

Dear Project Discovery Team,

It is a pleasure to be able to communicate with you direct. I hope you will not think that I am merely nit-picking.

A couple of years ago I had the privilege of working as research assistant to a leading UK electrical engineering professor in one of the IET expert groups. In private discussions it emerged that we had both encountered frequent misquotations of electrical terms in the quality national press and elsewhere.

Of the most typical were confusions of "power " and "energy". In electricity terms power in watts, the **rate** of energy production or consumption, is confused with energy in watt hours, the **amount** produced, consumed and ,importantly, **sold** , in given time.

To avoid such confusion the professor advised that in publications :-

1. **Electricity demand** should always be qualified as either:

power demand (watts)

or

energy demand (watt hours)

2. **Load** denotes an instantaneous requirement and hence is **power (watts)**

The balancing of electricity demand by supply is of course carried out by power in watts, whereas system saleable output is in watt hours.

The politicisation of energy matters in recent years has introduced elements of electrical illiteracy which helps nobody. As representatives of the UK Electricity Regulator I trust you will maintain the correct use of IEC/IEV terminology at all times. All I am asking for is compliance with official British Standards terminology. I submit you have that responsibility.

UK students of electrical engineering who read your reports will I am sure be grateful.

With kindest regards

Alan

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