

# 506.3.11

## Grease Duct Enclosures

**CHANGE TYPE:** Modification

**CHANGE SUMMARY:** The code specifically prohibits the installation of fire and smoke dampers in grease ducts.

**2015 CODE: 506.3.11 Grease Duct Enclosures.** A commercial kitchen grease duct serving a Type I hood that penetrates a ceiling, wall, floor or any concealed spaces shall be enclosed from the point of penetration to the outlet terminal. In-line exhaust fans not located outdoors shall be enclosed as required for grease ducts. A duct shall penetrate exterior walls only at locations where unprotected openings are permitted by the *International Building Code*. The duct enclosure shall serve a single grease duct and shall not contain other ducts, piping or wiring systems. Duct enclosures shall be either a shaft enclosure in accordance with Section 506.3.11.1, a field-applied enclosure assembly in accordance with 506.3.11.2 or a factory-built enclosure assembly in accordance with Section 506.3.11.3. Duct enclosures shall have a fire-resistance rating of not less than that of the assembly penetrated and not less than 1 hour. Fire dampers and smoke dampers shall not be installed in grease ducts. Duct enclosures shall be as prescribed by Section 506.3.11.1, 506.3.11.2 or 506.3.11.3.

### 506.3.11.4 Duct enclosure not required.

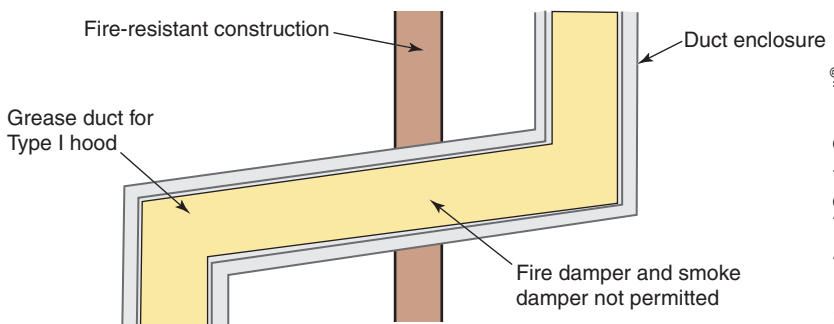
**Exception:** A duct enclosure shall not be required for a grease duct that penetrates only a non-fire-resistance-rated roof/ceiling assembly.

**CHANGE SIGNIFICANCE:** It has long been understood that fire and smoke dampers are not compatible with grease ducts, and the duct enclosure requirements clearly account for the lack of such dampers where the ducts penetrate walls, floors and ceilings. Fire and smoke dampers would be made useless by the severe environment within grease ducts (e.g. high temperatures, grease, cleaning chemicals and water). The code now prohibits what has been assumed to be prohibited all along.

This excerpt is taken from ***Significant Changes to the International Plumbing/Mechanical/Fuel Gas Codes, 2015 Edition.***



Significant Changes publications take you directly to the most important changes that impact projects. Key changes are identified then followed by in-depth discussion of how the change affects real-world application. Photos, tables and illustrations are included to further clarify application. Available for the IBC, IRC, IFC and IPC/IMC/IFGC, the Significant Changes publications are very useful training and review tools for transitioning to a new code edition.



Fire dampers and smoke dampers are not permitted in grease ducts.