

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

**Public Safety Services** 



V. J. BELLA STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: SFM Review Staff & Inspectors Architects/Engineers Chemical Suppression Companies

FROM: Jerry W. Jones Chief Architect

RE: NFPA 96 (1994 Edition) Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations Enforcement Changes

DATE: February 20, 1997

## OVENS

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Beginning June 1, 1997, all new installations of ovens will be required to comply with NFPA 96.. Grease laden vapors shall be removed as per Figure 2-1.2 or an equally effective exhaust hood arrangement. Also note 2-1.2 Exception No. 2 contains additional information relative to oven flue duct construction requirements. Suppression nozzles shall be required directly over the oven door, similar to broiler protection requirements.

There has been a pervasive assumption that ovens are not required to be protected in accordance with NFPA-96. Most ovens were assumed to be utilized for baking purposes which would not produce grease or grease laden vapors. This long standing assumption was/is incorrect.

It has recently been brought to the attention of this office that many times ovens are used in such a manner as to produce grease or grease-laden vapors. We have been told of ovens being used for bulk frying of bacon in some hotels and of other similar uses where ovens are used for cooking operations producing grease or grease laden vapors. According to NFPA if ovens are used in this type of manner, they are required to be protected in accordance with NFPA 96.

## SUPPLY AIR DUCTS

Beginning June 1, 1997, all new hoods that are provided with supply air ducts shall be required to comply with one of the following:

Where supply air ducts attach to a hood, the first 12 inches before and beyond the fire dampers shall be constructed to comply with Section 5-4 and Figure 5-4 bleed air duct requirements, <u>or</u>

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The supply air fan shall be connected to the exhaust air fan in such a way that the exhaust and supply fans operate simultaneously and the supply fan power will disconnect if the suppression system trips during a fire while leaving the exhaust fan circuit energized.

Supply air ducts beyond the 12" minimum in Item #1 above may be constructed of any non-combustible duct materials allowed by NFPA 90A. Ducts for systems constructed as per Item #2 may be attached immediately following the damper on the hood and can be constructed as per any air duct material allowed by NFPA 90A.

## JWJ/HCR/kmw

cc: Henry C. Reed, Sr.

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