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From: **Mohamed Alhanaee** <m.alhanaee@adcca.gov.ae>

Date: Mon, Jun 24, 2024 at 12:32 PM

Subject: Important Notice: New Updates to Fire Rated Smoke Management Ducts Regulations

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Dear Stakeholders,

I hope this message finds you well. We are writing to inform you of significant updates to the fire-rated smoke management ducts regulations as outlined by the Abu Dhabi Civil Defence Authority (ADCDA). **The updates are detailed in the attached circular and will be enforced one year from the date of this communication. Make sure that all COCs (Certificates of Compliance) comply with the requirements of the updates listed in the circular attached.**

Life safety is our utmost priority at ADCDA, and these new regulations are aimed at enhancing the safety of smoke management systems due to their critical role in the evacuation process for individuals and firefighting operations. Therefore, we strongly recommend that all stakeholders adhere strictly to the UAE Life and Safety Code and the following practices:

Smoke Management Ducts

According to the UAE Life and Safety Code, the accepted test standards for smoke ducts (Make-up or Exhaust Duct) with a mandatory rating of 120 minutes for Stability, Integrity, and Insulation are:

British Standards:

BS 476 part 24, Duct A and B, with cross-sectional retention of 75% for both conditions.

European Standards:

EN 13501-4 classification, requiring:

EN 1366-8 for Duct C for Multi-compartments (cross-sectional retention of 90%).

EN 1366-9 for Single compartment - low temperature exposure (600°C) and leakage compliance.

- - **Fire-resistant Duct Systems**

All fire-resistant duct systems (Duct + insulation + support systems, etc.), used in both sprinklered and non-sprinklered buildings, require testing, certification, and listing based on specific end-use applications, including:

- Smoke Extract Duct
- Dual Ventilation Duct (Ventilation and Smoke)

Third-party certification should detail the end-use application results for stability, integrity, and insulation.

Smoke Extract Duct

Smoke extraction involves evacuating by-products of combustion, such as smoke and toxic gases, from a building. The test standards for smoke extract ducts require maintaining at least 75% of their original cross-sectional area during the fire test under the following conditions:

- Duct A condition (External Fire)
- Duct B condition (External and Internal Fire)

Mandatory Ratings:

- 120 min Stability
- 120 min Integrity
- 120 min Insulation

- ### **Dual Ventilation and Smoke Extract Duct**

These systems function as conventional ventilation under normal conditions and convert to smoke extraction during a fire, offering an economical dual system. They must meet the requirements of smoke extract ducts as detailed above.

Underground Car Park Areas

Smoke duct systems for underground car parks, whether sprinklered or non-sprinklered, must be tested and approved for all criteria:

- 120 min Stability
- 120 min Integrity
- 120 min Insulation

- ### **Labeling and Modifications**

All installed fire-resistant duct systems must be clearly labeled by the installer/contractor to prevent unauthorized modifications that could compromise their fire resistance. Any modifications must be documented in the contractor's handover manual and approved by a fire engineer.

Kitchen Extraction Duct

According to the UAE Life and Safety Code, NFPA 96 is the only accepted practice for constructing kitchen grease ducts, which aim to reduce the potential fire hazard of commercial cooking operations. The accepted test standards with mandatory 120-minute ratings are:

- ASTM E2336-20
- UL 2221-20

Mandatory Ratings:

- 120 minutes for Duct
- 120 minutes for Insulation

- **Please note that uninsulated ducts will not be registered in ADCDA after the the end of the grace period.**

We appreciate your cooperation in implementing these updates to ensure the highest safety standards. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

NOTE: Please don't reply to this email

Best regards,

Capt. Eng. Mohamed Alhanaee

Civil Protection Department

Abu Dhabi Civil Defense Authority

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