

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Absorption: The taking up or assimilation of one substance by another.

Accumulation mode: Particles formed principally by coagulation or growth through vapor condensation of short-lived particles in the 0.1 to 1.0 micrometer diameter size range.

Acid (or acidic) compounds: One of a class of substances that neutralize and are neutralized by alkalis and are compounds made up of hydrogen and another element or elements. A chemical compound which upon dissolution in water can add hydrogen ions to the solution.

Acid Deposition: Collectively, the processes by which acidic and acidifying materials are removed from the atmosphere and deposited at the surface of the earth. Also, the amount of material so deposited. (Units: $ML^{-2}T^{-1}$.)

Acid Precipitation: Usually refers to all types of precipitation with a pH of less than 5.6; a more precise term than acid rain.

Acid Rain: A popular term used to describe precipitation that is more acidic than "clean" rain.

Acidification: The process of increasing the acid content of a system.

Acidity: The quantity of hydrogen ions in solution.

Adsorption: Solid, liquid, or gas molecules, atoms, or ions retained on the surface of a solid or liquid, as opposed to absorption, the penetration of a substance into the bulk of the solid or liquid.