

## harpoon mechanism

Reaction sequence (thermal or photoinduced) between neutral molecular or atomic entities in which long-range electron transfer is followed by a considerable reduction of the distance between donor and acceptor sites as a result of the electrostatic attraction in the ion pair created.

**Source:**

PAC, 1996, 68, 2223 (*Glossary of terms used in photochemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 2245