

Installation of fireproof cable trays in Sri Lanka



Overview

Cable trays and busways at floor level or at slab penetrations shall have a waterstop no less than 50 mm in height.

Key Takeaways

Fireproof cable trays in Sri Lanka should be installed using proper route planning, fire-resistant materials, and firestopping techniques to ensure safety, reliability, and compliance with standards. Route Planning and Layout

Cable tray installation begins with careful route planning. Trays should follow the shortest and straightest path possible, avoiding unnecessary crossings or detours, and should align with the building structure to facilitate maintenance and reduce cable loss. Power and signal cables must be segregated using dedicated trays to minimize electromagnetic interference. Adequate clearance should be maintained between cables to allow heat dissipation and prevent overheating, especially in high-density installations .

Tray Type and Material Selection



For fireproof installations, select trays made of galvanized steel, stainless steel, or fire-resistant coated materials. Flame-retardant plastic composites can also be used for specific applications. Indoor trays are typically painted steel or galvanized, while outdoor or high-humidity environments may require aluminum alloy or fiberglass-reinforced plastic trays. Tray width and thickness should be chosen based on the number and weight of cables, ensuring mechanical strength to prevent deformation under full load .

Fireproofing Measures

- Fire-resistant coatings: Apply fire-retardant paint or specialized coatings like FLAMMOTECT-A to slow flame spread and increase heat resistance .
- Fire barriers: Install barriers within trays to isolate different fire zones.
- Penetration sealing: When trays pass through walls or floors, seal openings with fire-rated materials such as firestop packs, firestop mastic, or mineral wool. Ensure gaps are minimal and cover plates are properly installed .
- Inspection and maintenance: Regularly check for corrosion, deformation, or damage, and perform routine cleaning and fire resistance checks to maintain long-term effectiveness .

Installation Sequence

- Reserve openings in walls or slabs for cable trays.
- Install busways or distribution boxes as required.
- Position and secure cable trays, ensuring proper alignment and grounding.
- Route cables according to layout, maintaining separation and clearance.
- Apply firestopping materials at penetrations and seal all gaps.
- Verify waterstops and fire-support plates at floor or slab penetrations .

Heat Dissipation and Ventilation

Use perforated or ladder-type trays to improve airflow and prevent heat accumulation. Solid-bottom trays are suitable for non-heat-producing cables, while open designs allow better ventilation for power cables .

Local Suppliers in Sri Lanka

Several suppliers provide high-quality cable trays suitable for fireproof installations in Sri Lanka. These trays are designed for industrial, commercial, and infrastructure projects, offering durability, corrosion resistance, and easy installation. Suppliers provide various shapes, sizes, and materials to meet project-specific requirements .

Key Considerations

- Ensure all tray connections are firm, straight, and properly aligned.

- Maintain grounding continuity and mechanical integrity.
- Avoid modifying or damaging fireproof coatings.
- Follow local fire safety regulations and standards for electrical installations. By following these guidelines, fireproof cable trays in Sri Lanka can be installed safely, ensuring reliable power distribution, fire containment, and long-term system performance.

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