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Protecting equipment in hazardous environments with high quality enclosure hardware.

The energy industry covers a wide range of specific sectors, from wind and solar power to oil and gas production. Whilst these disciplines differ widely in terms of the energy they produce and the equipment they use, there are also commonalities - the most prominent of which is the fact that they often operate in extreme and even hazardous circumstances.

From off-shore environments to exposure to severe weather conditions, the teams working in these fields and the equipment they employ are consistently in need of protection from the hazards they face on a day to day basis.

Valuable assets

As a result of these conditions, stringent safety and process restrictions are required to protect the materials, equipment and technology utilised in these working environments.

From specialised electronics to cables, computer hardware and machinery, this equipment is often bespoke and extremely valuable and could be subject to tampering, theft, damage or even failure if not kept protected.

As a solution, robust and secure enclosure units are always a priority to house equipment on sites in these industries. Location of these enclosures is key; where equipment is stored has a large bearing on the level of protection required to keep it safe. For example, most enclosures used in wind and solar energy applications are located outside and must be able to withstand conditions such as:

- Extreme temperatures
- Excessive humidity or dryness
- Rain and moisture
- Snow and ice
- Heavy winds
- Exposure to chemicals and corrosive substances

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Keeping enclosures secure

How an enclosure is designed and the features and hardware used to secure them is vital when considering how to protect the equipment used in these environments. Hardware such as sophisticated locking systems with either quarter or half turn mechanisms can ensure that doors are safe from tampering and forced opening.

For added security, many structures can have two or even three locking points, allowing the locking rod to run all the way from the top to the bottom of the door, thus avoiding the risk of tampering or theft which can be common where only one locking point is present.

Depending on the depth of the door return, the locking rods will need to be set at different distances, for example 20mm or 26mm. In the past, customers needed to purchase individual rod guides to cater for these different measurements.

The new rod guide from TR Fastenings seeks to eliminate this complication and avoid frustration by providing a simple solution which can be adapted for use, simply twisting the guide to adjust the distance accordingly.

Designing in safety

Enclosure hardware goes beyond just [locks](#) and [locking systems](#).

From [latches](#) and [hinges](#), to [clamps](#) and [gaskets](#), there are multiple components which can be customised and tailored to suit specific requirements, sizes and designs. Simply changing what side a door opens on or at what height a hinge is fitted can result in added security for the components housed within each unit.

With Oil, Gas and other Energy sector environments, the materials used in the units are of great importance, as they need to be resistant to certain conditions and corrosive substances or chemicals. By adding in the extra assurance of robust and sophisticated locking and opening hardware, these units become even more immune to the dangers faced in these industrial settings, providing even more protection for the valuable equipment they contain.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the TR Fastenings enclosure hardware range and how it is used in the energy, oil and gas sector.