

Glossary

- Advancing face** Where the extraction of coal is carried out simultaneously with the driving of the access roads (gates). The gate roads on some longwall advancing faces may be formed in advance of the face where advance heading machines are employed.
- ARA** Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam—the main coal-importing ports for North-West Europe and used as a basis for price quotations for all deep-water ports in North-West Europe.
- ARTEMIS** A network computer system customized by BC to provide physical and financial data to assist project management.
- APEX** Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff.
- Avoidable costs** The costs (expressed as unit costs) which would not be incurred if the coal production activity in question were not undertaken. In the case of an existing colliery, taken as the operating costs; when considering major additions of new capacity, taken as being the total costs (ie including capital charges).
- BACM** British Association of Colliery Management.
- BGS** British Geological Survey.
- Capital charges** The capital charge (calculated for existing collieries) represents the cost of capital (at a rate approximating to the rate payable by BC on its borrowings) applied to the written down value of fixed assets employed at, or in support of, each colliery.
- CEGB** Central Electricity Generating Board.
- CEN** BC Central Area.
- CIC** Capital Investment Committee.
- C.i.f.** Costs, insurance, freight.
- Coal Preparation Plant** A surface installation for the beneficiation and/or screening of coal.
- Coking coal** Coal having inherent chemical and physical properties which render it (after appropriate preparation to remove excess extraneous material) suitable for the manufacture of coke. Many coking coals, are, however, also used for general steam-raising.
- DCF** Discounted cash flow.
- Drivages** Roadways driven to obtain access to the coal or to facilitate the opening out of new working areas.
- EBG** Elsewhere below ground.
- EFL** External financing limit set by the Government.
- ESI** Electricity Supply Industry.
- F.o.b.** Free on board.
- Gate** Roadway serving a longwall face.
- Gate end box** Electrical contactor and associated control equipment contained within a certified flameproof enclosure.
- GJ-gigajoule** An internationally recognized unit of heat. The average United Kingdom power station coal contains about 24.5 GJ per tonne as sold, but depending on inherent quality and the degree of beneficiation individual coal qualities vary from under 20 GJ to over 30 GJ per tonne (1 GJ = 1 billion joules. 1 joule = the heat generated by a current of 1 ampere for 1 second against a resistance of 1 ohm).

Heavy duty	Usually applies to powered support, conveyors and power loaders of a type larger, more powerful and more robust than those traditionally used.
Heavy duty supports	Chock shield supports with yield loads of 250 tonnes or more.
IFR	Investment and Financing Review.
IRR	Internal rate of return.
Licensed mine	Small mine or opencast site licensed under the Coal Industry Nationalisation Act 1946 (as amended).
Longwall mining	Progressive extraction of a panel of coal from a long working face usually serviced by a roadway at each end.
Low grade coal	Coal with low inherent calorific value, but the term is also loosely applied to all coals below 20 GJ per tonne as sold.
MAF	Market Adjustment Fund. A term used by BC to describe a number of self-contained and self-balancing suspense accounts established to administer the attribution to production units of market rebates on sales of coal.
MAT	Machine available time.
MOB	Men on colliery books—number of industrial grade men employed by BC at a colliery (including officials and weekly-paid industrial staff).
MINOS system	Mine operating system, involving the remote control and monitoring of equipment and the mine environment by computer, usually from the surface.
mtce	Million tonnes coal equivalent.
mtpa	Million tonnes per annum.
NACODS	National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers.
NEA	BC North East Area.
NELP	North East Leicestershire Prospect—a reserve of coal lying mainly under the Vale of Belvoir.
Net proceeds	Saleable proceeds adjusted for other income (eg service charges and sales of colliery methane) and for the creation or release of provisions for coal stocked or lifted from stock. Net proceeds is offset against costs to arrive at operating profit or loss.
NPV	Net present value.
NTS	BC Nottinghamshire Area.
NUM	National Union of Mineworkers.
NYK	BC North Yorkshire Area.
OMS	Output per man-shift.
OPEC	Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.
Opencast mining	A mining method for working shallow coal seams which consists of removing the overlying strata or overburden, extracting the coal, and then replacing the overburden (spoil).
Operating costs	All costs incurred at a colliery or in support of its operations, including depreciation of fixed assets, and appropriate allocations of Area and Headquarters overheads and services as operating costs. It strikes colliery operating profit or loss by deducting the total operating costs from net proceeds.
Operating profit/loss	The operating profit or loss is arrived at by deducting total operating costs from net proceeds.
ORE	Operational Research Executive.
PC	Project Committee.

Pithead netback	Actual revenue received from the sale of a particular coal to a particular customer after deduction of rebates and any specific transport and handling costs incurred by BC after the coal has left the colliery (or opencast disposal point) weighbridge.
Project ledger	A database for the collection of all financial data relating to each project including approved cost, authorized expenditure, actual expenditure and outstanding commitments.
Retreat mining/working	Extraction of a panel of coal using preformed roadways, either purpose-driven or by the re-use of roads formed by advancing panels, driven to their ultimate boundary (from which coal working commences).
Saleable proceeds	Average net revenue received from the sale of all coals of any given quality standard. (See also net proceeds).
SCT	BC Scottish Area.
Shearers	General expression used to describe type of coal-winning machine utilizing drums fitted with pick points rotating in a vertical plane.
SSEB	South of Scotland Electricity Board.
Steam coal	Term commonly used to describe hard coals except coking coals, anthracites, and larger sizes of bituminous coal supplied for domestic use. (However, all types of solid fuels can be, and often are, used for steam-raising purposes.)
SWL	BC South Wales Area.
SYK	BC South Yorkshire Area.
TDR	Test Discount Rate.
Tranching system	A price arrangement under which the agreed tonnage to be supplied is split into a number of tonnage and price 'bands'.
UDM	Union of Democratic Mineworkers.
Washery	A surface installation designed to clean coal in a variety of ways using water as the basic medium. Other mediums may also be added depending on the process. Commonly used in conjunction with other plant (eg crushers and graders) in the beneficiation of coal. (See also Coal Preparation Plant).
WES	BC Western Area.
Winding time	The agreed period of time at the beginning and end of a shift within which men descend or ascend the mine.

