



GE busway is a world leader in market share as well as product innovation. Busway is used to distribute electrical power in large power-hungry buildings such as factories and hotels. Since 1997, General Electric has offered iQbolt™ as their premium joint bolt option for their Spectra Series product line.



The Problem:

The conducting bars in the bus duct must be securely joined with sufficient clamp force. Otherwise current loss, heat build-up, dangerous arcs and system downtime can result. GE discovered that customers may forget to torque every single bolt during installation resulting in system failure at start-up. Maintenance checks for busway joint bolts require measuring bolt torque which is a time consuming and difficult procedure since busway is commonly located in the ceiling. In addition, the busway carrying live current must be shut down for safety when checking torque on the joint bolts which results in costly downtime.

Our Solution:

GE offers iQbolt™ to its customers. This popular offering has been satisfying GE’s demanding 24/7 uptime customers such as data centers and auto plants for more than 15 years. The tension indicator ensures proper clamp force has been achieved during installation, whether a torque wrench was used to tighten the bolt or not. The eye-catching red “loose” indication makes it easy to spot any joint bolts that have not been torqued during installation. During maintenance checks, inspection is a “no touch” operation that does not require a system shutdown. Only the under-tensioned bolts must be serviced.



Specifications:

- Size: ½-13 x 4”
- Design Tension: 5.5 Kilopounds-force
- Material Grade: Grade 5

