

ISA 5.1 identification letters

Letter	First letter: variable	Modifier	Readout / passive	Output	Modifier
A	Analysis		Alarm		
B	Burner, combustion		User's choice	User's choice	User's choice
C	User's choice (often conductivity)			Control	
D	User's choice (often density)	Differential			
E	Voltage		Sensor, primary element		
F	Flow, flow rate	Ratio			
G	User's choice		Glass, gauge, viewing device		
H	Hand				High
I	Current (electrical)		Indicate		
J	Power	Scan			
K	Time, schedule	Time rate of change		Control station	
L	Level		Light		Low
M	User's choice (often moisture)				Middle, intermediate
N	User's choice		User's choice	User's choice	User's choice
O	User's choice		Orifice, restriction		
P	Pressure		Point (test) connection		
Q	Quantity	Integrate, totalize			
R	Radiation		Record		
S	Speed, frequency	Safety		Switch	
T	Temperature			Transmit	
U	Multivariable		Multifunction	Multifunction	
V	Vibration, mechanical analysis			Valve, damper, louver	
W	Weight, force		Well		
X	Unclassified	X axis	Unclassified	Unclassified	Unclassified
Y	Event, state, presence	Y axis		Relay, compute, convert	
Z	Position, dimension	Z axis		Driver, actuator, final element	

Common tags

Tag	Meaning
PT	Pressure transmitter
PDT	Pressure differential transmitter
FIC	Flow indicating controller
TE / TT	Temperature element / transmitter
LSHH	Level switch high high
FCV / FV	Flow control valve
XV	On/off (shutdown) valve
PSV	Pressure safety valve
ZSO / ZSC	Position switch open / closed
HS	Hand switch

Reading a tag

- First letter = measured or initiating variable
- Optional modifier (D differential, F ratio, Q totalise)
- Succeeding letters = functions (I indicate, C control, T transmit, A alarm)
- Loop number follows, for example FIC 101 in loop 101