current
<b>W<sub>u</sub></b>	uncorrected sweep width
<b>X</b>	initial position error
<b>Y</b>	search and rescue facility position error

## GLOSSARY

**NOTE:** The terms are listed alphabetically in bold characters in the first column. The French equivalent is indicated between quotation marks in italics, at the end of the definition.

<b>Aeromedical evacuation</b>	A Canadian Forces (CF) term meaning the medical evacuation by CF aircraft of service personnel from one facility to another. <i>“évacuation aéromédicale”</i>
<b>Aeronautical incident</b>	A search and rescue incident involving an aircraft. <i>“incident aéronautique”</i>
<b>Casualty staging area</b>	An intermediate forward location where a large number of survivors can be treated prior to evacuation to appropriate medical facilities. <i>“aire de rassemblement des blessés”</i>
<b>Combat support squadron</b>	A Canadian Forces (CF) squadron established to provide search and rescue service and other support to specified CF formations. <i>“escadron de support au combat”</i>
<b>Confirmed SARSAT position</b>	a. a 121.5/243.0 MHz SARSAT position which has been confirmed either by <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• at least two different satellite passes, or</li><li>• one satellite pass with another outside source such as an aircraft report, or</li></ul> b. a 406 MHz SARSAT location for an operationally coded distress beacon. <i>“position SARSAT confirmée”</i>
<b>Co-ordinated SAR system</b>	The combined facilities, equipment and procedures established in each search and rescue region to provide the response to search and rescue incidents. <i>“système SAR coordonné”</i>

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<b>Co-ordinator surface search (CSS)</b>	<p>A vessel, other than a search and rescue unit, designated to co-ordinate surface search and rescue operations within a specified search area.</p> <p><i>“coordonnateur des recherches en surface”</i></p>
<b>COSPAS-SARSAT</b>	<p>International organization which operates one of the satellite distress beacon alerting systems.</p> <p><i>“COSPAS-SARSAT”</i></p>
<b>DATUM</b>	<p>The most probable position of a search object, corrected for drift, at any specific time.</p> <p><i>“point de repère ou DATUM”</i></p>
<b>Datum marker buoy (DMB)</b>	<p>Droppable floating beacon used to determine actual sea current, or to serve as location reference.</p> <p><i>“bouée-repère électronique”</i></p>
<b>Disabled</b>	<p>A situation wherein a vessel or aircraft afloat and not in distress or potential of distress, has lost all means of propulsion, steering or control to such a degree as to be incapable of proceeding to safety without assistance.</p> <p><i>“désemparé”</i></p>
<b>Distress</b>	<p>A search and rescue incident where there is a reasonable certainty that one or more individuals are threatened by grave and imminent danger and require immediate assistance.</p> <p><i>“détresse”</i></p>
<b>Distress beacon</b>	<p>A generic term used to describe any emergency locator transmitter (ELT), emergency position-indicating radio beacon (EPIRB) or personal locator beacon (PLB).</p> <p><i>“balise de détresse”</i></p>
<b>Ditching</b>	<p>The forced landing of an aircraft on water.</p> <p><i>“amerissage forcé”</i></p>

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<b>Duckbutt</b>	<p>An airborne standby posture carried out by Canadian Forces aircraft to provide navigation or other assistance to aircraft during a specific operation.</p> <p><i>“duckbutt”</i></p>
<b>Forward operations base</b>	<p>A base, located as close as possible to an incident site, which is capable of handling large aircraft and has sufficient facilities (with augmentation, if necessary) to support a major aeronautical disaster operation.</p> <p><i>“base avancée des opérations”</i></p>
<b>Ground search and rescue incident</b>	<p>Any incident not otherwise classified as an aeronautical or maritime incident and involving missing persons or persons in distress.</p> <p><i>“incident de recherche et sauvetage au sol”</i></p>
<b>Humanitarian Incident</b>	<p>A Humanitarian Incident is a search and rescue (SAR) incident (not aeronautical or Maritime) that requires a response by the SAR System</p> <p><i>“incident humanitaire”</i></p>
<b>Major aeronautical disaster</b> <b>(MAJAID)</b>	<p>An aircraft incident occurring in Canada which, because of the number of people involved, requires augmentation of established search and rescue resources.</p> <p><i>“catastrophe aéronautique”</i></p>
<b>Major search and rescue operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aeronautical and maritime search and rescue incidents where primary maritime and/or primary aeronautical search and rescue units are tasked on an incident for more than four calendar days;</li><li>• Incidents which the search and rescue region commander assesses as being potentially sensitive; or</li><li>• Special cases, as directed by the National Defense Headquarters.</li></ul> <p><i>“opérations majeures de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>

