Rail Acronym Centre User Guide

Welcome to your Rail Acronym Centre. This is your quick-reference tool for railway terms and acronyms. It works like a command palette - type what you're looking for and get instant results.

Getting Started

Open the Application:

1. Find the folder with all the files

2. Double-click on "index.html"

3. Your web browser will open with the application

Start Searching Immediately:

1. Click in the search box at the top

2. Type any railway term or acronym

3. Results appear as you type

Try these examples to get started:

−   Type "ETCS" for European Train Control System

−   Type "RGS" for Railway Group Standards

−   Type "signal" to see all signalling terms

Using the Features

View Details:

1. Click any term in the left panel

2. The right panel shows complete information:

    a. Full name of the term

    b. Acronym or abbreviation

    c. Category (Signalling, etc.)

    d. Clear definition

    e. How it's commonly used

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Filter by Category:

Below the search box, you'll see category buttons:

- All Terms (shows everything)

- Signalling

- Regulations

- Operations

- Electrification

- Safety

Click any category to see only those terms.

Try "I'm Feeling Lucky":

Click this button for a random term. It's great for discovering new terms or for training.

Quick Tips

Keyboard Shortcuts (makes you faster):

- Press Ctrl+K (or Cmd+K on Mac) to jump to the search box

- Press / (slash key) to focus the search box

- Press Esc to clear your search

- Use Up and Down arrow keys to move through results

- Press Enter to select the first result

On Mobile Phones or Tablets:

- The layout adjusts automatically

- Tap the search box to start typing

- Swipe through the results list

- Rotate your tablet sideways for a better view

Adding or Editing Terms

To Add New Terms:

1. Open the file called "BritishRailTerms.csv"

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2. Add a new line at the bottom

3. Follow this exact format:

   – First number: Next ID number (21, 22, 23, etc.)

   – Second: Acronym (ATP)

   – Third: Full name (Automatic Train Protection)

   – Fourth: Category (signalling, permanent-way, regulations, operations, electrification, or safety)

   – Fifth: Definition (clear explanation)

   – Sixth: Common use (how it's typically used)

To Edit Existing Terms:

1. Open "BritishRailTerms.csv"

2. Find the term you want to change

3. Edit any part of it

4. Save the file

5. Refresh your browser to see changes

Making It Available to Your Team

Option 1 - Network Folder:
Put all files in a shared network folder. Team members open index.html from there.

Option 2 - Web Server:
Upload all files to your company intranet or web server. Share the web address.

Option 3 - Individual Copies:
Package the files in a ZIP folder. Team members download and use on their computers.

If Something Doesn't Work

First checks:

   – Are all four files in the same folder?

   – Did you save changes to the CSV file?

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– Have you refreshed your browser?

Using Developer Tools (for tech support):

1. Press F12 on your keyboard

2. Click the "Console" tab

3. Look for any red error messages

4. Share these with your technical contact

Best Practices

For Daily Use:

– Start with broad searches (type just 2-3 letters)

– Use category filters when you know the area

– Bookmark the page for quick access

– Try the arrow keys for faster navigation

For Maintaining the Database:

– Always backup the CSV file before making changes

– Test new entries by searching for them

– Keep ID numbers unique and sequential

– Use consistent writing style for all entries

Getting Help

Common Questions:

Q: Can multiple people edit at once?
A: No, only one person should edit the CSV file at a time to avoid conflicts.

Q: How many terms can it handle?
A: Thousands. The application remains fast even with many entries.

Q: Where is the data stored?
A: All data is in the CSV file on your computer or server. Nothing is sent over the internet.

Q: What browsers work best?

A: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Edge all work well.

Quick Reference

To search: Type in the box, results appear instantly

To view details: Click any term in the left panel

To filter: Click category buttons below search

For random term: Click "I'm Feeling Lucky"

To add terms: Edit BritishRailTerms.csv

To clear search: Press Esc or click the X

The application works offline once loaded. You can use it on trains, in depots, or anywhere without internet connection.