2006 revised standard plan rsp b11 47 cable railing

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Cable Guardrails: Requirements and Standards**

Requirements for Cable Guardrails

Cable guardrails must meet specific requirements to ensure their safety and effectiveness:

- Post Spacing: Maximum 8 feet on center
- Cable Spacing: Maximum 4 inches on center (vertically) and 6 inches on center (horizontally)
- Cable Tension: Tightened to a minimum tension of 200 pounds
- Materials: Posts and cables made of corrosion-resistant materials
- Anchorages: Posts securely anchored to the substrate (e.g., concrete, wood, or metal)

Code Spacing for Cable Railing

- Vertical Spacing: Maximum 4 inches on center
- Horizontal Spacing: Maximum 6 inches on center

Standard for Guardrails

The International Building Code (IBC) sets the following standard for guardrails:

• Height: Minimum 36 inches above the walking surface

 Strength: Capable of withstanding a force of 200 pounds applied in any direction

• Opening: Maximum 4 inches between elements

Standard Size of a Railing

The standard size of a railing is 36 inches high and 42 inches wide.

Maximum Length for Cable Railing

The maximum recommended length for cable railing is 50 feet between end posts.

Maximum Spacing for Railings

The maximum spacing allowed between railings is 6 feet on center.

Number of Rows of Cable Railing

Typically, cable railing systems have 3 to 4 rows of cables.

Requirements for Safety Cable

Safety cables used in cable guardrails must meet the following requirements:

• Tensile Strength: Minimum 1,000 pounds

• Diameter: Minimum 3/16 inch

• Corrosion Resistance: Protective coating or galvanized

OSHA Standard for Wire Rope Guardrail

OSHA requires that wire rope guardrails have an intermediate wire rope or mesh between the top and bottom rails.

Requirements of Good Rail

A good rail should be:

• **Sturdy:** Strong enough to resist bending or breaking

• Securely Attached: Firmly anchored to the substrate

- Free from Obstructions: No projections or sharp edges that could cause injury
- Visually Clear: Easily seen and not obstructed by plants or other objects

Cable Guardrail System

A cable guardrail system consists of posts, tensioning devices, and cables. It offers a modern and visually appealing alternative to traditional railings, while providing safety and compliance with building codes.

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