

PLAYING IT **SAFE**

Be safe and healthy on the job with these helpful tips provided by **Crendon Insurance Brokers Ltd.**

Cable Tray Installation and Maintenance

Helpful tips for safe cable tray systems

Cable trays are an invaluable resource for discreetly routing cables through a facility. However, while they can help you avoid the headache of managing large amounts of cables, it is important that they are properly installed and maintained to ensure safety in your workplace.

Installation

Proper installation starts your cable tray systems off on a good foot and will make future additions and maintenance safer and simpler. When installing new cable trays, remember:

- Only use cables and conductors that are listed or labelled for the environment in which they are used.
- Only use cables that are approved for use as permanent wiring.
- Install appropriate fire stops where cable trays pass through fire-rated partitions, walls and floors to prevent the spread of a fire or the by-products of combustion.
- Make sure trays are supported in accordance with manufacturer recommendations.

- Secure all cables in the tray at regular intervals.
- Make sure the cable tray is properly earthed to prevent arcing.
- Do not exceed the manufacturer's maximum weight limit.
- Do not fill trays to more than 50 per cent of their cross-sectional area.

Maintenance

Preventative maintenance is important for keeping cable trays in good working order.

- Before doing any work in a cable tray, always de-energise the lines that are running through it.
- Verify that the initial installation was done properly.
- Remove abandoned cables from the trays.
- Check the insulation quality on all live conductors.
- Make sure heat in the tray is not excessive.
- Check all fastening devices for signs of deterioration.
- Make sure the tray is not overloaded in weight and/or volume.
- Install additional cable trays to reduce overloaded if necessary.



Don't Overload!

Overloading cable trays can result in an increased heat build-up in and around live conductors. This heat causes insulation to break down, increasing the risk for potential shock and fire.

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