

October 20, 2008

To: Secretary of the Standards Council, IAPMO

From: Bob Adler

Re: 2009 UMC Appeal, Chapter 5 – Section 511.2.1

Appellant: Bob Adler

Inspector

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I am filing this appeal of Item 58, Comment sequence 12 proposed to the Uniform Mechanical Code.

Committee Recommendation: The committee accepted the item as modified and a public comment was submitted to modify Section 511.2.1 as follows:

511.2.1 The air velocity through any duct shall be not ~~more~~ less than 2,500 feet per minute (457.2 m per minute) 500 feet per minute (152.4 meters per minute). [NFPA 96:8.2.1.1]

Committee Recommendation: The committee accepted the public comment as submitted.

Relief sought: This appeal requests that the action taken in Item 58 leave in the strikeout maximum for air velocity as this was overtly left out **without consideration of the effect it would have on grease duct sizing that is too small, which could be the result of not limiting the velocity**. A minimum and maximum air velocity must be provided as follows:

511.2.1 The air velocity through any duct shall be not less than 500 feet per minute (152.4 meters per minute) and not more than 2,500 feet per minute (457.2 m per minute).

Reasons:

Minimum and maximum exhaust air rate through kitchen exhaust duct must be provided. This air rate range will minimize grease that will accumulate in the duct. Minimum air flow rate will make sure there will be a sufficient air flow to replace reduction of air flow because of duct transitions or changing directions. Maximum air rate is provided to **limit the size of the grease-duct . Without a maximum velocity grease ducts could become progressively smaller. The effect of a too small duct is to incur too fast velocities, which could cause the grease to not separate out. Over the long run this might result in a grease accumulation which would jeopardize life and safety. Secondly, the sound effect produced by extremely fast duct velocities is often unpleasant**

Additionally, it should be noted that this item was not reviewed by the assembly, consequently a discussion never ensued over whether or not 500 fpm is acceptable over the previously (long-held) Code requirement of 1500fpm min and 2500fpm max. Mr Lemoff's Public Comment was simply overlooked. The purpose of this appeal is to rectify that oversight.