

NEMA VE 2-2013

Cable Tray Installation Guidelines



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Cable Tray Installation Guidelines

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CONTENTS

	Page
FOREWORD	VII
SECTION 1 SCOPE.....	1
1.1 Scope.....	1
1.2 General	1
1.3 Definitions, Abbreviations, and Acronyms.....	1
1.4 References	3
1.4.1 Contacts.....	4
1.5 RECEIVING AND UNLOADING.....	4
SECTION 2 STORAGE	6
SECTION 3 INSTALLATION.....	7
3.1 Cable Tray Installation Locations	7
3.2 Common Tools for Installation.....	7
3.3 Support Installation.....	7
3.3.1 Cable Tray Supports.....	8
3.3.2 Wall and Cantilever Brackets	13
3.3.3 Floor and Roof Installations.....	14
3.3.4 Vertical Installations.....	15
3.3.5 Transverse Installations.....	16
3.4 Straight Section Installation	17
3.4.1 Straight Section Position	17
3.4.2 Expansion Splice Plates	18
3.4.3 Vertical Adjustable Splice Plates.....	20
3.4.4 Horizontal Adjustable Splice Plates.....	21
3.4.5 Cable Tray to Box or Floor Splice Plates	21
3.4.6 Offset-Reducing Splice Plates.....	22
3.4.7 Vertical Support Plates	23
3.4.1 Step-Down Splice Plates	23
3.4.1 End Plates	23
3.4.2 Single-Rail Cable Tray Fitting Connectors	23
3.5 Fittings Installation.....	24
3.5.1 Recommended Support Locations for Fittings	24
3.5.2 Extended Vertical Runs	26
3.5.3 Recommended Support Locations for Single-Rail and Wire Mesh Cable Trays	27
3.6 Field Modifications	27
3.6.1 Marking.....	27
3.6.2 Cutting	27
3.6.3 Drilling.....	29
3.6.4 Finish Touch-Up	29
3.6.5 Wire Mesh Fittings Fabrication	30
3.7 Accessories	30
3.7.1 Barrier Strips.....	30
3.7.2 Drop-Outs	32
3.7.3 Cable Channel to Cable Tray	32
3.7.4 Conduit to Cable Tray Adaptors	33
3.7.5 Covers and Clamps	33
3.8 Grounding and Bonding.....	35
3.8.1 Cable Tray Used as an Equipment Ground Conductor (EGC)	36
3.8.2 Cable Trays with Wire-Type Equipment Grounding Conductor (EGC) Installed	36
3.8.3 Check for Properly Sized EGC or Bonding Jumpers	37
3.8.4 How to Install Bonding Jumpers.....	39
3.9 Bonding to The Metal Frame of the Building and Earth	39

SECTION 4 INSTALLATION OF CABLE	40
4.1 General	40
4.2 Handling and Storage	40
4.3 Cable Tray Preparation	40
4.4 Cable Pulling Considerations	40
4.5 Pulling the Cable	41
4.6 Fastening Cables.....	42
4.7 Protecting Installed Cable.....	43
SECTION 5 MAINTENANCE.....	44
5.1 Inspection	44
5.2 Inactive or Abandoned Cables	44
5.3 Adding Cables	44
ANNEX A TYPICAL CABLE TRAY TYPES	45
A.1 Cable Ladders	45
A.2 Single-Rail Cable Trays.....	45
A.3 Solid-Bottom Cable Trays.....	46
A.4 Trough (Ventilated Cable Trays)	46
A.5 Wire Mesh Cable Tray.....	46
A.6 Channel Cable Trays.....	47

TABLES

	Page
Table 3-1 Fastener Torque	17
Table 3-2 Maximum Spacing between Expansion Joints that Provide for 250 mm (1 in) Movement**.....	19
Table 3-3 Quantity of Standard Cover Clamps Required	35
Table 3-4 Metal Area Requirements for Cable Tray Systems Used as Equipment Grounding Conductors (NEC Table 392.60(A)).....	38
Table 3-5 Minimum Size Equipment Grounding Conductors for Grounding Raceway and Equipment (NEC Table 250.122)	39

FIGURES

	Page
Figure 1-1 Correct	5
Figure 1-2 Not Correct—Except when Using Extended Forks for Skidded Bundles	5
Figure 1-3 Correct	5
Figure 1-4 Incorrect.....	5
Figure 3-1 Strut Nut.....	9
Figure 3-2 C-Channel Support.....	9
Figure 3-3 Strut Support.....	9
Figure 3-4 Angle Iron Support.....	9
Figure 3-5 Typical Strut Support Installation.....	9
Figure 3-6 Strut (Exploded View)	9
Figure 3-7 Hold Downs	9
Figure 3-8 Single Cable Tray Hanger	10