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<b>Maritime incident</b>	<p>A Maritime incident is a search and rescue (SAR) incident on the water involving a vessel or person(s) from a vessel, including the medical evacuation (medevac) of persons(s) from a vessel.</p> <p><b>MI Distress</b> – A person or persons are threatened by grave and imminent danger and require immediate assistance.</p> <p><b>M3 Situation resolved in the uncertainly phase</b>—such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• a disabled vessel in no immediate danger, or</li><li>• a disoriented or lost vessel in no immediate danger, or</li><li>• other related incident involving a vessel with no person on board.</li></ul> <p>“incident maritime”</p>
<b>Medical evacuation (medevac) —critical</b>	<p>The critical evacuation of injured or stranded persons from isolated areas or the recovery of sick or critically injured persons from vessels at sea.</p> <p>“évacuation médicale critique”</p>
<b>Medical evacuation (medevac) —routine</b>	<p>The routine medical evacuation of patients or vital medical resources from one medical facility to another (aeronautical or maritime ambulance service).</p> <p>“évacuation médicale de routine”</p>
<b>NAVTEX</b>	<p>Telegraphy system for transmission of maritime safety information, navigation and meteorological warnings and urgent information to ships.</p> <p>“NAVTEX”</p>
<b>On-scene commander (OSC)</b>	<p>The commander of a search and rescue unit designated to co-ordinate search and rescue operations within a specified Search area.</p> <p>“commandant sur place”</p>
<b>Other search and rescue</b>	<p>Resources other than primary or secondary which participate in search and rescue activities when required. This includes civilian agencies, volunteers and partially Federal Government funded resources such as the Canadian Coast Guard Auxiliary and the Civil Air Search and Rescue Association.</p> <p>“ressources de recherche et sauvetage— autres”</p>



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<b>Primary search and rescue resources</b>	<p>Federal search and rescue (SAR) aircraft and vessels, including those multi-tasked to SAR, established and equipped specifically for SAR with SAR trained crews aboard. Primary SAR resources are under the direct operational control of the Search and Rescue Region Commander for SAR taskings.</p> <p><i>“ressources primaires de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Ramp (or strip) alert</b>	<p>An increased standby posture maintained by Canadian Forces search and rescue forces during periods of increased Air Defence or other notable activity.</p> <p><i>“alerte « aire de trafic » ou « piste d’envol »”</i></p>
<b>Rescue co-ordination</b>	<p>The function of integrating the efforts of search and rescue (SAR) facilities and resources to achieve concerted and harmonized resolution of SAR incidents in an effective and efficient manner.</p> <p><i>“coordination des opérations de sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Rescue co-ordination centre (RCC)</b>	<p>A unit responsible for promoting efficient organization of search and rescue (SAR) services and for co-ordinating the conduct of SAR operations within an associated Search and Rescue Region.</p> <p><i>“centre de coordination de sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Rescue sub-centre (RSC)</b>	<p>A unit subordinate to a rescue co-ordination centre established to complement the latter within a specific area within a Search and Rescue Region.</p> <p><i>“centre secondaire de sauvetage maritime”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue (SAR)</b>	<p>Search and Rescue comprises the search for, and provision of aid to, persons, ships or other craft which are, or are feared to be, in distress or imminent danger.</p> <p><i>“recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue incident</b>	<p>A reported situation which requires a response from the search and rescue system. The rescue co-ordination centre (RCC) will assign an incident number whenever, as judged by the RCC, a response is made to the reported incident.</p> <p><i>“incident de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>

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<b>Search and rescue mission co-ordinator (SMC)</b>	<p>The official temporarily assigned to co-ordinate response to an actual or apparent distress situation.</p> <p><i>“coordonnateur de mission de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue region (SRR)</b>	<p>An area of defined dimensions associated with a rescue co-ordination centre within which search and rescue services are provided.</p> <p><i>“région de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue region commander</b>	<p>The person designated by the Chief of Defence Staff and authorized by the <i>Canada Shipping Act</i> as being responsible for search and rescue operations within a Search and Rescue Region.</p> <p><i>“commandant d’une région de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue resource</b>	<p>A resource capable of responding to a search and rescue incident.</p> <p><i>“ressource de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue response</b>	<p>An action required to resolve a situation, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the tasking of search and rescue units (singular or multiple);</li><li>• acting as search and rescue mission co-ordinator, the issuance of any “All Stations” communications (e.g. distress, urgency or marine assistance request broadcasts, etc.);</li><li>• extensive monitoring (when situation dictates) involving one half hour of working time; or</li><li>• investigations involving one half hour working time, to determine if a search and rescue incident is occurring.</li></ul> <p><i>“intervention de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>
<b>Search and rescue unit (SRU)</b>	<p>A unit composed of trained personnel and provided with equipment suitable for the expeditious conduct of search and rescue operations.</p> <p><i>“unité de recherche et sauvetage”</i></p>



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<b>Searchmaster (SM)</b>	An individual who has been appointed by a Search and Rescue Region Commander to co-ordinate and direct a specific search and rescue operation. <i>“chef des opérations de recherche”</i>
<b>Secondary search and rescue resources</b>	All resources of the Federal government that are not Primary search and rescue (SAR) but which may be tasked to aid in the resolution of a SAR incident. <i>“ressources de recherche et sauvetage secondaires”</i>
<b>Self-locating datum marker buoy (SLDMB)</b>	A datum marker buoy that determines its own position and includes the position information in the transmission of the beacon signal. These beacons usually transmit through satellite services. <i>“bouée-repère électronique émettant sa propre position”</i>
<b>Unknown incident</b>	An incident which commences as a search and rescue incident of unknown type and the source of which is untraced. <i>“incident de source inconnue”</i>
<b>Unnecessary search and rescue alert (UNSAR) message</b>	A message sent by a rescue co-ordination centre to the appropriate authorities as a follow-up when the SAR system is unnecessarily activated by a false alert. <i>“message d’alerte inutile de recherche et sauvetage”</i>
<b>Vessel</b>	Any displacement or non-displacement vehicle that uses water as a means of navigation. <i>“bateau”</i>