M.P.C. encoding was introduced by French standard NFC 63-412. The objective was to categorise the different types of withdrawable products by connection type, protection against direct contact and form of internal separation.

The approach stipulated by the standard was modified by a classification based on two criteria:

The functional unit electrical connection type (three letter code)

- The first letter denotes the type of electrical connection of the main incoming circuit
- The second letter denotes the type of electrical connection of the main outgoing circuit
- The third letter denotes the type of electrical connection of the auxiliary circuits.

The following letters shall be used:

- . F for fixed connections
- D for disconnectable connections
- W for withdrawable connections

Typical forms of separation by barriers or partitions.



Form 1:

No separation.



Form 2a:

Separation of busbars from the functional units. Terminals for external conductors do not need to be separated from busbars.



Form 2b:

Separation of busbars from the functional units. Terminals for external conductors are separated from busbars.



Form 3a:

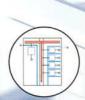
Separation of busbars from the functional units and separation of all functional units from one another. Separation of the terminals for external conductors from the functional units, but not from each other. Terminal for external conductors do not need to be separated from busbars.

Form 3b:

Separation of busbars from the functional units and separation of all functional units from one another. Separation of the terminals for external conductors from the functional units, but not from each other. Terminal for external conductors are separated from busbars.



Separation of busbars from functional units and separation of all functional units from one another, including the terminals for external conductors which are an integral part of the functional unit. Terminals for external conductors are in the same compartment as the associated functional unit.



Form 4b:

Separation of busbars from functional units and separation of all functional units from one another, including the terminals for external conductors which are an integral part of the functional unit. Terminals for external conductors are not in the same compartment as the associated functional unit, but in individual, separate, enclosed protected spaces or compartments.

