

## Open-Top Cable Supports

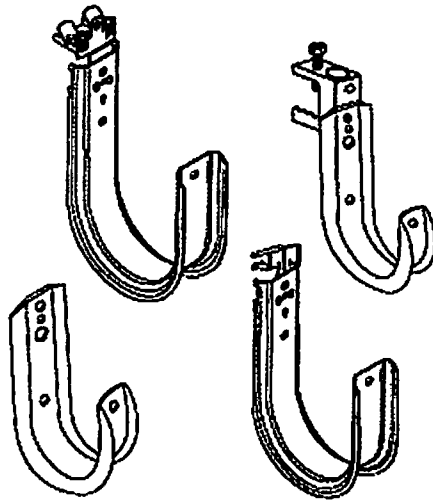
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### Overview

Open-top cable supports (see Figure 2.32) should provide a wide base to distribute the cables' weight to prevent damage. They are constructed of metal, plastic, or fabric in various configurations for use in environments that may require certain types of dielectrical materials (e.g., CMP, CMR, LSZH). Their use is typically intended to support up to 50 cables between a cable tray and the work area outlet. Sizes are available to support larger quantities of cables.

Additionally, devices (saddles) are available for facilitating the use of existing narrow base bridle rings with category 5e, 6, or other high-performance cable installations.

Figure 2.32  
Open-top cable supports (J-hook)



### Open-Top Cable Supports

Open-top cable supports should provide a wide base to distribute the cables' weight to prevent damage. Open-top cable supports should not be used for installations of more than 50 cables. Do not overload open-top cable supports by using plastic cable ties to retain additional cables.

Open-top cable supports should be attached to the building structure and installed on a center spacing varying between  $\approx 1.2$  m (4 ft) to  $\approx 1.5$  m (5 ft). These cable supports shall not be painted nor used for purposes not intended.

Where not specified by the AHJ, open-top cable supports should be installed to maintain a minimum of  $\approx 75$  mm (3 in) vertical clearance between the cabling and cable supports and elements such as ceiling tiles, electrical conduit, luminaires, and piping and ducting. Open-top cable supports shall not be attached to a ceiling grid support system, but may require a secondary connection to the ceiling grid to prevent lateral movement of the supports.

Additionally, devices (saddles) are available for facilitating the use of existing narrow base bridle rings with category 5e, 6, or other high-performance cable installations.

### Installing Bonding and Grounding (Earthing) Infrastructure

Bonding and grounding (earthing) of an ICT systems cabling project is a significant part of an installer's job. It assists in protecting people and equipment from electrical hazards and provides improved performance.

Proper bonding and grounding (earthing) provides protection from overvoltages or accidental connection to foreign electrical voltages or currents. This may include lightning protection systems and related bonding and grounding (earthing) of cabling.

NOTE: Refer to Chapter 8: Bonding and Grounding (Earthing) and Electrical Protection for more in-depth information.