Cable Tray Material Cutting



Overview

Cutting a cable tray precisely and efficiently can pose challenges, especially in tight spaces or with different materials.

Key Takeaways

Cutting cable trays requires selecting the right material, using appropriate tools, and following precise techniques to ensure clean, safe, and structurally sound cuts.

Materials Commonly Used

Cable trays are typically fabricated from steel, aluminum, or fiberglass (FRP). Steel is preferred for heavy-duty applications due to its strength and durability, while aluminum offers lighter weight and excellent corrosion resistance, suitable for indoor and outdoor use. Fiberglass trays are used in corrosive environments and require careful handling to avoid chipping or resin damage during cutting.

Cutting Tools and Techniques

Hand Grinder or Cut-off Saw: Ideal for steel and aluminum trays. Mark the cut line accurately, secure the tray with clamps, and cut slowly to avoid overheating and warping. Smooth the edges with a deburring tool or file after cutting.

Hacksaw: Suitable for small cuts or thinner metal trays. Ensure steady pressure and proper blade selection for clean cuts. Band Saw: Recommended for on-site cutting of modular systems to reduce burrs and swarf.

Use blades appropriate for the material thickness and avoid excessive heat. Fiberglass Cutting: For FRP trays, cut in 300 mm increments for optimal strength. Avoid excessive pressure and heat to prevent resin softening or burning.

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Provide rigid support to prevent chipping.

Safety Precautions

Always wear Kevlar gloves, safety glasses, hearing protection, and appropriate footwear to prevent injuries from sharp edges, sparks, or flying debris. Avoid overheating the material during cutting, as it can weaken the tray or damage coatings. Ensure the tray is securely clamped to prevent movement and maintain accuracy.

Best Practices

Marking: Use a permanent marker or chalk to clearly indicate the cut line. Deburring: Smooth all cut edges to prevent injury and maintain structural integrity. Cut Placement: For modular steel channels, cut between holes to maintain torsional strength.

For irregular cuts, place the open end inside a starter bracket when possible. Lubrication: Optional use of cutting oil can prolong blade life and improve cut quality, especially for thicker metal trays. By following these techniques, fabricators can achieve precise, safe, and durable cuts that maintain the integrity of the cable tray system and comply with installation standards.

Article Content

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In this video, we''ll cover the essential steps of marking and cutting cable trays. We''ll explore: 1. Measuring and marking: Accurate measurement and marking techniques for cable trays.

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Cable Tray Design and Standards Guide

1. The document outlines codes and standards that must be followed for design and construction of cable trays and their components. Standards listed include those for materials, rolling and cutting

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CUTTING GUIDELINE

Introduction Oglaend System manufacture and deliver Multidiscipline modular bolted support systems, cable trays, cable ladders and accessories for complete installation and containment of Instrument,

Electrotechnic / Cable Trays

The universal cutting device for the electrical installer, apparatus and control cabinet construction. The solution for cutting cable trays, cable tray lids, cable ladders, trapezoidal profile rungs, cable

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GUIDE CABLE TRAYS TECHNICAL

When fitting cable trays and their accessories, the products are cut on site to create changes of direction, adjust sections, etc. Damage can also occur during handling; as a result, both the

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Cable Tray Technical Guide A practical guide to product selection and installation This guide for engineers and installers has been developed by ABB as a practical reference regarding cable tray

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