

# **GIS ACRONYMS**

**DR. SAM SHAMSI, PhD, PE, GISP**  
**[SSHAMSI@GISAPPLICATIONS.COM](mailto:SSHAMSI@GISAPPLICATIONS.COM)**  
**[WWW.GISAPPLICATIONS.COM](http://WWW.GISAPPLICATIONS.COM)**

2D	Two dimensional
3-D or 3D	Three Dimensional
ACE	Army Corps of Engineers
ACP	Asbestos Cement Pipe
ADRG	Arc Digitized Raster Graphics
AIRS	Aerometric Information Retrieval System
AM/FM	Automated Mapping / Facilities Management
AM/FM/GIS	Automated Mapping / Facilities Management / Geographic Information System
AML	Arc Macro Language
AMSA	Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies
API	Application Programming Interface
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
ASCII	American Standard Code for International Interchange
ASP	Application Service Provider
AVI	Audio Video Interleaved (digital movie format)
AWRA	American Water Resources Association
AWWA	American Water Works Association
BASINS	Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources
BIL	Band Interleaved by Line
BIP	Band Interleaved by Pixel
BMP	Best Management Practice
BRS	Biennial Reporting System
BSQ	Band SeQuential

BYU	Brigham Young University
CAD	Computer Aided Drafting
CADD	Computer Aided Drafting and Design
CAFM	Computer Aided Facility Management
CAM	Computer Aided Mapping
CCTV	Close Circuit Television
CD	Compact Disc
CD-ROM	Compact Disc-Read Only Memory
CGM	Computer Graphic Metafile
CIFM	Computer Integrated Facility Management
CIP	Cast Iron Pipe
CIP	Capital Improvement Project
CIS	Customer Information System
CMMS	Computerized Maintenance Management System
CMOM	Capacity, Management, Operations, and Maintenance
CMP	Corrugated Metal Pipe
COE	Corps of Engineers
COGO	Coordinate Geometry
COM	Component Object Model
CORBA	Common Object Request Broker Architecture
COTS	Commercial Off The Shelf
CSO	Combined Sewer Overflow
CTG	Composite Theme Grid
DAK	Data Automation Kit
DBMS	Data Base Management System
DDE	Dynamic Data Exchange
DEM	Digital Elevation Model
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection

DFIRM	Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map
DGPS	Differential Global Positioning System
DHI	Danish Hydraulic Institute
DIB	Device Independent Bitmap
DIME	Dual Independent Map Encoding
DIP	Ductile Iron Pipe
DLG	Digital Line Graph
DLL	Dynamic Link Library
DOP	Digital Orthophoto
DOQ	Digital Orthophoto Quadrangle
DOQQ	Digital Orthophoto Quarter Quadrangle
DR3M	Distributed Routing Rainfall Runoff Model
DRG	Digital Raster Graphics (USGS topographic maps)
DSS	Decision Support System
DTED	Digital Terrain Elevation Model
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
DVD	Digital Versatile Disc or Digital Video Disc
DXF	Drawing Exchange Format
EDC	EROS Data Center
EMF	Enhanced Metafile Format
EOS	Earth Observation System
EPA	(U.S.) Environmental Protection Agency
ERDAS	Earth Resource Data Analysis System
EROS	Earth Resources Observation Systems
ERP	Emergency response Plan
ESDLS	EPA Spatial Data Library System
ESRI	Environmental Systems Research Institute
FAP	File of Arcs by Polygon
FAT	Feature Attribute Table

FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FGDC	Federal Geographic Data Committee
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FIS	Flood Insurance Study
FMSIS	Flood Map Status Information Service
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
GAAP	Generally Accepted Accounting Principals
GASB	Government Accounting Standards Board
GEMS	Geographic Engineering Modeling Systems
GIF	Graphics Interchange Format
GIRAS	Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GLONASS	Global Navigation Satellite System (Russian System)
GML	Geography Markup Language
GPD	Gallons Per Day
GPS	Global Positioning System
GRASS	Geographic Resources Analysis Support System
GUI	Graphical User Interface
H&H	Hydrology and Hydraulics
HEC	Hydrologic Engineering Center (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
HGL	Hydraulic Gradient Line
HoLIS	Honolulu Land Information System
HRAP	Hydrologic Rainfall Analysis Project
HSG	Hydrologic Soil Group
HSPF	Hydrologic Simulation Program Fortran
HTML	Hyper Text Markup Language (a file extension)
HTTPS	Secure Hyper Text Transmission Protocol
HUC	Hydrologic Unit Code

