

## Connector Terminology

**Airline:** Coaxial line which uses an air dielectric, solid inner & outer conductors with some means of a mechanical support.

**Attenuation:** The decrease of a signal

**Bandwidth:** A range of frequencies for which performance falls within specific limits

**Bayonet Coupling:** A quick coupling device for a plug connectors. i.e. ZMA Connectors

**Bulkhead:** Connectors that are designed to be inserted into a panel cutout.

**Coaxial Cable:** A transmission line consisting of two concentric conductors insulated from each other.

**Dielectric:** The insulation between the inner & outer conductor of a transmission line.

**Frequency:** The number of complete cycles per unit of time.

**Hi-pot:** A test to determine the highest voltage that can be applied to a conductor without electrically breaking down the insulation.

**Impedance:** The ratio between electric and magnetic fields of a transmission line.

**Insertion Loss:** The loss in a transmission line due to the insertion of a component.

**Interface:** Mating surface of a connector.

**Microstrip:** Transmission line consisting of a conductor over a parallel ground plane, separated by a dielectric.

**Mismatch:** The condition which the impedance of a source does not match the impedance of the connected load.

**Outgassing:** A material characteristic that results in the loss of mass when the material is exposed to a vacuum of  $1 \times 10^6$  torr.

**RF Leakage:** The amount of signal that radiates from a transmission line.

**Solder cup:** The hollow cylinder at the rear of a solder contact where a wire is inserted and soldered into place

**Stripline:** Transmission line consisting of a single narrow conductor parallel & equidistant to two parallel ground planes.

**Transmission line:** A system of conductors used to transfer a signal.

**Voltage Standing Wave Ratio (VSWR):** A measurement of reflection.