

FPB POLICY 2010-5: INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING KITCHEN HOOD SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS

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From the Office of the Fire Prevention Bureau – Phone (515) 283-4240



This policy is promulgated in accordance with Section 104.1 of the 2006 International Fire Code; it is intended for clarification of the 2009 International Fire Code (IFC) and is an official interpretation of Sections 609 and 904.11 of the 2009 IFC.

The following shall apply to the inspection and maintenance of existing kitchen hoods and hood suppression systems:

Section 609.3.3.1 of the 2009 IFC reads as follows: "Hoods, grease removal devices, fans, ducts, and other appurtenances shall be inspected as specified in Table 609.3.3.1 (shown below). Inspections shall be completed by qualified individuals." It is the opinion of the Fire Marshal that a qualified individual is an individual who is licensed with the City of Des Moines Fire Department to perform said inspections. The following is the Des Moines Fire Prevention Bureau's policy on when an inspection is required:

- 1.) Inspections shall occur in accordance with Table 609.3.3.1 of the 2009 IFC (shown below):

Table 609.3.3.1 from the 2009 IFC

Type of Cooking Operation	Frequency of Inspection
High volume cooking such as: 24 hr cooking, char-broiling or wok cooking	3 months
Low volume cooking such as places of religious worship, seasonal businesses, and senior centers	12 months
Cooking operations utilizing solid fuel burning cooking appliances	1 month
All other cooking operations	6 months

- 2.) Inspections shall include, but not be limited to: verification of correct nozzle placement and position for each protected appliance, duct, and plenum, verification that hoods, ducts, fans and other appurtenances are free from grease accumulation, and any other defect that may render the system incapable of operating appropriately.
- 3.) Should any kitchen hoods be found with an excessive build up of grease, improper nozzle placement, appliance changes, or other non-compliant condition, a DMFD tag shall NOT be placed on the system until necessary repairs/cleaning have been completed.
- 4.) Inspections should not be confused with required semi-annual (or after system activation) fire suppression system maintenance/service as required by Section 904.11 of the 2009 IFC.

Any comments or questions regarding the above information may be submitted to:

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