HUD	Housing and Urban Development
IAC	Interapplication Communication
ICR	Information Collection Rule
IFSAR	Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar
IMS	Internet Map Server
ISE	Integral Square Error
IT	Information Technology
JFIF	JPEG File Interchange Format
JPEG	Joint Photographic Experts Group
JSP	Java Server Pages
LAN	Local Area Network
LANDSAT	Land Satellite
LBS	Location Based Services
LIDAR	Light Imaging Detection and Ranging
LOMC	Letter of Map Change
LTCP	Long Term Control Plan
LULC	Land Use / Land Cover
MA	Metropolitan Area
MGD	Million Gallon per Day
MIXEL	Mixed Cells
MMS	Maintenance Management System
MMS	Maintenance Management System
MPEG	Moving Picture Experts Group (digital movie format)
MrSID	Multi Resolution Seamless Image Database
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
MSC	Map Service Center
NAD-27	North American Datum of 1927
NAD-83	North American Datum of 1983

NASA	National Aeronautics & Space Administration (USA)
NAVSTAR	Navigation System by Timing and Ranging
NCDC	National Climatic Data Center (USA)
NED	National Elevation Dataset
NEXRAD	Next Generation Weather Radar
NGDC	National Geospatial Data Clearinghouse
NGVD	National Geodetic Vertical Datum
NHD	National Hydrography Dataset
NLCD	National Land Cover Database
NMAS	National Map Accuracy Standards
NMC	Nine Minimum Controls (for CSOs)
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (USA)
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NPS	Non Point Source
NQL	Network Query Language
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSDI	National Spatial Data Infrastructure
NSGIC	National States Geographic Information Council (USA)
NWI	National Wetlands Inventory
NWS	National Weather Service
NWS	National Weather Service
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
ODBC	Open Data Base Connectivity
OGC	Open GIS Consortium
OIRM	Office of Information Resources Management
OLE	Object Linking and Embedding
PASDA	Pennsylvania Spatial Data Access
PC	Personal Computer
PCS	Permit Compliance System

PDA	Personal Digital Assistant (electronic handheld information device)
PDF	Portable Document Format (Adobe Acrobat)
PDF	Portable Document Format (Adobe Acrobat)
PDOP	Positional Dilution of Precision
PFPT	Peak Flow Presentation Table
PIXEL	Picture Element
POTW	Publicly Owned Treatment Works
PPS	Precise Positioning Service
PRR	Practical Release Rate
PRV	Pressure Regulating Valve
PVC	Polyvinyl Chloride
QA/QC	Quality Assurance / Quality Control
RBE	Rule Based Engine
RCP	Reinforced Concrete Pipe
RCRIS	Resource Conservation and recovery System
RDBMS	Relational Data Base Management System
RF	Reach File
RGB	Red Green Blue (scientific hues or primary colors)
RMSE	Root Mean Square Error
ROM	Read Only Memory
RPC	Remote Procedure Call
RPC	Remote Procedure Call
RR	Release Rate
RTB	Retention Treatment Basin
RTK	Real Time Kinematic
SA	Selective Availability
SAR	Synthetic Aperture Radar
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SDE	Spatial Database Engine
SDTS	Spatial Data Transfer Standard
SHC	System Hydraulic Characterization (for CSOs)
SHE	System Hydrologique Europeen
SML	Simple Macro Language
SMS	Short Message Service
SPC	State Plane Coordinate (map projection system)
SPS	Standard Positioning Service
SQL	Structured Query Language
SSL	Secure Socket Layer
SSO	Sanitary Sewer Overflow
SSURGO	Soil Survey Geographic
STATSGO	State Soil Geographic
STORM	Storage Treatment Overflow Runoff Model
STP	Sewage Treatment Plant
SVG	Scalable Vector Graphics
SWAT	Soil and Water Assessment Tool
SWMM	Storm Water Management Model
TAZ	Traffic Analysis Zone
TCP	Terra Cotta Pipe
TCP/IP	Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol
TIF	Tag Image File
TIFF	Tag Image File Format
TIGER	Topologically Integrated Geographic Encoding Referencing System
TIN	Triangular Irregular Network
TM	Thematic Mapper
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TMS	TIGER Map Service



TR	Technical Release
TR-20	Technical Release 20
TRI	Toxic Release Inventory
TRR	Theoretical Release Rate
TVP	Topological Vector Profile
UAV	Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
UCGIS	University Consortium of Geographic Information Science
UPS	Uninterruptible Power Supply
URL	Uniform (or Universal) Resource Locator
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USACERL	United States Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory
USBC	United States Bureau of Census
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator
VB	Visual Basic
VBA	Visual Basic for Applications
VCP	Vitrified Clay Pipe
VCR	Video Cassette Recorder
VHS	Video Home System (video cassette format)
VRML	Virtual Reality Modeling Language
VSAT	Vulnerability Self Assessment Tool
WAAS	Wide Area Augmentation System
WAP	Wireless Application Protocol
WCS	Web Coverage Service
WEF	Water Environment Federation
WFS	Web Feature Service
WGS84	World Geodetic System of 1984
WIMS	Wastewater Information Management System
WISE	Watershed Information System

WML	Wireless Markup Language
WMS	Watershed Modeling System
WMS	Web Map Server
WRS	Weather Surveillance Radar
WSDL	Web Service Description Language
WWW	World Wide Web
XLST	Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformation
XML	Extensible Markup Language