

How Tamperproof Is a Fiberglass Sectionalizing Enclosure?

ANSI C57.12.28 sets standards for pad-mount equipment enclosure integrity and is considered the reference for the electrical industry.

Based on recent evaluations at Maysteel, we believe that the integrity of fiberglass sectionalizing enclosures may be deficient in at least three areas related to critical tamperproof characteristics. These three areas are:

4.1.7 – Locking/latching devices standard, which states in part: “The latching devices shall be designed and constructed of such material so as to resist breaking or bending.”

4.3.2 – Pry tests standard, which involves using a specified prying tool on “all joints, crevices, hinges, locking means, and other objects that exist between the enclosure components”

4.3.4 – Wire probe tests standard, which involves using a 14 AWG solid copper wire to attempt to penetrate “crevices and joints” in the enclosure. This standard states in part: “This test is passed if an inspection determines the probing wire either has not entered the enclosure, or if visible, the probing wire is restricted by a barrier from intrusion into the interior.”

We encourage you to examine the photos below and on the back page. Then judge for yourself whether a typical fiberglass enclosure truly meets the definition of tamperproof.

Competitor's Fiberglass Enclosure

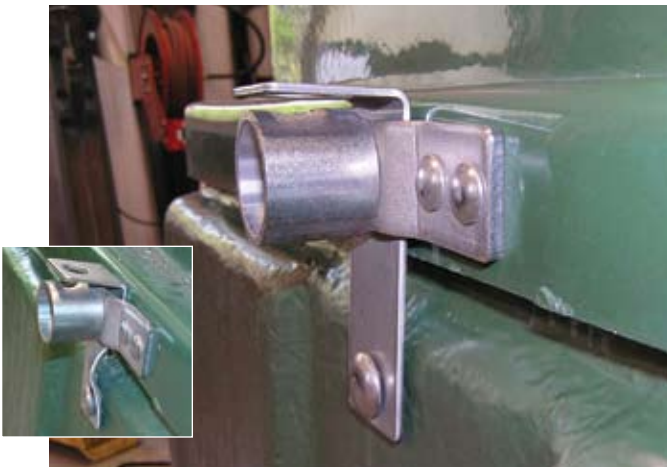


Maysteel TH Aluminum Enclosure



Typical Fiberglass Sectionalizer

FLIMSY LOCKING MECHANISM



Locking mechanism uses thin metal parts and does not fit flush against cabinet. The mechanism is easily distorted by prying.

Maysteel TH Aluminum Sectionalizer

ROBUST LOCKING MECHANISM



Stainless steel penta-head bolt standard on all models. Thick metal plate and layered locking arrangement resists prying.

Typical Fiberglass Sectionalizer

WEAK, BREACHABLE SHELL



Damage can be easily inflicted on the rear, hinge area of the cabinet using the pry test. Inset shows how hole from damage looks from inside.

POOR FIT AND FINISH



Cover at hinge area is saw cut, ragged and aesthetically poor. Gap in the seam allows penetration of probe wire into enclosure. Wire was inserted, then enclosure opened to show the degree of penetration.

Maysteel TH Aluminum Sectionalizer

HEAVY-GAUGE METAL SHELL



Tight joint inhibits attempts to pry or penetrate cabinet. Inset shows special tamperproof channels at inside seams for extra security from intrusion. Hardware and hinges are of heavy-duty non-ferrous metal.

TOP-QUALITY CONSTRUCTION



All-riveted 5052H32 aluminum for maximum strength (0.090 or 0.125 inch thickness). Rolled seams prohibit insertion of foreign materials.

Steel enclosures from Maysteel also feature quality, tamperproof construction.

Compared With Fiberglass Enclosures, Our Aluminum Sectionalizers are:

- Just as corrosion resistant
- Even lighter in weight and easier to handle*
- Significantly stronger and more secure

*Representative Enclosure Weights

	Aluminum	Fiberglass
1 Phase	80 lbs	148 lbs
3 Phase	120 lbs	260 lbs

Maysteel[®]
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