The cable tray is fixed to the column



Overview

Cable tray is considered to be a system. It must provide continuous support for cables, and the electrical continuity of the cable tray system must be maintained.

Key Takeaways

Cable trays can be securely fixed to columns using appropriate supports and fasteners, ensuring proper alignment, load distribution, and compliance with installation standards.

Installation Overview

When fixing a cable tray to a column, the installation must consider the position, mode, and type of support. Cable trays can be installed in layered or combined modes, depending on the environment and the number of trays required. The supports are first attached to the cable tray at designated positions, and then the tray is secured to the column using suitable fasteners.

Support and Fastening

Support Elements: These include wall brackets, suspended supports, or center suspensions that connect the tray to the column or other structural elements. Mounting Plates: Often used to attach junction boxes or additional devices to the cable tray system. Fasteners: Screws, bolts, or other mechanical fasteners must be compatible with the tray material and column surface.

Insulated tools, such as a Phillips screwdriver, are recommended to prevent damage or electrical hazards during installation.

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Load and Safety Considerations

Cable trays are designed to support the weight of cables and associated equipment, not as walkways or ladders. Ensure balanced load distribution along the column to prevent bending or deformation. Consider environmental factors such as wind, ice, or vibration, which may affect the stability of the tray.

Follow relevant standards such as BS EN 61537 for cable tray systems and BS 6946 for channel support systems to ensure safety and compliance.

Practical Tips

Determine the height and alignment of the tray before fixing to the column. Use pre-marked positions on the tray for support attachment to maintain consistent spacing. Verify that the tray is level and securely fastened before loading with cables.

For multiple trays, consider layered installation to optimize space and accessibility. By following these guidelines, a cable tray can be safely and effectively fixed to a column, providing reliable support for electrical and communication cables while maintaining compliance with industry standards.

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Tray and basket bonding

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From guidance note8 but ultimately it''s down to the designer of the electrical installation to decide if it''s required. I personally do not earth cable basket or tray directly, tho they maybe earthed

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