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Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area Building and Construction Department

Attention Contractors:

There are several important changes that we all need to be aware of with the adoption of the 2012 International Mechanical Code (IMC) along with the Wichita-Sedgwick County Unified Building and Trade Code

Chapter 4 (IMC): Section 403.3 - Mechanical Ventilation. These revisions are intended to make the IMC consistent with the ventilation rate requirements defined in ASHRAE Standard 62.1.2004.

Chapter 4 (IMC): Section 401.4 - Intake Opening Location. Air intake openings are now measured from the edge of the street or public walkway instead of the centerline (if the opening fronts a street or public way). In a related change, mechanical & gravity air intake openings may now be located closer than 10' from streets, alleys, parking lots, and loading docks if the opening is located at least 25' above these locations.

Chapter 4 (IMC): Section 403.3 - Minimum Ventilation Rates for Nail Salons. Footnote H to Table 403.3 has been modified to require nail salons to have a source capture system at each nail station with a minimum exhaust rate of 50 cfm at each system.

Chapter 5 (IMC): Section 506.3.7.1 - Grease Reservoirs. Criteria has now been provided for the construction of a grease reservoir in a grease duct system, where the reservoir is not a manufactured product.

Chapter 5 (IMC): Section 506.3.10 - Underground Grease Duct Installations. Grease ducts installed in underground locations are now regulated based upon a number of new provisions.

Chapter 5 (IMC): Section 507.2.2 - Type II Hoods. This was modified to eliminate a laundry list of exceptions for specific appliances. A Type II hood will no longer be needed if the appliance has the heat and moisture loads incorporated in the design of the HVAC system.

Chapter 6 (IMC): Section 603.4.1 - Minimum Fasteners. Round metallic ducts now have an exception allowing the three required screws to be equally spaced on the exposed portion so as to prevent a hinge effect.

Chapter 6 (IMC): Section 606.4.1 - Supervision. This change clarifies that the smoke detectors used for air distribution systems are only required to be connected to a fire alarm system if the alarm system is required by the International Fire Code. (IFC)

Chapter 11 (IMC): Section 1105.6 & 1105.6.3 – Machinery Room Ventilation. Ventilation rates in ammonia machinery rooms will now be based on IAR2 requirements, making the IMC current with industry standards.

This is not a complete list of all the changes, but a list of highlights that will affect our industry.