How to install plastic cable trays troughs



Overview

Welcome to our step-by-step guide on installing cable trays! In this video, we''ll explore the different types of cable trays available and provide detailed instructions for their installation.

Key Takeaways

Installing plastic cable trays involves careful planning, proper support, precise alignment, and secure joining to ensure safe and durable cable management.

Planning the Installation

Before starting, plan the tray route based on your site layout, cable types, and load requirements. Consider clearance from walls, ceilings, and other equipment, as well as future maintenance access. Calculate the tray width and depth according to the number and size of cables to prevent overcrowding and overheating (Elcon Global).

Selecting the Right Tray

Plastic trays, including PVC or GRP (fiberglass-reinforced plastic), are lightweight, corrosion-resistant, and non-conductive. Choose between ladder, perforated, or solid-bottom trays depending on cable type and ventilation needs. Ladder trays allow airflow for heat dissipation, while solid or ventilated troughs provide continuous support for smaller control cables (ExpertCE).

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Supports and Mounting

Install supports at regular intervals, typically 1. 5 to 3 meters apart, depending on tray type and load. Use brackets, hangers, or wall mounts suitable for plastic trays.

Ensure supports are level and aligned to prevent sagging. For long runs, consider using rollers or temporary supports during cable laying (Elcon Global). Cutting, Joining, and ExpansionPlastic trays can be cut with fine-toothed saws or specialized cutters.

Drill holes for fixings as needed, following manufacturer guidelines. Join sections using connectors or couplers, and account for thermal expansion by leaving small gaps or using expansion joints, especially for GRP trays (MarshallTufflex).

Securing Cables

Lay cables neatly within the tray, maintaining proper separation to avoid interference. Use cable ties or clamps to secure cables to the tray rungs or bottom. Avoid over-tightening to prevent damage to insulation (ExpertCE).

Covers and Protection

Install lids or covers if required to protect cables from dust, moisture, or mechanical damage. Ensure covers are properly seated and removable for maintenance (MarshallTufflex).

Final Checks

Verify that all trays are level, securely fastened, and free of sharp edges. Check that cable fill does not exceed recommended limits and that grounding or bonding requirements are met if applicable. Regularly inspect the system for wear or sagging over time (CableTrayFab).

By following these steps, you can achieve a safe, durable, and low-maintenance plastic cable tray installation suitable for a variety of electrical applications.

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