

Classification of Power and Lighting Distribution Boxes



Overview

Learn what a distribution box is, its types, and how to choose the right one for your project. Includes clear examples and expert tips.

Key Takeaways

Power and lighting distribution boxes are classified based on structure, purpose, installation level, and material, including main distribution boards, sub-distribution boards, and lighting distribution boxes.

Structural and Purpose-

Based Classification

Distribution boxes can be divided into power distribution boxes and lighting distribution boxes, which serve as the final equipment in a distribution system. They are low-voltage devices that assemble switchgear, protective devices, measuring instruments, and auxiliary equipment into enclosed or semi-enclosed cabinets (). Types based on structural characteristics: Fixed Panel Switchgear: Open-type switchgear with panel shielding, offering low protection, suitable for industrial or mining enterprises with low continuity requirements ().

Protective (Enclosed) Switchgear: Fully enclosed cabinets with switches, protections, and monitoring controls, providing isolation and safety for each circuit. Often includes mechanical interlocks and protective platforms for control and measurement ().



Drawer-

Style Switchgear: Components are installed in withdrawable drawers, forming functional units separated from busbars or cables, with isolation measures between units (). **Hierarchical Classification by Power Supply System** Distribution boxes are also classified according to their position in the power supply hierarchy (): **Primary Power Distribution Equipment:** Known as power distribution centers, installed near step-down transformers, with high output capacity and electrical parameter requirements. **Secondary Power Distribution Equipment:** Includes power distribution cabinets and motor control centers, used for scattered or concentrated loads, providing protection, monitoring, and control.

Final Power Distribution Equipment: Typically called lighting distribution boxes, small-capacity units located far from the power supply center, distributing electricity to lighting and small loads.

Material and Installation-

Based Classification

Metal Distribution Boxes: Made of steel or aluminum, used in industrial and commercial applications for mechanical strength and durability (). **Plastic Distribution Boxes:** Made of PVC or polycarbonate, lightweight and corrosion-resistant, suitable for lighter electrical demands (). **Indoor vs.**

Outdoor Boxes: Indoor boxes are used in protected environments like homes or offices, while outdoor boxes are designed for exposure to rain, dust, and temperature variations, requiring higher IP protection ().

Functional Classification

Main Distribution Board (MDB): Central hub distributing electricity to various sections, equipped with busbars, MCCBs, and support equipment ().

Sub-

Distribution Board (SDB): Transfers electricity to specific locations such as garages, parking lots, or building sections, allowing easier control of multiple circuits (). **Meter Panels:** Track electricity usage in residential or industrial areas, containing primary switches, fuses, circuits, and RCDs for safety (). **Control Boxes:** Specialized boxes for controlling electrical equipment, including switches, controllers, and monitoring tools ().

This classification ensures that distribution boxes are selected and installed according to load requirements, safety standards, environmental conditions, and functional needs, providing efficient and reliable power distribution.

Article Content

Understanding Distribution Boxes: A Comprehensive

Learn what a distribution box is, its types, and how to choose the right one for your project. Includes clear examples and expert tips.

Distribution Box and Selection Guide: Internal Structure, Components ...

Learn how to choose a distribution box and understand its internal structure, including MCBs, busbars, neutral bars, earth bars, RCDs, RCBOs, SPDs, enclosure ratings, and wiring layout.

Understanding Distribution Boxes:A Comprehensive Guide

Understanding its significance, this article covers what a distribution box is, how it functions, its structure, the various types available, and how it differs from other electrical boxes like

Electrical Distribution Box: Complete Panel Types

Learn what an electrical distribution box is in simple terms. Complete guide to panel types, NEC 408 requirements, and applications for home and

How to classify power distribution cabinet and power

3) The final power distribution equipment is generally called lighting power distribution box. They are far away from the power supply center and are

Distribution Box Industry Comparison of Types and Uses

Compare types and uses of distribution boxes in the distribution box industry, covering residential, commercial, and industrial applications.

Types of Electrical Boxes: Complete Guide & Uses 2026

Learn the different types of electrical boxes, including outlet, switch, junction, ceiling, weatherproof, and low-voltage boxes, with practical uses and

Power distribution boxes are classified according to structural ...

Power distribution boxes are classified according to structural characteristics and purposes. The distribution box is divided into power distribution box and lighting distribution box, and is the final

Electrical Control Panels & Distribution Boxes: Sizes, Types, and ...

This guide explores control panels, electrical boxes, breaker panels, bus bars, junction boxes, and custom enclosures to help you understand their sizes, types, and common applications.

Electrical Distribution Boxes -ZHENGKAI

Use the table below to quickly identify which distribution box type best matches your application:

The Ultimate Guide to Distribution Box Types

In any electrical system, the distribution box is the heart and brain, a critical component that safely manages and distributes power from the main source to

Complete Guide For Distribution Boxes Types

Distribution boxes, also known as electrical distribution boards or panels, are pivotal components in electrical systems, ensuring the safe and organized distribution of electrical power throughout

Understanding Power Distribution Boxes: Types, Features, and

This guide delves into the intricacies of power distribution boxes, shedding light on their design, functionality, and regulatory standards. Readers can expect to gain a comprehensive

What are the classifications of distribution boxes?

(4) Power and lighting distribution control box. Most of them are closed vertical installation. Due to different use occasions, the protection level of the shell is also

12 types of distribution boxes and how to choose them

How to Choose the Right Distribution Box: Your Step-by-Step Guide So, you've seen the options—now what? Choosing the best distribution box isn't rocket science, but it does need a bit of

Distribution Boxes Types - The Complete Guide

The power distribution boxes deliver electricity from the main electrical main to other circuits. Several distribution boxes are designed for specific use in offices or industries. Types of

Overview of basic knowledge of distribution box and

The distribution box is divided into power distribution box and lighting distribution box, which is the last level equipment of the distribution system. The distribution

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