

How to install the new type of elbow on a cable tray

Article Overview

Installing a cable tray elbow involves precise alignment, secure fastening, and proper support to maintain system stability and safety.

Preparation and Planning

Before installation, ensure you have an approved shop drawing showing the tray route, elbow location, dimensions, and support system. Check for potential clashes with other services like HVAC ducts, fire pipes, or drainage systems, and resolve any conflicts with the project engineer. Gather all necessary tools, including measuring tape, hammer, pin punch, spanner, metal file, scaffolding, and drill bits appropriate for anchors.

Installing the Elbow

- o **Mark the Route:** Use a chalk line or laser level to mark the exact path of the cable tray and the elbow location. Ensure the line is straight to prevent misalignment.
- o **Position Supports:** Install wall mounts, cantilever arms, or trapeze hangers at the correct spacing (typically 1.5-3 meters depending on tray type and load) to support the elbow and adjacent tray sections.
- o **Align the Elbow:** Place the elbow section between the two tray runs. Ensure the angle matches the design and that the trays are level and properly aligned.
- o **Secure Connections:** Use splice plates, bolted connections, or quick-connect systems to join the elbow to the straight tray sections. Bolted splice plates are common for strong, reliable connections, while quick-connect systems allow faster installation but may be manufacturer-specific.
- o **Tighten Fasteners:** Use spanners or torque wrenches to tighten bolts securely. Ensure all connections are firm to prevent sagging or movement under cable load.
- o **Check Grounding:** For metal trays, install bonding jumpers across the elbow and adjacent sections to maintain electrical continuity and safety.

Final Checks

- o Verify that the elbow and tray sections are level, straight, and properly supported.
- o Ensure there is enough clearance for cables and future maintenance.
- o Smooth any sharp edges with a metal file to prevent cable damage.
- o Lay cables neatly through the elbow, using cable ties or straps to maintain separation and organization. By following these steps, the new elbow will be securely integrated into the cable tray system, maintaining structural integrity, safety, and compliance with electrical codes.



How to install the new type of elbow on a cable tray

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A professional guide to installing electrical cable tray systems per NEC Article 392. Covers support,

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