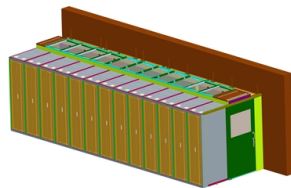


Standard configuration and appearance of the distribution box



Article Overview

A distribution box typically consists of a protective enclosure housing a main switch, circuit breakers, busbars, neutral and earth bars, and sometimes additional monitoring or smart modules, arranged for safe and organized electrical distribution.

Enclosure and Appearance

The outer shell of a distribution box is designed to protect internal components from dust, water, and mechanical damage. Enclosures are usually made of steel or durable plastic, with steel offering higher strength for industrial environments and plastic being lighter for indoor residential use. The box is often rectangular, with a hinged door for easy access, and may include a transparent window to view status indicators without opening the door. Enclosures are rated according to IP or NEMA standards, indicating their level of protection against water and dust ingress .

Internal Components

A standard distribution box contains several key components arranged systematically:

- **Main Switch or Main Breaker:** Controls the entire electrical supply to the box, allowing complete disconnection during maintenance or emergencies .
- **Circuit Breakers (MCBs):** Protect individual circuits from overloads or short circuits. Residential boxes typically have 6–24 circuits, while commercial and industrial boxe...

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