NEMA RATINGS - National Electrical Manufacturers Association

A brief description of the more common types of enclosures used by the electrical industry relating to their environmental capabilities follows. Please refer to the appropriate sections of the latest revision of NEMA Standards Publication No. 250 for complete information regarding applications, features and design tests.

Type 1 Enclosures
Intended for use primarily to provide a degree of protection against limited amounts of falling dirt.

Type 3 Enclosures
Intended for outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against rain, sleet, windblown dust, and damage from external ice formation.

Type 3R Enclosures
Intended for outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against rain, sleet, and damage from external ice formation.

Type 3S Enclosures
Intended for outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against rain, sleet, windblown dust, and to provide for operation of external mechanisms when ice laden.

Type 4 Enclosures
Intended for indoor or outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against windblown dust and rain, splashing water, hose-directed water, and damage from external ice formation.

Type 4X Enclosures
Intended for indoor or outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against corrosion, windblown dust and rain, splashing water, hose-directed water, and damage from ice formation.

Type 6 Enclosures
Intended for indoor or outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against hose-directed water, the entry of water during occasional temporary submersion at a limited depth, and damage from external ice formation.

Type 6P Enclosures
Intended for indoor or outdoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against hose-directed water, the entry of water during prolonged submersion at a limited depth, and damage from external ice formation.

Type 12 Enclosures
Intended for indoor use primarily to provide a degree of protection against circulating dust, falling dirt, and dripping non-corrosive liquids.

Type 12K Enclosures
Type 12 with knockouts. Definitions Pertaining to Hazardous (Classified) Locations

Type 7 Enclosures
Intended for indoor use in locations classified as Class I, Groups A, B, C, or D, as defined in the National Electrical Code.

Type 8 Enclosures
Intended for indoor or outdoor use in locations classified as Class I, Groups A, B, C, or D, as defined in the National Electrical Code.

Type 9 Enclosures
Intended for indoor use in locations classified as Class II, Groups E, F, or G, as defined in the National Electrical Code.

Type 10 Enclosures
Constructed to meet the applicable requirements of the Mine Safety and Health Administration.