

Can high-voltage and low-voltage wires be stored in the same cable tray

Article Overview

High-voltage and low-voltage wires should generally be separated in cable trays, but they can share a tray if proper barriers, shielding, or code-compliant methods are used.

Code and Safety Considerations

The National Electrical Code (NEC) and international standards strongly recommend separating high-voltage (over 600V) and low-voltage cables to prevent electromagnetic interference (EMI), voltage induction, and safety hazards (NEC 300.3(C), 725.136, 760.53/760.136, 805) . Mixing these cables without precautions can lead to signal distortion, packet errors, or even dangerous voltage transfer to low-voltage circuits .

Acceptable Methods for Co-Location

- **Divider Barriers or Compartmentalized Trays:** Installing fixed solid barriers compatible with the tray material effectively creates separate compartments for high- and low-voltage cables, allowing them to share the same tray while maintaining safety and compliance .
- **Cable Type Requirements:** If high-voltage cables ($>600\text{V}$) are mixed with lower-voltage cables ($\leq 600\text{V}$) in the same tray, the high-voltage cables must be Type MC (metal-clad). Low-voltage cables cannot be mixed with non-metal-clad high-voltage cables without a barrier .
- **Physical Separation and Shielding:** For low-voltage systems such as instrumentati...

Article Content

Jan 16, 2026

392.20 Cable and Conductor Installation.

Cable tray barriers can be used to separate conductors operating over 600 volts from other conductors in the same tray operating at

Apr 25, 2026

Low and high voltage in the same conduit

I'm getting mixed answers maybe you guys can help? I have 120 V lighting system in a commercial building that is

Apr 24, 2026

High-voltage direct current

A high-voltage direct current (HVDC) system uses direct current (DC) and high voltages (currently between

Sep 30, 2025

Cable tray separation | Automation & Control Engineering Forum

This keeps the low level signals as far as possible from high voltage/current carrying conductors. Also, it eases

Dec 14, 2025

Cable Tray Questions | Cable Tray Institute

NEC section 318-5 (e) indicates that multiconductor cables rated 600 volts or less are permitted in the same cable tray, however,

Nov 08, 2025

Separating high and low voltage in the same box

I can't use this as the high voltage and low voltage connect to the same switch. Basically what I'm asking is can a 24

Jun 24, 2026

Different voltage grade of cable on same cable tray

We have two different cable groups, 600/1000V(U0/U) for Low Voltage Power and control and 150/250V for

Sep 23, 2025

Cable Separation Standards

Why It Matters: High-voltage and limited energy circuits routed too closely can cause cross-talk, distortion, or packet

Oct 31, 2025

Stumped by the Code? NEC Requirements for the Mixing of Conductors

Power conductors rated 1,000V or less can occupy the same raceway, cable, or enclosure if all conductors have an insulation

Jan 30, 2026

Can Control and Line Voltage Wires Be Run in the Same Conduit?

Manufacturers may state that control wiring can be run along the line voltage wire, but my personal recommendation is

Jan 15, 2026

Combining Wires in Conduit | Automation & Control Engineering Forum

Even though the code allows for low voltage to be in the same conduit as a control (120vac) the low voltage wires

Dec 19, 2025

Can You Run Low Voltage With High Voltage?

Even when physical separation requirements are met, running high-voltage AC wires parallel to sensitive low-voltage

May 02, 2026

Cable Tray Questions | Cable Tray Institute

Answer: Yes; cables are tied down in cable trays to keep the cables in the cable tray, to maintain spacing between cables, or to

Dec 12, 2025

Low Voltage VS High Voltage Cable Trays

Discover the key differences: Low Voltage VS High Voltage Cable Trays. Learn about their

Aug 26, 2025

Low and high voltage in same conduit

Power-limited fire alarm circuit cables and conductors shall not be placed in any cable, cable tray, compartment,

Aug 25, 2025

Good practice rules for electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) of LV

Wire tray does not have any intrinsic screening qualities while prefabricated trunking is particularly effective on this

Mar 10, 2026

Cable Tray Fill Rules (NEC 392)

Data centers almost exclusively use cable tray (usually wire mesh or ladder type) for both power and data cables

Mar 31, 2026

048-213a dd

Introduction The NEC® (National Electric Code) allows line-voltage wiring devices, e.g., light switches, dimmers, and receptacles to

Apr 13, 2026

Mixing Voltages in Cable Tray

Scenario 2 - Could MC (600V) and MC (300V) cables be present in the same tray with no barrier if the highest applied

Aug 19, 2025

Mixing Cables Over and Under 600V in Cable Tray

Section 300.3 (C) (2) of the National Electrical Code (NEC) has general requirements pertaining to the mixing of

Jan 23, 2026

Cable Tray SHIB NAL

Cable trays support cables across open spans in the same way that roadway bridges support traffic. Cable trays can provide a safe

Aug 17, 2025

Can Power Cables And Instrumentation/Communication Cables

While it is technically possible to run power and low-voltage cables in the same tray under strict conditions, segregation

Jan 05, 2026

The Complete Guide to Cable Trays | Snake Tray

There are also many manufacturers to choose from. But there's only one Snake Tray. Snake Tray is your one-stop shop for all types

Jan 01, 2026

Different voltages in raceways, conduits, cables, etc

If the instrument cable is insulated for the maximum voltage level in the conduit (600 V insulation in practice), this is

Jul 07, 2026

Core Principles for Electrical and Instrumentation Cable Tray Layouts

Layered Separation: Strong current and high-voltage cables are positioned apart from low-current, low-voltage instrumentation

Contact Us

For more information, pricing, or custom solutions, please contact us:

Website: <https://iiss.co.za>

Email: sales@iiss.co.za

Phone: +27 63 174 2895

Address: Unit 8, Innovation Park, 15 Rivonia Road, Sandton, Johannesburg, 2196, South Africa

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