SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE

Our Ref. : CD/FSSD/12/02/03/01

Your Ref :

Date : 05 June 2012

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Registrar, Board of Architects (BOA)
Registrar, Professional Engineers Board (PEB)
President, Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore (ACES)

Dear Sir/Mdm,

AMENDMENTS TO THE FIRE CODE – SHARING OF KITCHEN EXHAUST SYSTEM FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE OUTLETS

Recently, a member of the Fire Code Review Committee raised the concern on the kitchen compartmentation of restaurants having large floor area and the maintenance of shared exhaust ductwork of kitchens that are of different ownerships. Under the current Fire Code, mechanical exhaust system for the cooking area of a kitchen in a restaurant, coffee house, food court or the like is required to be independent of those serving other parts of the building, including kitchens of other F&B outlets.

2. The Fire Code Review Committee has discussed the issue and decided to allow the sharing of kitchen exhaust system provided the following conditions are fulfilled:

a) <u>For a food court</u>

i. the food court shall be under a single ownership/operator;

ii. there must be provision for maintenance and cleaning of the exhaust system;

iii. the food court owner/operator shall ensure that the kitchen exhaust system is degreased and cleaned regularly; and

iv. all kitchen exhaust ducts running outside the food court shall have fire resistant rating of at least 1 hour or shall not be less than that for the elements of structure, whichever is the higher.

b) <u>For restaurants</u>

i. the restaurants that are sharing the same kitchen exhaust system shall be located next to each other and be on the same storey;

ii. the aggregate floor area of the restaurants shall not exceed 1,000m^2;

iii. Common duct shall be provided with common exhaust fan.

iv. there must be provision for maintenance and cleaning of the common exhaust system;

v. the common kitchen exhaust system shall be degreased and cleaned regularly;

vi. the building shall be protected by an automatic fire sprinkler system;

vii. the exhaust hood shall be fitted with a wet chemical fire extinguishing system; and

viii. the fire rating of the common kitchen exhaust duct running outside the restaurants shall have fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour or shall not be less than that for the elements of structure, whichever is the higher.

c) <u>For other smaller F&B outlets such as snack bars, food kiosks etc.</u>

i. the F&B outlets that are sharing kitchen exhaust system shall be:

(a) within close proximity from each other;

(b) within a zone of 1,000m^2;

(c) with hood-to-hood distance of not more than 10m; and

(d) located on the same storey.

ii. the kitchen exhaust duct running outside the F&B outlets shall have fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour or shall not be less than that for the elements of structure, whichever is the higher; and

iii. all other conditions stipulated in (b)(iii) to (vii) above shall be complied with.

(Note: Kitchen exhaust duct includes both horizontal and vertical ducts)

3. This circular shall take immediate effect. Please convey the contents of this circular to members of your Institution/Association/ Board. The circular is also available in CORENET-e-Info: <u>http://www.corenet.gov.sg/einfo</u>.

4. For any inquiry or clarification, please contact Mr. Lee Wee Keong at tel. no. 6848 1445 or email address LEE_Wee_Keong@scdf.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully,

(transmitted via e-mail)

Cpt Lim Boon Hsing
Secretary, FSSD Standing Committee
for Commissioner
Singapore Civil Defence Force

cc

All members of FSSD Standing Committee
President, REDAS

President, IFE
President, SISV
CEO, BCA
CEO, URA
CEO, HDB
CEO, PSA
CEO, JTC
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