911.gov

Saving Lives: Crash Notification, 911 & Emergency Response

Acronym List & Glossary

The below entries are provided as resource materials and are not fully inclusive of all acronyms or definitions concerning this topic.

Acronym	Definition	Reference Notes
AACN	**Meaning:** Advanced Automatic Collision Notification **Definition:** A vehicle-initiated emergency notification that transmits enhanced crash and vehicle data—such as location, delta-V, direction of impact, airbag deployment, seatbelt use, rollover indicators, and occupant information—to support faster and more informed emergency response.	NG-AACN refers to AACN delivered using NG911 (i3) standards. Typical data elements include vehicle location (latitude/longitude), delta-V, direction of impact, seatbelt usage, airbag deployment, number of occupants (if available), and rollover indicators. NENA-STA-010.3f
AB	**Meaning:** Airbag Deployment **Definition:** Indicates whether one or more vehicle airbags deployed during a crash, providing important context for crash severity and potential injury risk.	
ACN	**Meaning:** Automatic Collision Notification **Definition:** A general or legacy term referring to a vehicle-generated alert indicating that a crash has occurred. ACN may provide only basic notification or limited data elements compared to AACN.	RFC 8148 – Next-Generation Vehicle-Initiated Emergency Calls
AEB	**Meaning:** Automatic Emergency Braking **Definition:** A vehicle safety technology that detects an imminent collision and automatically applies the brakes to prevent or reduce crash severity.	
ADAS	**Meaning:** Advanced Driver Assistance Systems **Definition:** Vehicle technologies designed to assist drivers or prevent crashes, including automatic emergency braking, lane keeping assist, adaptive cruise control, and related systems.	

AIS	**Meaning:** Abbreviated Injury Scale **Definition:** A standardized medical scoring system used to classify and describe the severity of individual injuries.	
ALS	**Meaning:** Advanced Life Support **Definition:** A level of emergency medical care that includes advanced airway management, cardiac monitoring, medication administration, and prehospital blood transfusion.	
BLS	**Meaning:** Basic Life Support **Definition:** A level of emergency medical care focused on non-invasive interventions such as CPR, bleeding control, and basic airway management.	
CAD	**Meaning:** Computer-Aided Dispatch **Definition:** A system used by dispatch centers to record, manage, and assign emergency responses; in AACN contexts, CAD may ingest crash and vehicle data to support rapid incident creation and responder deployment.	
CHE	**Meaning:** Call Handling Equipment **Definition:** The system used by PSAPs to receive voice, data, and multimedia in NG911, displaying vehicle crash information, such as AACN, to support call processing and dispatch decisions.	
CN	**Meaning:** Collision Notification **Definition:** A basic alert generated by a vehicle or telematics system indicating that a crash has occurred and triggering ACN or AACN data transmission.	
COS	**Meaning:** Class of Service **Definition:** A legacy 911 indicator that identifies the type of call, such as telematics or ACN/AACN calls.	Telematics calls may appear as T, TELE, or TLMA. [NENA-STA-015.10-2018](#) (formerly 02-010)
ΔV (Delta-V)	**Meaning:** Change in Velocity **Definition:** The change in vehicle speed resulting from a crash; a key indicator used in injury severity prediction and trauma assessment.	
ECC	**Meaning:** Emergency Communications Center **Definition:** A facility where 911 calls are received, processed, and dispatched to emergency responders. Although there are some recognized operational differences in PSAPs and ECCs, for the purpose of this event, the terms will be used interchangeably.	
ECU	**Meaning:** Electronic Control Unit **Definition:** An onboard vehicle computer that monitors sensors and controls specific vehicle functions (such as	

