

# Earthquake Resistance of Cable Trays in the United States



## Overview

This has been evidenced at over 70 power and industrial facilities in 14 past major earthquakes, and is reinforced by shake table test data and detailed analyses. A method is developed for utilizing this data in defensible, simple seismic qualification criteria and configuration. Earthquakes and seismic events can cause severe damage to electrical infrastructure, including cable trays, leading to outages and even safety hazards. In regions prone to seismic activity, ensuring that your cable tray system is capable of withstanding such events is vital. This article will. Electric Power Research Institute and EPRI are registered service marks of Electric Power Research Institute, Inc. These forces can cause ground shaking, which in turn can lead to the displacement, acceleration, and rotation of structures.



## Article Content

Dec 04, 2025

### Cable Tray and Conduit System Seismic Evaluation Guidelines

1.1 BACKGROUND Cable tray and conduit systems have consistently performed well at conventional power and industrial facilities subjected to past strong-motion earthquakes larger than eastern U.S.

Apr 08, 2026

### Seismic analysis and design of electrical cable trays and support ...

Most cable trays in nuclear power plants are classified as seismic category I components. Current safety requirements dictate that all such components be adequately designed in order to

Mar 24, 2026

### SQUG cable tray and conduit evaluation procedure

Cable tray and conduit systems for electrical cables are a common feature of industrial facilities. They have an excellent performance history in past strong earthquake, even though they

Mar 10, 2026

### UNISTRUT Seismic Bracing Solutions

Please visit us online for many additional tools and resources, including; a step-by-step design guide, quick-reference information, BIM models, a project cart, resource downloads, and more.

Nov 27, 2025

### Performance-based optimum seismic design of cable tray system

The seismic performance levels of cable tray systems are presented according to current seismic design codes. A performance-based optimum seismic design procedure for cable tray

Mar 27, 2026

### Understanding the Seismic Resistance of Cable Trays

This article discusses the importance of seismic resistance for cable trays, detailing when seismic braces are necessary, the factors that affect seismic

Jul 09, 2025

### The 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering

Traditional system for bracing cable trays using diagonal bracing extending up to the roof would have been impractical due to the extensive amount of cable trays, the lightweight framing of the roof, and

Jul 06, 2025

#### PERFORMANCE-BASED EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING METHODOLOGY FOR NUCLEAR CABLE ...

To carry out the PEER PBEE procedure for a components of the nuclear power plant (NPP) such as the cable tray system, hazard curve and spectra were defined for two hazard levels of the ground

Nov 25, 2025

#### (PDF) Performance-Based Earthquake Engineering

This study aims to develop a simple yet efficient performance-based design optimization methodology for cable tray systems in building structures. In

Jul 02, 2025

#### Performance-Based Earthquake Engineering Methodology for Seismic ...

Journal Pre-proof Performance-Based Earthquake Engineering Methodology for Seismic Analysis of Nuclear Cable Tray System

Jul 27, 2025

#### EARTHQUAKE PROTECTION

Suspended systems such as piping, equipment and ductwork need seismic braces to keep them from swaying during an earthquake. Seismic braces can be flexible using aircraft quality cables, or rigid

Sep 18, 2025

#### The 14th World Conference on Earthquake Engineering

These cable trays are constructed using prefabricated steel sections in a ladder-type configuration with solid steel longitudinal elements and light steel transverse "rungs." These cable trays are assembled

Aug 23, 2025

#### Mechanical Guide Focus Group

Raceways/Conduits/Cable Trays: Covers the different ways to install raceways, conduits, and cable trays. Attachment Types: Gives instructions on installing equipment in different arrangements known

Mar 27, 2026

## Understanding Seismic Support for Electrical Installations

Explore the essential guidelines for seismic support in electrical installations, focusing on cable trays and their critical role in ensuring system safety during earthquakes. Learn about key spaci...

Mar 04, 2026

## Evaluation of cable tray and conduit systems using the seismic ...

The intent of the quantitative Most data base spectra easily exceed the earthquake studies is to check that the cable tray/conduit system levels of eastern United States nuclear plant safe shut- supports

Feb 21, 2026

## Cable Trays Seismic Design: Protecting Power in Quake

Here, I'll explain how I make sure cable trays stand strong in areas that get hit by earthquakes. I'll share what I've learned about the design

Apr 18, 2026

## The shake on seismic bracing

Seismic bracing against the wrath of earthquakes is an increasing concern for today's data-communications and telecommunications cable installer, and efforts

Sep 09, 2025

## What are the seismic design considerations for cable trays?

The tray should be able to resist the lateral and vertical forces imposed by the earthquake without collapsing or failing. This requires careful selection of

Feb 15, 2026

## Microsoft Word

Figure #1 is an Earthquake Seismic Zone Map of the United States. Figure #2 is Wind Velocity Map for the United States. It is extremely desirable that the circuit integrity of communication,

Jun 06, 2026

## A Survey of Cable Tray and Conduit Damping Research (EGG-EA

This paper examines current knowledge on cable tray system and conduit damping values. Current design conventions with regard to damping values are discussed, and recent experimental results

Sep 10, 2025

Westinghouse AP1000 Design Control Document Rev. 19

The major factors which affect the damping ratio of the cable tray systems are the input acceleration level, cable fill ratio, and the ability of the cables to move within the trays during a safe shutdown

Jul 26, 2025

Cable Tray and Conduit System Seismic Evaluation Guidelines

When cable trays have vertical drops of more than about 20 feet and flapping of the cables during an earthquake might cause pinching or cutting of the cables or impact with proximate fragile equipment,

May 02, 2026

What are the seismic design considerations for cable trays?

Seismic events can pose significant threats to various infrastructure systems, including cable trays. As a cable tray supplier, understanding the seismic design

Jun 06, 2026

Circuit Integrity of Cable Tray Wiring Systems During Natural Disasters

Cable Trays wiring systems can be designed and installed so that under severe earthquake conditions the tray cables will fall to the ground with a very good probability that there will

Feb 07, 2026

Evaluation of cable tray and conduit systems using the seismic ...

Cable tray and conduit systems have an excellent earthquake performance record. This has been evidenced at over 70 power and industrial facilities in 14 past major earthquakes, and is

Oct 16, 2025

KINETICS™ Seismic & Wind Design Manual Section

D9.0 – Electrical Distribution Systems Title Seismic Forces Acting On Cable Trays & Conduit Basic Primer for the restraint of Cable Trays & Conduit Pros and Cons of Struts versus Cables

Feb 06, 2026

Performance-based earthquake engineering methodology for seismic ...

On account of limited experimental and analytical studies, the seismic performance of the cable trays is questionable ; and . In the 1984 Morgan Hill, California Earthquake, a cable tray run at the

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