Installation of Trapezoidal Cable Tray Cover Plates

Overview

A Guide to Installing and Supporting Electrical Cable TraysThis guide covers the critical steps, from selecting the right electrical cable tray and perform.

Key Takeaways

Trapezoidal cable tray cover plates are installed by aligning the cover over the tray, securing it with clips or fasteners, and ensuring proper support and grounding.Tools and Materials Needed

• Trapezoidal cable tray cover plates

• Tray clips, screws, or bolts (as specified by the manufacturer)

• Power drill or screwdriver

• Measuring tape and level

• Personal protective equipment (gloves, safety glasses, hard hat)

Step-by-Step Installation

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1. Inspect and Prepare the Tray Ensure the trapezoidal cable tray is properly installed, level, and free of debris. Check that all cables are neatly arranged and do not exceed the tray's fill capacity, typically 50% of the tray height for safety and ventilation purposes . 2. Align the Cover Plate Place the trapezoidal cover plate over the tray so that it fully spans the tray width. Ensure the edges of the cover align with the tray flanges and that any ventilation slots or openings match the tray design . 3. Secure the Cover Use the manufacturer-specified clips, screws, or bolts to attach the cover to the tray. Typically, covers are fastened at regular intervals along the tray length, often every 1.5 to 2 meters, to prevent sagging and maintain structural integrity . For trapezoidal trays, ensure the fasteners engage the tray flanges securely without deforming the cover. 4. Check for Proper Fit and Clearance After securing, verify that the cover sits flush with the tray and does not interfere with cable bends or risers. Maintain the minimum bend radius for cables as they exit the tray to prevent damage . 5. Grounding and Safety If the cover is metallic, ensure it is properly grounded according to local electrical codes. This may involve connecting a grounding strap from the cover to the tray or building ground . 6. Final Inspection Walk along the tray to confirm all covers are secure, level, and free of gaps. Check that all fasteners are tight and that the installation meets manufacturer and code requirements .

Tips

• Use a level or laser line to maintain straight alignment along long runs.

• Avoid over-tightening fasteners to prevent warping the cover.

• For long spans, consider intermediate supports to prevent sagging.

• Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for specific tray and cover types. By following these steps, trapezoidal cable tray cover plates can be installed safely, providing protection for cables while maintaining accessibility and compliance with electrical standards .

Article Content

Cable Tray Installation Procedure Guide

It describes inspecting and storing cable trays upon receipt, installing trays flat or vertically, fixing trays to structures, designing trays

NEMA Standards Publication VE 2-2006

In order to install the cable tray supports, first find the required elevation from the floor to the bottom of the cable tray and establish a

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