MEMORANDUM

TO: Review Architects/Engineers and Inspection Personnel

FROM: Jerry W. Jones, Chief Architect

SUBJECT: Commercial Hoods: Screw Penetrations (NFPA 96)

DATE: July 20, 1995

District Supervisor, Dean Guidry, has brought to light an apparent typical problem in the installation of fusible links within kitchen hoods. Some deputies have detected that fusible links are being attached to the inside of the hoods utilizing screws which penetrate the outer shell of the hood. We have discussed this matter with the National Fire Protection Association, they have indicated that single wall hoods with screw penetrations violate the requirements of NFPA 96. The hood suppression contractors should not use screws. All brackets and hangers in this type of situation must be welded pursuant to NFPA 96:2-1.2 which reads:

All seams, joints and penetrations of the hood enclosure that direct and capture grease-laden vapors and exhaust gases shall have a liquid-tight continuous exterior weld to the hood's lower outermost perimeter. Internal hood joints, seams, filter support frames and appendages attached inside the hood need not be welded but shall be sealed or otherwise made grease tight.

Exception No. 1: Penetrations shall be permitted to be sealed by devices listed for such use and whose presence does not detract from the hoods or ducts structural integrity.

Exception No. 2: Eyebrow-type hood over gas or electric ovens shall be permitted to have duct constructed in as Chapter 4 from the oven flue(s) connected to the hood canopy upstream of the exhaust plenum as shown in Fig. 2-1.2. The duct shall be connected to the hood with a continuous weld or shall have a duct to duct connection as shown in Figures 5-1.2(b), (c), or (d).

Exception No. 3: Seams, joints and penetrations of the hood shall be permitted to be internally welded, provided that the weld is formed smooth or ground smooth so as not to trap grease and is readily cleanable.

JWJ/adg

5150 FLORIDA BOULEVARD, BATON ROUGE, LA 70806
(504) 925-4911 1-800-256-5452