Figure 3-9 Double Cable Tray Hanger	10
Figure 3-10 Single Cable Tray Hanger	10
Figure 3-11 Double Cable Tray Hanger	10
Figure 3-12 Single Cable Tray Hanger	11
Figure 3-13 Center Hanger Support	11
Figure 3-14 Center Hanger Support	11
Figure 3-15 Single Channel Hanger	12
Figure 3-16 Double Channel Hanger	12
Figure 3-17 Multiple Splice Support.....	13
Figure 3-18 Rod through Spine Hanger	13
Figure 3-19 Clevis Hanger	13
Figure 3-20 Single Strut Cantilever Bracket.....	13
Figure 3-21 Gusset Cantilever Bracket.....	13
Figure 3-22 Fiberglass Cantilever Bracket.....	14
Figure 3-23 Single-Rail Direct Wall Mount.....	14
Figure 3-24 Single-Rail Clamp Wall Mount.....	14
Figure 3-25 Elevated Strut-Type Support	14
Figure 3-26 Underfloor Support Attached to Floor Pedestals.....	14
Figure 3-27 Single-Rail Floor Support	15
Figure 3-28 Vertical Threaded Rod Support.....	15
Figure 3-29 Vertical Gusset Cantilever Support	15
Figure 3-30 Vertical Threaded Rod Support.....	16
Figure 3-31 Vertical Gusset Cantilever Support	16
Figure 3-32 Horizontal Wall Mount	16
Figure 3-33 Horizontal Strut Support	16
Figure 3-34 Cable Tray Support Locations	17
Figure 3-35 Cable Tray Installation.....	18
Figure 3-36 Cable Tray Installation.....	18
Figure 3-37 Splice Plate Attachment	18
Figure 3-38 Expansion Splice Plate Attachment	18
Figure 3-39 Hold-Down and Guide Clamp Locations	19
Figure 3-40 Gap Setting of Expansion Splice Plate—25.4 mm (1 in) Gap Maximum*.....	20
Figure 3-41 Two-Bolt Vertical Adjustable Splice Plates.....	21
Figure 3-42 Single-Bolt Vertical Adjustable Splice Plates	21
Figure 3-43 Horizontal Adjustable Splice Plates.....	21
Figure 3-44 Cable Tray to Box/Floor Splice Plates.....	22
Figure 3-45 Cable Tray to Box Connector	22

Figure 3-46 Offset-Reducing Splice Plate.....	22
Figure 3-47 Vertical Support Plates	23
Figure 3-48 Step-Down Splice Plates	23
Figure 3-49 End Plate	23
Figure 3-50 Horizontal Tee or 90° Connector	23
Figure 3-51 Horizontal Cross Connector	23
Figure 3-52 Horizontal Hub	24
Figure 3-53 Vertical Tee or 90° Connector	24
Figure 3-54 Horizontal Elbows	24
Figure 3-55 Horizontal Tee	24
Figure 3-56 Horizontal Wye	25
Figure 3-57 Horizontal Cross	25
Figure 3-58 Reducer	25
Figure 3-59 Vertical Elbows (Side View).....	25
Figure 3-60 Vertical Tee (Side View)	26
Figure 3-61 Vertical Cable Support.....	26
Figure 3-62 Vertical Cable Support.....	26
Figure 3-63 Marking the Flanges	27
Figure 3-64 Marking the Web of the Rail	27
Figure 3-65 Cutting with Hand-Held Hack Saw	28
Figure 3-66 Cutting with Bolt Cutters	28
Figure 3-67 Correct Cut	28
Figure 3-68 Correct Blades to Use	28
Figure 3-69 Correct Blade Placement.....	28
Figure 3-70 Incorrect Cut	29
Figure 3-71 Incorrect Blades to Use	29
Figure 3-72 Incorrect Blade Placement	29
Figure 3-73 Drilling with Drill Jigs.....	29
Figure 3-74 Drilling with Punched Side Rail.....	29
Figure 3-75 Drilling with Clamp and Side Rail	29
Figure 3-76 Typical Wire Mesh Fittings—Field-Fabricated.....	30
Figure 3-77 Barrier Strip—Straight Section	31
Figure 3-78 Barrier Strip—Horizontal Fitting	31
Figure 3-79 Barrier Strip—Vertical Fitting	31
Figure 3-80 Barrier Strip Application.....	31
Figure 3-81 Barrier Strip Attachment—Self-Drilling and Self-Tapping Screw	31
Figure 3-82 Barrier Strip Attachment—Clip	31