	braking or airbags), generating data used to detect crashes and assess severity.	
EDR	**Meaning:** Event Data Recorder **Definition:** A vehicle "black box" that captures crash-related data such as speed, braking, and delta-V.	[NHTSA – Event Data Recorder](#)
ECRF/LVF	**Meaning:** Emergency Call Routing Function / Location Validation Function **Definition:** NG911 services that validate location information and determine appropriate call routing using GIS-based data.	
EMS	**Meaning:** Emergency Medical Services **Definition:** A system of emergency care that provides prehospital medical response, treatment, and transport.	
ESInet	**Meaning:** Emergency Services IP Network **Definition:** The IP-based network that transports NG911 calls and data, enabling delivery of AACN calls and associated vehicle data along with voice and other media.	[NENA-STA-010 (i3)](#)
ESN	**Meaning:** Emergency Service Number **Definition:** A legacy 911 identifier representing emergency service zones associated with the appropriate law enforcement, fire, and EMS agencies.	
ESRP	**Meaning:** Emergency Services Routing Proxy **Definition:** A core NG911 function responsible for SIP-based call routing.	
G-Force	**Meaning:** Acceleration Force **Definition:** Forces experienced during a crash that contribute to injury risk.	
GIS	**Meaning:** Geographic Information System **Definition:** A framework for gathering, managing, and analyzing spatial data to support mission-critical operations. It serves as the "intelligent nervous system" for emergency services, transforming raw location data into actionable intelligence. GIS makes AACN actionable in emergency response.	
ISP	**Meaning:** Injury Severity Prediction **Definition:** The use of crash, vehicle, and occupant data—such as delta-V, direction of force, and restraint use—to estimate the likelihood and severity of injuries. These predictions can support responder decision-making, trauma triage, and protocol development.	
ISS	**Meaning:** Injury Severity Score **Definition:** A medical scoring system used to assess overall injury severity based on multiple injuries.	

ITS	**Meaning:** Intelligent Transportation Systems **Definition:** Integrated technologies that allow transportation and emergency systems to share crash, traffic, and roadway data to improve incident response and safety.	
IVS	**Meaning:** In-Vehicle System **Definition:** Embedded vehicle hardware and software that detects crash events and generates telematics data used to initiate ACN/AACN calls.	[RFC 8148](#) – Next-Generation Vehicle-Initiated Emergency Calls
LKA	**Meaning:** Lane Keeping Assist **Definition:** A driver-assistance feature that detects unintended lane departure and provides steering input or alerts to help keep the vehicle centered.	
LOC	**Meaning:** Level of Consciousness **Definition:** A measure of a patient's alertness and awareness used to assess injury severity.	
MCI	**Meaning:** Mass Casualty Incident **Definition:** An incident involving multiple patients that exceeds normal emergency response capacity.	
NG911	**Meaning:** Next Generation 911 **Definition:** An IP-based emergency communications system that supports voice, data, text, images, and video, including native AACN delivery.	
NGCS	**Meaning:** Next Generation Core Services **Definition:** i3-based call-routing and data services within NG911 that receive, validate, and route emergency calls and associated data.	
OC	**Meaning:** Occupant Count **Definition:** The number of vehicle occupants at the time of a crash, when available, used to support responder awareness and resource allocation.	
OEM	**Meaning:** Original Equipment Manufacturer **Definition:** A company that designs and builds vehicles and integrates factory-installed systems such as telematics and ACN/AACN.	[APCO/NENA ANS 2.102.1-2022](#)
PDOF	**Meaning:** Principal Direction of Force **Definition:** The primary direction from which crash forces were applied to the vehicle, used to help assess crash dynamics and potential injury patterns.	
PIDF-LO	**Meaning:** Presence Information Data Format – Location Object **Definition:** A standardized location object used in NG911 SIP calls.	
PSAP	**Meaning:** Public Safety Answering Point **Definition:** The entity that receives 911 calls and dispatches emergency services. Although there are some recognized operational differences in PSAPs and ECCs, for the purpose of this event, the terms will be used interchangeably.	

