



**ANSI C137.0-2022**

*American National Standard for  
Lighting Systems—  
Lighting Systems Terms and Definitions*

Secretariat:

**National Electrical Manufacturers Association**

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**American National Standards Institute, Inc.**

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## 1 Scope

The definitions listed in this document apply or are directly related to lighting systems and are used in multiple lighting system standards. This standard is intended for use by lighting systems standards developers. The terms found in this document are recommended for use in all C137 lighting system standards. Where this document does not include a term, other references are listed.

## 2 Terms and Definitions

**Category Cable**—Twisted pair telecommunications cable specified in ANSI/TIA/EIA 568-CB.351.  
Note: Example is Category 5e or 6A cable.

**Coexistence**—The ability of systems or system components to operate in the same environment without having harmful or undesirable effects on each other.

**Compatibility**—The ability of a system or system components to have coexistence, interoperability, and/or interchangeability with other systems or system components, depending on the context.

Note: Because the terms “compatible” and “compatibility” are ambiguous, their use is not recommended when other terms are more specific. See definitions of coexistence, interoperability, and interchangeability to determine which are most appropriate.

**Component (of a Lighting System)**—The smallest part of a lighting system having a particular function.

**Emergency Lighting Charging Power**—Power used to charge batteries or other energy storage devices that are used as power sources for emergency lighting.

**Functional Interchangeability**—The ability of a system component to perform in an equivalent manner as another system component.

Note: The system component may not be physically interchangeable.

**Gateway**—Communication device that connects two information networks with different architectures and/or protocols.

**Interchangeability**—The ability of a system component to replace the form and fit of another system component and perform in an equivalent way.

Note: See definitions of functional interchangeability and physical interchangeability.

**Interoperability**—The ability of systems or system components to transmit, receive, interpret, and/or react to data and/or power and function in a defined manner.

**Lighting Controller**—One or more devices that govern the output of a light source.