Figure 3-83 Barrier Strip Slice Barrier.....	32
Figure 3-84 Barrier Strip Splice—Installed.....	32
Figure 3-85 Ladder Drop-Out.....	32
Figure 3-86 Trough Drop-Out	32
Figure 3-87 Trough Drop-Out Bushing	32
Figure 3-88 Cable Tray to Channel.....	33
Figure 3-89 Channel to Ladder Tray Bracket.....	33
Figure 3-90 Installed Conduit to Cable Tray Adapter	33
Figure 3-91 Swivel Conduit to Cable Tray Adapter	33
Figure 3-92 Conduit to Cable Tray Adapter	33
Figure 3-93 Cable Tray Covers.....	34
Figure 3-94 Cable Tray Cover Clamps and Accessories.....	35
Figure 3-95 Expansion Splice Plates	36
Figure 3-96 Horizontal Adjustable Splice Plates.....	36
Figure 3-97 Discontinuous	36
Figure 3-98 Cable Tray Sections Vertical Adjustable Splice Plate	36
Figure 3-99 Grounding Clamps.....	37
Figure 3-100 Bonding Jumper Examples.....	39
Figure 4-1 Cable Installation	41
Figure 4-2 Pulling Eye.....	42
Figure 4-3 Pulling Bolt.....	42
Figure 4-4 Straight Roller (Top Mounted)	42
Figure 4-5 Triple Pulley Guide	42
Figure 4-6 90° Roller	42
Figure 4-7 Cable Ties—Vertical Application	43
Figure 4-8 Cable Ties—Horizontal Application	43
Figure A-1 I-Beam.....	45
Figure A-2 C-Channel Flange In	45
Figure A-3 C-Channel Flange Out	45
Figure A-4 Center Rail Cable Tray.....	45
Figure A-5 Single-Tier Wall Mount.....	45
Figure A-6 Multi-Tier Wall Mount	45
Figure A-7 Pan Flange In	46
Figure A-8 Pan Flange Out	46
Figure A-9 Corrugated Bottom.....	46
Figure A-10 Solid Sheet on Top of Ladder Rung.....	46
Figure A-11 Corrugated Bottom with Holes	46

Figure A-12 Pan with Louvers..... 46

Figure A-13 Tray with Close Rung Spacing..... 46

Figure A-14 Wire Mesh 46

Figure A-15 Ventilated Bottom..... 47

Figure A-16 Solid Bottom..... 47

FOREWORD

For Cable Tray Installers: NEMA VE 2-2013 (hereinafter referred to as NEMA VE 2) is intended as a practical guide for the proper installation of cable tray systems. Cable tray system design shall comply with *National Electrical Code*® (NEC®) Article 392, NEMA VE 1, and NEMA FG 1 and follow safe work practices as described in NFPA 70E.

NEMA VE 2 guidelines and information do not intend to cover all details or variations in cable tray systems nor provide for every possible installation contingency.

Construction Experience: It is recommended that the work described be performed by qualified persons familiar with standard electrical construction practices, electrical equipment, and safety of electrical wiring systems.

NEMA VE 2 guidelines are useful to engineers, contractors, and maintenance personnel. In future, NEMA VE 2 will be updated periodically to reflect evolving technology and construction techniques.

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of this document are encouraged. They should be sent to:

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This is the fourth edition of NEMA VE 2.

NEMA VE 2 was developed by the NEMA Cable Tray Section. Section approval does not necessarily imply that all section members voted for approval or participated in development. At the time NEMA VE 2 was approved, the NEMA Cable Tray Section consisted of the following members:

- ABB/Thomas & Betts Corp.—Memphis, TN
- Atkore International/Cope—Harvey, IL
- Chalfant Manufacturing Co.—Brunswick, OH
- Eaton Cooper B-Line—Highland, IL
- Legrand/Cablofil, Inc.—Mascoutah, IL
- MP Husky Corp.—Greenville, SC
- Snake Tray, Inc.—Bay Shore, NY
- Wiremaid Products Division—
Coral Springs, FL

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Section 1 SCOPE

1.1 SCOPE

NEMA VE 2 addresses shipping, handling, storing, and installing cable tray systems and provides information on maintenance and system modification.

1.2 GENERAL

WARNING!—Do not use a cable tray as a walkway, ladder, or support for people; cable tray is a mechanical support system for cables and raceways. Using cable trays as walkways can cause personal injury and can damage cable tray and installed cables.

Hazardous voltages in electrical equipment can cause severe personal injury or death. Safety-related work practices, such as those described in NFPA 70E or CSA Z462, as well as all applicable OSHA regulations should be followed at all times.

Performance of a cable tray wiring system depends on proper installation, including supports and cables. Neglecting installation and maintenance guidelines may lead to personal injury as well as damage to property.

Installation and maintenance of cable tray wiring systems shall be conducted only by qualified personnel. For the purposes of this guideline, a qualified person is one who is familiar with electrical construction. In addition, that person is:

- a) Trained and authorized to test, energize, clear, ground, tag, and lock out circuits, in accordance with established safety practices, and
- b) Trained in the proper care and use of protective equipment, such as insulated rubber gloves, hard hats, safety glasses or face shields, dust masks, and flash-resistant clothing, in accordance with established safety practices.

1.3 DEFINITIONS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

The following definitions, abbreviations, and acronyms appear in NEMA VE 2 or NEMA VE 1.

accessory: Components used to supplement the function of a straight section or fitting. Examples include, but are not limited to, dropout, cover, conduit adapter, hold-down device, and divider.

cable tray support span: The distance between the centerlines of supports.

cable tray system: A section or assembly of sections, and associated fittings, forming a mechanical system used to support cables and raceways.

channel cable tray: A fabricated structure consisting of a one-piece ventilated- or solid-bottom channel section.

classified: Indicates that a product has been evaluated to meet a specific purpose, e.g., classified as to its suitability for use as an equipment grounding conductor.

connector: A component that joins any combination of cable tray straight sections and fittings.