

Which type of socket should I buy for the distribution box



Overview

When choosing a CEE / IEC 60309 industrial plug or socket, buyers should not only look at appearance or price.

Key Takeaways

Industrial sockets compliant with IEC 60309 standards, with appropriate current, voltage, and IP ratings, are suitable for distribution boxes. Key Considerations

Voltage and Current Ratings: Choose sockets based on the distribution box's supply voltage and current requirements. Common industrial sockets support 220V (single-phase) or 380V (three-phase) systems, with current ratings of 16A, 32A, 63A, or 125A depending on the load . **Pin Configuration:** The number of pins depends on the system type:

- 2P+E: Single-phase with earth
- 3P+E: Three-phase without neutral
- 3P+N+E: Three-phase with neutral and earth Protection Level (IP Rating):
- IP44: Protects against solid objects >1mm and water splashes; suitable for indoor or semi-protected environments .



- IP67: Fully dustproof and protected against temporary immersion; ideal for outdoor or harsh industrial conditions . Mounting Style: For distribution boxes, panel-mounted or wall-mounted sockets are preferred for permanent installations, while portable couplers are used for temporary setups . Safety and Standards: Ensure sockets comply with IEC 60309 or equivalent standards to prevent mismatching of voltage, phase, or current, and to maintain safe operation . Installation Notes:
 - Connect phase, neutral, and earth wires according to the socket's pin configuration.
 - Use appropriate MCBs (Miniature Circuit Breakers) for each socket to protect against overloads.
 - Select cable sizes according to current rating (e.g., 2.5 mm² for 16A, 6 mm² for 32A, 16 mm² for 63A), .
- Summary

For a distribution box, choose industrial sockets that match the system voltage, current, and phase requirements, with suitable IP protection for the environment. IEC 60309-compliant sockets with 3-pin, 4-pin, or 5-pin configurations are widely used, ensuring safety, durability, and compatibility with industrial plugs .

Article Content

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Selection Recommendations for Industrial Plugs,

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7) Considerations for choosing a power distribution box The context, security needs, and purpose all play a vital role in

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