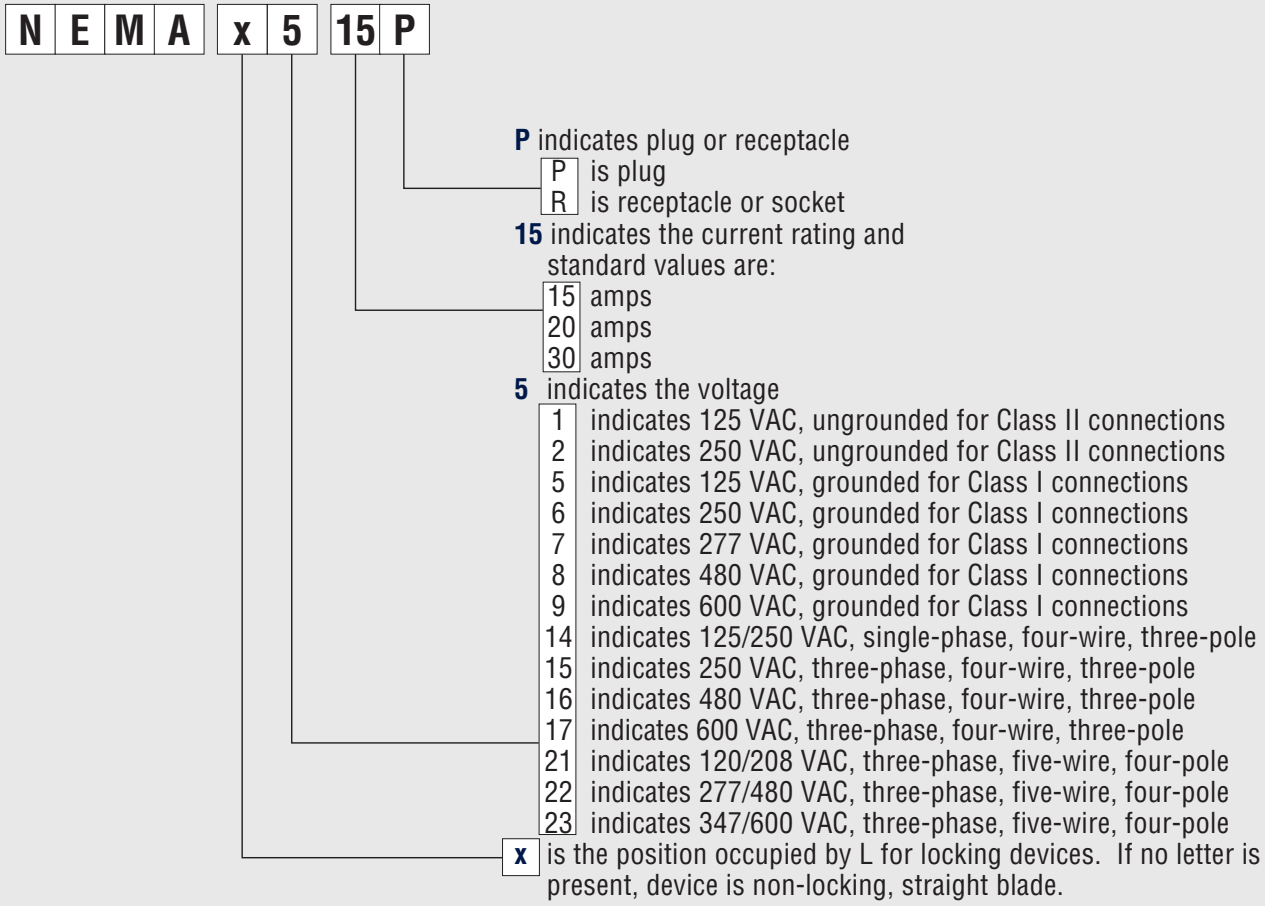
NEMA NOMENCLATURE

The NEMA (National Electrical Manufacturers Association) pattern and numbering system is made up of four main identifiers. The first identifier can be a blank space or have the letter L. This determines whether it is a straight or locking blade device. In the case of a 5-15 plug, the plug is a straight blade device. There is no identifier for straight blade devices. If there were an L prior to the number, such as L5-15, it would mean the plug is a locking plug.

The second identifier is a number. The first number in a NEMA listing determines the voltage rating. A 5 represents a voltage rating of 125 VAC, while a 6 identifies a rating of 250 VAC. The rating given is the highest voltage allowed for use with the device by the standard.

The third identifier is a number and identifies the amperage rating of the device. In the case of a NEMA 5-15, the amperage rating is 15 amps. The amperage rating, like the voltage rating, is the highest amperage allowed for use with the device by the standard.

The fourth identifier is a letter. This identifier determines whether the device is a plug, P, or a receptacle/outlet, R. Thus, an L5-15P is a locking 125 volt, 15 amp, plug. A 5-20R is a straight blade, 125 volt, 20 amp, receptacle or outlet. In the case of the equipment in our problem, we would need a NEMA 6-15 configuration.



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