Metal cable trays for network cables in the computer room



Overview

From heavy power cable pathways on oil drilling platforms to data center cabling, explore the cable tray that''s strong yet easy to install.

Key Takeaways

Metal cable trays provide a durable, organized, and flexible solution for routing network cables in computer rooms and data centers.

Overview

Metal cable trays are designed to support, route, and protect network and power cables in commercial and industrial environments. They are commonly used in server rooms, network closets, and data centers to maintain organized cabling, reduce trip hazards, and allow easy access for maintenance or future expansion.

Types of Metal Cable Trays

Wire Mesh Trays

Constructed from welded steel wire, often zinc-plated or powder-coated for corrosion resistance. Open grid design allows optimal airflow, preventing heat buildup around network cables. Flexible and easy to cut or reconfigure for custom layouts.

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Ladder Trays

Feature side rails with rungs to support cables, ideal for heavy cable loads. Available in aluminum, steel, or stainless steel, with options for perforated or solid rungs. Suitable for long cable runs and high-density network installations.

Perforated or Solid-

Bottom Trays

Provide additional protection for sensitive cables. Solid-bottom trays are often used where dust, debris, or liquid protection is required.

Materials and Finishes

Galvanized Steel: Strong, corrosion-resistant, suitable for indoor and outdoor use. Stainless Steel (AISI 304 or 316): High corrosion resistance, ideal for humid or industrial environments. Aluminum: Lightweight, easy to install, and corrosion-resistant, often used in data centers.

Electro-zinc Coated Steel: Provides moderate corrosion protection at a lower cost.

Installation and Accessories

Trays can be wall-mounted, ceiling-suspended, or rack-mounted depending on room layout. Accessories include covers, dividers, mounting brackets, elbows, tees, and reducers to manage cable routing and separation. Modular design allows easy maintenance and future expansion without disrupting existing cables.

Benefits

Organized cabling reduces tangling and simplifies troubleshooting. Improved airflow prevents overheating of network equipment. Durable and long-lasting, with minimal maintenance requirements.

Flexible and scalable, accommodating changes in network infrastructure. Enhanced safety, reducing trip hazards and protecting cables from physical damage.

Recommendations

For a computer room or data center, wire mesh trays are often preferred for network cables due to their airflow and flexibility, while ladder trays are suitable for heavier cable bundles or mixed power and data runs. Stainless steel or zinc-plated steel is recommended for long-term durability and corrosion resistance. Accessories like dividers and covers help separate network and power cables, minimizing interference and maintaining compliance with standards.

By selecting the appropriate metal cable tray system, you can ensure a safe, organized, and efficient network cabling infrastructure that supports both current and future needs.

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