

MECHANICAL CODE DISCUSSION

New in the 2012 International Mechanical Code



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AS WE APPROACH the New Year, we expect to see the Legislature adopt the 2012 International Code Council set of code for construction in Utah. Expected adoption date is the first of July. It's important to be aware of changes, especially as many of you may bid projects in the next few months that will not have permits issued until the new codes are in place.

A new section in Chapter 5 provides requirements for table-top cooking appliances with integral downdraft exhausts at individual tables with patrons seated around the table. My oldest grandson loves going to restaurants such as Benihana's and Tepanyaki Japanese Steak House, where we watch the chef cook our dinner on this type of down draft table.

2012 IMC: 506.3.10 **Underground Grease Duct Installation.** Underground grease duct installations shall comply with all of the following:

1. Underground grease ducts shall be constructed of steel having a minimum thickness of 0.0575 inch (1.463 mm) (No. 16 gage) and be coated to provide protection from corrosion or shall be constructed of stainless steel having a minimum thickness of 0.0450 inch (1.14 mm) (No. 18 gage).

2. The underground duct system shall be tested and approved in accordance with Section 506.3.2.5 prior to coating or placement in the ground. (This is referring to the 100 watt light bulb test, insuring welds are tight.)

3. The underground duct system shall be completely encased in concrete with a minimum thickness of 4 inches.

4. Ducts shall slope toward grease reservoirs.

5. A grease reservoir with a clean-out to allow cleaning of the reservoir shall be provided at the base of each vertical duct riser.

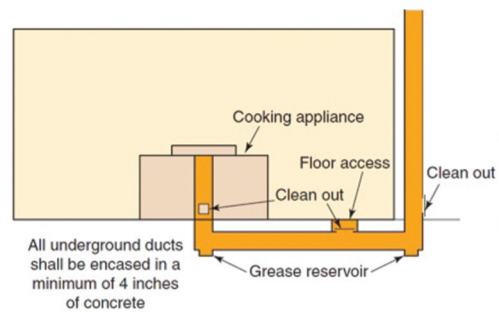
6. Clean-outs shall be provided with access to permit cleaning and inspection of duct in accordance 7. with Section 506.3.

7. Clean-outs in horizontal ducts shall be installed on the top side of the duct.

8. Clean-out locations shall be legibly identified at the point of access from the exterior space.

For installations with open space below

the cooking appliance, and for vertical ducts such as the riser on the right side of the drawing, the existing clearance



Underground grease duct

requirements in the IMC for shafts or fire wrap insulation apply; however the grease reservoir at the bottom of each vertical duct and clean-out requirements listed above apply.

Thank you for the privilege of working with each of you. I truly enjoy discussing your inspector or code challenges and questions. Please know your suggestions, comments and questions are always welcome. Wishing each of you a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year!—Brent 🌟



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