

STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO: I-12-09

July 6, 2010

The following is offered in response to your correspondence in which you seek a formal interpretation. This question applies to the 2003 International Mechanical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code.

Scenario:

A 24 gauge galvanized steel ventilation shaft supplies bathroom exhaust in a five (5) story hotel structure. This ventilation shaft has an exhaust fan atop of a roof curb which runs continually and also services an exhaust fan from each bathroom.

Question:

Would concrete placed in direct contact with the metal duct at each floor slab infill be in violation of the SMACNA standard as referenced in the 2003 International Mechanical Code portion of the 2005 State Building Code?

Answer:

The Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors National Association (SMACNA) Standards HVAC "Manual of Construction", Section 11.6.9, 'Vibration Transmission by Contact', sets a standard for clearance to ductwork that comes in contact with other parts of a building. It is suggested that you discuss this concern with the design professional in order to determine if such installation complies with the above standard.