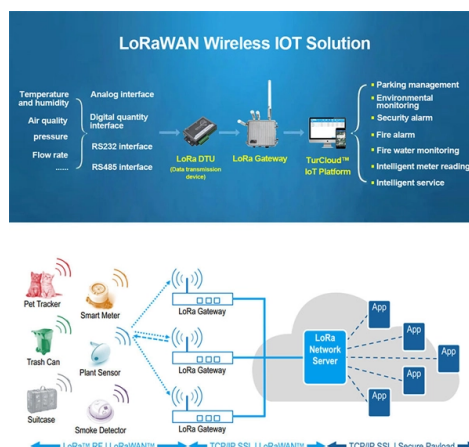


How to connect a cable tray adapter



Overview

Tray-rated cables are required for cable tray installation, so using a channel cable tray system or wire mesh system for exits may be more convenient and economical.

Key Takeaways

Cable tray connectors can be joined using splice plates, bolted connections, quick-connect systems, or clamps, ensuring secure, stable, and code-compliant installations.

Step-by-

Step Guide to Connecting Cable Trays1. Plan and Align the Trays Before connecting, ensure the cable trays are properly aligned and leveled along the planned route. Check for clearance, load capacity, and cable separation requirements to prevent sagging or interference with other systems.

2.

Choose the Appropriate Connector Type

Splice Plates: Flat metal plates with pre-drilled holes that bolt two tray sections together. They provide strong, secure connections suitable for straight runs and heavy loads. Requires tools like spanners or torque wrenches.

Bolted Connections: Use standard fasteners to secure splice plates or other fittings. These connections are reliable, can be undone for maintenance, and are compatible with most tray types.

Quick-

Connect Systems: Snap, slide, or twist connectors designed by specific manufacturers. They allow fast installation with minimal tools but may be brand-specific. Clamps and Fish Plates: Used for angled or junction connections (L, T, or cross-shaped).

They help route cables around corners or splits. 3.

Secure the Connection

Position the connector (splice plate, clamp, or quick-connect) at the ends of the tray sections. Insert bolts or fasteners through the pre-drilled holes and tighten them using the appropriate tools. Ensure all bolts are snug to prevent movement but avoid over-tightening, which can damage the tray.

For grounding, follow NEC Article 392 requirements, ensuring the tray system is properly bonded if it serves as a grounding conductor. 4.

Inspect and Test

Check that the trays are level, aligned, and firmly connected. Ensure there is no sagging or gaps that could compromise cable support. Verify that the connection allows for future maintenance or cable additions without disassembly.

5.

Maintain Compliance

Follow local electrical codes and manufacturer instructions for spacing, load limits, and grounding. Aluminum trays should not be used as grounding conductors for circuits exceeding 600 amperes. By following these steps, you ensure a safe, durable, and professional cable tray installation that supports cables effectively and allows for easy maintenance.

Article Content

Connecting Cable Trays: Your Guide to Secure and

Learn common methods for connecting cable trays safely and efficiently. Our guide covers splice plates, quick-connects, and key tips for

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Attaching a channel cable tray by using the method illustrated in Figure 3-88 maintains the electrical requirements, and the bolted mechanical connection while providing a practical method for dropping

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