ROL	**Meaning:** Rollover Indicator **Definition:** A data element indicating whether a vehicle rollover occurred during a crash.	
SB	**Meaning:** Seatbelt Status **Definition:** Indicates whether vehicle occupants were wearing seatbelts at the time of a crash.	
SIP	**Meaning:** Session Initiation Protocol **Definition:** A core technology for managing voice, video, and messaging over the internet (VoIP) - sets up, modifies, and ends communication sessions.	
TC	**Meaning:** Trauma Center **Definition:** A specialized medical facility equipped to provide comprehensive trauma care.	
TCU	**Meaning:** Telematics Control Unit **Definition:** An onboard vehicle module that enables wireless communication between the vehicle and external systems and transmits crash, location, and vehicle data.	
TSP	**Meaning:** Telematics Service Provider **Definition:** An organization that delivers vehicle-generated data and services—such as ACN/AACN, location, and vehicle status—from connected vehicles to emergency services or authorized recipients.	RFC 8148 – Next-Generation Vehicle-Initiated Emergency Calls
V2X	**Meaning:** Vehicle-to-Everything **Definition:** A connected-vehicle ecosystem enabling communication between vehicles and infrastructure, networks, and other systems.	
VEDS	**Meaning:** Vehicle Emergency Data Set **Definition:** A standardized data format defining critical crash and vehicle information delivered to Emergency Communications Centers, particularly within NG911.	ANSI/APCO AACN VEDS Standard
VIN	**Meaning:** Vehicle Identification Number **Definition:** A unique vehicle identifier used to support crash interpretation, vehicle identification, and emergency response.	APCO/NENA ANS 2.102.1-2022
VSS	**Meaning:** Vehicle Signal Specification **Definition:** A standardized definition of vehicle data signals used to detect crashes and generate AACN data.	

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Organization/ Association Acronym	Definition	Reference Notes
ACS	**Meaning:** American College of Surgeons **Definition:** A professional organization that provides trauma care standards and guidance that inform triage and post-crash care practices.	

AFAI	**Meaning:** Alliance for Automotive Innovation **Definition:** A trade association representing major automotive manufacturers focused on advancing vehicle safety, innovation, and policy.	
APCO	**Meaning:** Association of Public Safety Communications Officials **Definition:** A professional organization representing public safety communications professionals and developing standards for emergency communications.	
CIREN	**Meaning:** Crash Injury Research Engineering Network **Definition:** A U.S. research program that studies real-world vehicle crashes to improve understanding of injury mechanisms and vehicle safety design.	
COVESA	**Meaning:** Connected Vehicle Systems Alliance **Definition:** An industry consortium focused on open standards and interoperability for connected vehicle data, software, and services.	
NENA	**Meaning:** National Emergency Number Association **Definition:** An organization dedicated to advancing 9-1-1 and emergency communications systems through standards, policy, and education.	
NHTSA	**Meaning:** National Highway Traffic Safety Administration **Definition:** A federal agency within the U.S. Department of Transportation responsible for reducing deaths, injuries, and economic losses resulting from motor vehicle crashes through vehicle safety standards, behavioral safety programs, data collection and analysis, and roadway safety initiatives.	
NHTSA OEMS	**Meaning:** Office of Emergency Medical Services **Definition:** A program within NHTSA that advances a national vision for EMS and 911 and collaborates with partners to improve post-crash care on U.S. roadways.	
SAE	**Meaning:** Society of Automotive Engineers **Definition:** A global organization that develops standards and recommended practices for vehicle engineering and mobility systems.	
USDOT	**Meaning:** United States Department of Transportation **Definition:** The federal department responsible for transportation systems and safety in the United States.	

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Glossary	Definition	Reference Notes
911 Call-Taking Protocols	Standardized question sets and instructions used by 911 telecommunicators to quickly understand what has happened, assess the severity of an incident, and determine the right type and urgency of response. In roadway crashes, these protocols help ensure critical information—such as location, number of vehicles, potential injuries, and safety hazards—is identified early and shared with emergency responders, supporting faster response, appropriate resource deployment, and improved outcomes for crash victims.	
Legacy 911	Traditional voice-based emergency calling systems that rely primarily on phone calls and manual information sharing to request help. These systems typically have limited ability to automatically receive or share data—such as precise location or vehicle crash information—making 911 call-takers more dependent on what callers can verbally provide to understand an emergency and coordinate response.	
Post-Crash Care	Enhances the survivability of crashes through expedient access to emergency medical care, while creating a safe working environment for vital first responders and preventing secondary crashes through robust traffic incident management practices.	
Prehospital Blood Transfusion	The administration of blood products to patients before arrival at a hospital to treat severe hemorrhage and improve survival outcomes.	
Safe System Approach	A roadway safety framework that acknowledges human error and focuses on preventing fatal and serious injuries through safer roads, vehicles, people, speeds, and post-crash care.	