Having a system that is simple and quick to service and upgrade will benefit both the installer and the customer. Proper cable management is also essential for reducing signal noise - to effectively help this, 2" separation is required between AC power cables and signal wires, when they are run parallel. When care is given to planning the management of cable entering the rack or enclosure system and maintaining it neatly throughout the system, the goal of providing the end-user with a neat, organized, effective and reliable system is easily attained.

Methods of Bringing Cable Into Your Enclosure or Rack System

Cable Entry: From Above Through Top of Rack

Welded floor standing enclosures come standard with wide-open tops for large cable bundles to enter the enclosures.

The cable ladder top option for DRK, WRK, MRK, VRK and VRMRK Series enclosures accepts a 6", 9" or 12" wide cable tray or cable ladder (model # MW-LA). This top allows for a cable tray to attach coming in from front or rear and left or right. The opening in the top also allows for the use of a cable drop (model # CLH-D11 or CLH-SD8) on the cable ladder to maintain proper bend radius of the cable. See pg. 31 for top options, and pg. 93 for cable ladders.

Cable Entry: From Below Through Bottom of Rack

The bottoms of welded floor standing enclosures are designed with an open base to accept large cable bundles. There is 1 2 " to 3 " of space (depending on enclosure) in the bottom before reaching the rakespace area to allow for cable entry up into the enclosure. Each enclosure's unique "upformed base" provides interior room for cable management and storing unused wire.

A full line of Riser Bases (RIB Series) and Seismic Riser Bases (SRB Series) are available and provide additional clearance off the floor and can be used for cabling below each enclosure or cabling from one to another when ganged. Laser knockouts on the ends are provided for ganging RIBs to pass cables through. See pgs. 29-29 for riser bases.

Dressing Your Cables Internally

In racks where a high density of cables are anticipated, it is often helpful to cut cable and bundle for testing the bend radius. Many times integrators find out too late that the cable simply cannot be effectively run. Prior testing allows better planning.

Vertical Lacer Strips

Vertical lacer strips are designed to mount to the rail brackets in all Middle Atlantic Products enclosures. Add as many lacer strips as necessary to bring the maximum amount of cable into the enclosure, while keeping power and signal separate. The vertical strips allow the installer to lace cable from the top to the bottom of the rack or vice-versa.

When to Use Hook and Loop Style Ties

Hook and loop style cable fasteners such as the TW12 should be used when installing cable that is sensitive to strain, when the wrap is so tight that it affects the performance of the cable or when cable will be added to or removed from the bundle on a regular basis. These cable management straps can be opened and reused, unlike wire ties. Cable bundles pre-wrapped with cable management straps slide over the convenient tie posts of NEW LACE-OWP and LACE-OP strips. This feature saves time in the field, as it eliminates the need to fish in cable ties or straps.
CABLE MANAGEMENT BEST PRACTICES

Horizontal Lacer Bars

Most Middle Atlantic Products enclosures are furnished with a set of rear rackrail that can be used to mount horizontal lacer bars at any height. Horizontal lacer bars address two common problems: cable strain relief and running cables from one side of the rack to the other. They can also be used to provide rear support for rackmount equipment.

Middle Atlantic Products offers different style lacer bars for different applications. Determine which lacer bar is appropriate for the application (see pg. 90 for complete list of model #s).

Use LBP-LTF Horizontal Lacer Panel When

- Running large cable bundles horizontally
- Rear support for equipment is required
- More surface is desired to mount wires
- Combination cable lacing and device mounting

Use Flat LBP-1S Lacer Bar When

- Running large cable bundles vertically
- Running cable bundles horizontally that can be dressed then slid into position
- Rear support for equipment is required
- Field drilling is desired (3/16" aluminum facilitates field drilling)

Use “L” Shape LBP-1A Lacer Bar When

- Running fixed cables horizontally
- Using hook and loop fasteners
- Rear support for equipment is required

Use Round Shape LBP-1R Lacer Bar When

- When a small profile is required
- Running cable bundles horizontally that can be dressed then slid into position
- Using hook and loop fasteners

Use “L” Shape Offset LBP-2A, LBP-4A, LBP-6A or Round Shape Offset LBP-1.5, LBP-1R4 Lacer Bar When

- Rear rail is set in one position and there are various equipment depths; Able to get the lacer bar close to the rear of the unit for cable strain relief
- Managing multiple cable bundles horizontally at different depth positions
- Bend radius must be taken into consideration
- “L” shape offset lacer bars ideal for rotating racks, preventing cable bundles from sliding when rotating the rack

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1076 Florida Central Parkway, Longwood, FL 32750
www.multicominc.com  Toll free: 800.423.2594  Phone: 407.331.7779  Fax: 407.339.0204  multicom@multicominc.com