



June 30, 2020

International Code Council

Dear Committee Members

My name is Joe Worrall. I am the President of Corporate Risk at HAUSER, Inc. a national Insurance broker. I have worked in the insurance industry for thirty plus years. I have reviewed the new IMC code 607.4 Access and Identification, 607.4.1 Access, that allows for the use of removable ductwork sections to inspect and maintenance fire and smoke dampers. I have to say that this is the most practical idea I have seen for inspecting the smaller size dampers, I also like the proposed code change for having the removable ductwork sections that functions without the use of tools, this will defiantly save time and expense inspecting these dampers. I feel that this new IMC code change with the proposed code change will provide for enhanced damper inspection that will have a positive impact in preventing structure fires and keep the building occupants safe also with the enhanced damper inspection building owners will have less liability that will reflect in lower insurance premiums.

Insurance companies and myself are very passionate about fire life safety and we understand the **consequences** if the system fails, I think we all remember the MGM Grand Hotel And Casino fire in Las Vegas were one fire damper that was not properly inspected and maintained, failed to operate properly in the restaurants deli fire that contributed to 85 lives lost and 650 people sent to the hospital including 14 first responders not to mention the property damage to the hotel and casino. Fire and smoke dampers are a very important part of fire life safety and they need to be properly inspected and maintained. I think this code change request will benefit with our fire damper inspections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joe Worrall', is written over the typed name.

Joseph M. Worrall

President

HAUSER, Inc.



**Allied  
Construction  
Industries**

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Date 6/23/2020

To Whom it May Concern Re: International Code Council

This letter is in support of a change to the new Code 607.4 Access and Identification, 607. 4.1 Access.

Allied Construction Industries is a commercial construction trade association serving the Tri-State area around Cincinnati, Ohio. We are also the Cincinnati Division of Ohio AGC (Associated General Contractors.) With over 475 members, our association is comprised of general contractors, sub-contractors, service providers and suppliers. Our members are both union and open shop.

This requested change to Code 607.4 and 607.4.1 will eliminate the need for tools to easily and quickly removed ductwork for required fire and smoke damper inspections and especially to remove ductwork during emergencies, including fires.

We hope you will give serious consideration to this request.

Sincerely,

Terry M. Phillips  
Executive Director



July 7, 2020

International Code Council

Dear Committee Members

My name is Debra Pollino and I am an insurance Associate at Hauser. I have worked in the insurance industry for forty-five (45+) years. I have had an opportunity to review the new IMC code 607.4 Access and Identification, 607.4.1 Access, that allows for the use of removable ductwork sections to inspect and maintenance fire and smoke dampers. This will be very beneficial when inspecting the smaller size dampers. I also support the proposed code change for having the removable ductwork sections that functions without the use of tools, which will defiantly save time and expense inspecting these dampers. This new IMC code change with the proposed code change will provide enhanced damper inspection and will have a positive impact in preventing structure fires.

I believe it will be beneficial to provide thorough explanation to every US Insurer to provide enhanced risk protection for the insureds and insurers. Insurance companies understand the consequences if the system fails. Even though the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino fire in Las Vegas occurred in 1980 (a fire damper that was not properly inspected, failed to operate when a fire started in the restaurant deli. That fire resulted in 85 fatalities including fourteen (14) first responders and 650 people were treated at various hospitals. The cost to settle all claims was \$223 million. Fire and smoke dampers are critical to safety. I believe this code change request will benefit everyone.

Sincerely,

*Debra K. Pollino*

Debra K. Pollino  
Insurance Associate



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July 14, 2020

To: International Code Council

My office manages 17 different trade associations in the construction industry that include local, state, regional, and national groups. My career extends over a 44-year period. I work with architects, engineers, consultants, research firms, construction managers, contractors, and code officials.

One of the main things that I have observed is the importance of attention and investment that needs to be placed on the safety designed into a building. This not only includes safety as it relates to constructing the building, but also safety for those that are occupying the building. It is also important to consider that a building can have a useful life, with proper maintenance, for many decades.

Many times, it seems that the area of fire life safety in a building is taken too lightly. A properly designed fire life safety system can mean saving the lives of occupants as well as rescue/fire first responders.

The main ingredient in any successful design is simplicity and dependability. I believe the new IMC 607.4.1 Access, Removable Duct System meets both criteria. It allows a clear visual inspection of fire and smoke dampers in any size of duct, and makes these necessary physical inspections economical and very reliable, I also like the proposed IMC Change for Removable Duct System that requires no tools to remove and reinstall, Please consider this proposed code change, I firmly believe this code change will benefit our fire and smoke damper inspections.

Fire and smoke dampers will always play a key role in a building's fire life safety. Removable duct allows these systems to be properly maintained and operational for the entire life of a building. It also is an important part of protecting people's lives.

Thank you for your consideration of my opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Pope  
Manager  
Association Office