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Standard for Metal Cable Tray Systems



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Preface

This is the common CSA and NEMA standard for Metal Cable Tray Systems. It is the fourth edition of C22.2 No. 126.1, superseding the previous editions published in 2009, 2002, and 1998, and the sixth edition of NEMA VE 1, superseding the previous edition published in 2009.

This common standard was prepared by the CANENA Technical Harmonization Committee for Metal Cable Tray Systems, comprising members from the Canadian Standards Association, National Electrical Manufacturers Association, and the cable tray manufacturing industry. The efforts of the CANENA Technical Harmonization Committee are gratefully acknowledged.

This standard is considered suitable for use for conformity assessment within the stated scope of this standard.

This standard was reviewed by the CSA Subcommittee on Cable Tray Systems under the jurisdiction of the Technical Committee on Wiring Products and the Strategic Resource Group and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

Where reference is made to a specific number of samples to be tested, the specified number is considered to be a minimum quantity.

This standard was also approved at NEMA by the Codes and Standards Committee.

Note: Although the intended primary application of this standard is stated in its scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the standard to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.

Level of Harmonization

This standard uses an IEC format, but is not based on, nor is it to be considered equivalent to, an IEC standard. This standard is published as an identical standard for NEMA and CSA.

An identical standard is a standard that is exactly the same in technical content except for national differences resulting from conflicts in codes and governmental regulations. Presentation is word for word except for editorial changes.

Reasons for Differences from IEC

The Technical Harmonization Committee (THC) identified one IEC standard that addresses electrical cable tray systems included in the scope of this standard. The THC determined the safe use of electrical cable tray is dependent on the design, performance, and installation of the cable tray system. The IEC standard does not mention the bonding/equipment grounding function of cable tray, and there are no requirements for corrosion protection at this time. Significant investigation is required to assess safety and system issues that may lead to harmonization of traditional North American electrical cable tray standards with those presently addressed in the known IEC standard. The THC agreed such future investigation might be facilitated by completion of harmonization of the North American standards for electrical cable tray.

Interpretations

The interpretation by the Standards Development Organization (SDO) of an identical or equivalent standard is to be based on the literal text to determine compliance with the standard in accordance with the procedural rules of the SDO. If more than one interpretation of the literal text has been identified, a revision is to be proposed as soon as possible to each of the SDOs to reflect more accurately the intent.

Foreword (NEMA)

This standards publication provides technical requirements concerning the construction, testing, and performance of metal cable tray systems. The development of this publication is the result of many years of research, investigation, and experience by the members of the Cable Tray Section of NEMA. Throughout the development of this publication, test methods and performance values have been related as closely as possible to end-use applications. It has been developed through consultation among manufacturers, with users and engineering societies, to result in improved serviceability and safety of metal cable tray systems.

This publication reflects the study of applicable building codes and the *Canadian Electrical Code Part I (CE Code)* and the *National Electrical Code*® (NEC), and adheres to applicable national material and manufacturing standards, such as those of the American Society for Testing and Materials, the American Iron and Steel Institute, the Aluminum Association, and Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. The NEMA Cable Tray Section periodically reviews this publication for any revisions necessary, to keep it up to date with advancing technology.

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of this document are encouraged.

They should be sent to:

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The primary purpose of this standards publication is to encourage the manufacture and utilization of standardized metal cable tray systems and to eliminate misunderstandings between manufacturers and users. It has been promulgated with a view toward promoting safety of persons and property by the proper selection and use of metal cable tray systems.

The cable tray system manufacturer has limited or no control over the following factors, which are vital to a safe installation:

- a. environmental conditions;
- b. system design;
- c. product selection and application;
- d. installation practices; and
- e. system maintenance.

NEMA VE 1 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 1-2017 was approved, the NEMA Cable Tray Section consisted of the following members:

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Section 1 **Scope**

This standard specifies the requirements for metal cable trays and associated fittings designed for use in accordance with the rules of the Canadian Electrical Code (CE Code), Part I, and the *National Electrical Code*[®] (NEC).

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