



Department of Planning

Technical Bulletin

TB-0007 - March 2024

Advisory on Mechanical Ductwork and Equipment

Purpose

In keeping with our continuous efforts to guarantee safety and compliance in the built environment throughout the Cayman Islands, this advisory serves as a reminder pertaining to the listing, and authorization of use of mechanical ducting and equipment.

The Cayman Islands Residential & Mechanical Code 2016 (IMC/IRC 2009) specifies that Listed and authorized ductwork and equipment is necessary to ensure the safety and proper operation of HVAC systems in residential and commercial buildings. These regulations are in place to mitigate against the hazards associated with mechanical, electrical, fire, and structural installations of building systems.

However, there have been instances where unauthorized ductwork and equipment have been found installed at the time of inspections. To address these concerns and ensure clarity and consistency in compliance, this reminder is provided.

DUCTWORK

M1601.1.1

Above-ground duct systems. Above-ground duct systems shall conform to the following:

3. Fibrous duct construction shall conform to the SMACNA Fibrous Glass Duct Construction Standards or NAIMA Fibrous Glass Duct Construction Standards. International Residential Code, 2009)

M1601.2

Factory-made ducts. Factory-made air ducts or duct material shall be approved for the use intended and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions. Each portion of a factory-made air duct system shall bear a listing and label indicating

compliance with UL 181 and UL 181A or UL 181B. (International Residential Code, 2009)

MECHANICAL APPLIANCES AND EQUIPMENT

M1302.1/(M1303.1-Labeling)

Listed and labeled. Appliances regulated by this code shall be listed and labeled for the application in which they are installed and used, unless otherwise approved in accordance with Section R104.11. (International Residential Code, 2009)

In addition, please be reminded of the following information:

1. **Use of Listed Approved Ductwork:** Ensure that all ductwork used in HVAC installations meets UL standards and approval. This includes ducts for ventilation, heating, and air conditioning systems.
2. **Installation of Listed Equipment:** Only install HVAC equipment that is approved by Department of Planning as a recognized testing agency. This encompasses components such as air handlers, furnaces, heat pumps, and any related accessories.
3. **Verification of Compliance:** Prior to installation, verify that the ductwork and equipment being utilized bear the Listed approved mark. This indicates that they have undergone rigorous testing and meet the required safety standards.

Click the link below for a list of approval testing laboratories:

<https://www.osha.gov/nationally-recognized-testing-laboratory-program/current-list-of-nrtls>

In the interest of public safety and the successful completion of projects, we kindly request your cooperation in ensuring compliance with the aforementioned guidelines. Should you have any questions or require further clarification regarding these requirements, please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Planning at (345) 244-6501.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued cooperation in upholding safety standards within the construction industry in the Cayman Islands.



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