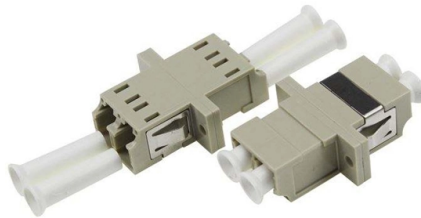


Cable Tray Folding Installation Method



Overview

Whether you're building a commercial setup or upgrading an industrial plant, proper cable tray installation ensures neat wiring, safe access, and easy maintenance.

Key Takeaways

Folding installation of cable trays involves careful planning, proper material handling, and precise bending to ensure secure cable support and compliance with standards.

Overview of Cable Tray Systems

Cable trays are used to support and route electrical and communication cables in industrial, commercial, and utility installations. They can be made from steel, stainless steel, aluminum, or fiberglass, with finishes chosen based on environmental conditions such as corrosion resistance and mechanical strength. Common types include ladder trays, solid-bottom trays, and wire mesh trays, each suitable for different cable loads and layouts.

Folding and Bending Considerations

Folding or bending cable trays is often required to navigate corners, changes in elevation, or to fit around obstacles. Key points include: Use proper fittings: Horizontal and vertical bends, T-pieces, crossovers, and reducers are designed to maintain structural integrity while changing the tray direction. Avoid sharp bends: Excessive bending can damage the tray or reduce its load capacity.

Follow manufacturer guidelines for minimum bend radii. Material-specific handling: Aluminum and stainless steel trays are formable but require care to prevent cracking or deformation. Wire mesh trays can be bent manually or with specialized tools.

Installation Steps

Review approved shop drawings: Confirm tray layout, lengths, and locations before starting installation. Inspect materials: Check for damage, corrosion, or defects. Remove unsuitable materials immediately.

Prepare supports: Install wall brackets, ceiling hangers, or floor supports according to DIN EN 61537 or BS EN 61537 standards. Assemble trays: Connect tray sections using manufacturer-approved fittings. Ensure proper alignment and secure fastening.

Fold or bend trays as needed: Use appropriate tools and follow recommended bend radii. Ensure bends do not compromise cable space or structural strength. Secure cables: Once trays are installed, route cables and secure them with ties or clamps, maintaining separation for power and communication lines if required.

Safety and Best Practices

Only competent personnel familiar with electrical installation and safety standards should perform the work. Cable trays are not designed to support personnel; avoid walking on trays to prevent injury or damage. Maintain clearances from other services and ensure trays can withstand imposed loads, including cable weight, wind, ice, or short-circuit forces.

Store trays horizontally on flat surfaces with timber supports to prevent warping before installation.

Conclusion

Folding installation of cable trays requires careful planning, adherence to standards, and proper handling of materials. Using the correct fittings, maintaining minimum bend radii, and following safety guidelines ensures a durable, compliant, and efficient cable management system.

Article Content

Cable Tray Installation

Whether you're building a commercial setup or upgrading an industrial plant, proper cable tray installation ensures neat wiring, safe access, and easy maintenance. But before you lay the first

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