



**K&H Industries, Inc.**  
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## Glossary of Wire and Cable Terminology

<b>S</b> = SERVICE	<b>SJT</b> – Junior hard service thermoplastic insulated conductors with overall thermoplastic jacket
<b>J</b> = JUNIOR	<b>SJTOW</b> – Hard-service cord. Thermoplastic constructed jacket. Oil and weather resistant for outdoor use.
<b>O</b> = OIL RESISTANT	<b>SJTW</b> – Hard service cord. Thermoplastic constructed jacket. 300 volt, weather resistant for outdoor use.
<b>T</b> =THERMONPLASTIC/VINYL	<b>SPT-1</b> – Thermoplastic constructed cord, parallel jacket, 300 volt; 2 or 3 conductor, 18 gauge.
<b>W</b> = WEATHER RESISTANT	<b>SPT-2</b> – Same as SPT-1, but with heavier construction and 18-16 gauge.
<b>P</b> = PARALLEL	<b>STW</b> – Hard service, indoor/outdoor water resistant outer jacket
	<b>SVT</b> – Vacuum cleaner service cord. All plastic construction; 2 or 3 conductor.

**AWG** – American Wire Gauge: A measurement system for the designation of diameter.

**AC** - Alternating Current or line voltage: U.S. Household standard current is 110/220 volts, 60 Hz.

**AMP Load:** Total amount of amperage flowing through a conductor (wire) when it is loaded

**Compound:** Insulation or jacketing material of two or more ingredients.

**Conductor Material:** Wire that is capable of transporting electrical charge easily. Cords can be two or three conductor.

**Cord:** An insulated wire for conveying current.

**CSA:** Canadian Standards Association, a non-profit, independent organization that operates a listing service for electrical and electronic materials and equipment. The Canadian counterpart of the Underwriters Laboratories.

**Current:** The flow of electricity through a conductor measured in amperes.

**Direct Current (DC):** an electrical current that flows in one direction. Batteries are an example of DC current.

**Gauge:** Term used to denote physical size of wire.

**Ground:** Electrical term referring to connecting to the earth or large conducting body to serve as earth.

**Insulation:** Non-conductive material that surrounds or separates two conductive materials – wire.

**NEMA:** National Electric Manufacturers Association.

**LED:** Light Emitting Diode.

**OSHA:** Occupational Safety and health Act that covers all factors relating to safety in places of employment.

**Polarity:** Condition by which the direction of current flow can be determined in an electrical current.

**Polarized Plug:** A plug constructed to allow insertion into a receptacle only one way because one blade is wider than the other.

**PVC: Polyvinyl Chloride** – a compound used in thermoplastic cords.

**Rated Voltage:** Maximum voltage which an electrical component can be operated for extended periods of time without causing a safety hazard.

**Resistance:** A substance that impedes the flow of current resulting in loss of power, such as heat.

**Sheath:** Outer jacket or covering of multi-conductor cable.

**Thermoplastic:** A plastic material that softens when heated and firms when cooled.

**UL:** Underwriters Laboratories – an independent, non-profit organization that operates a listing service for electrical/electronic materials and equipment.

**Volt:** A unit to measure electromotive force.

**Watt:** A unit of electrical power as defined as one amp of current driven by one volt of electromotive force.