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NFPA® 96 Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations Handbook 2017

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An International Codes and Standards Organization

NFPA® 96 Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations Handbook 2017

Second Edition

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NFPA ®96

Standard for

Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations

2017 Edition

This edition of NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Venting Systems for Cooking Appliances. It was issued by the Standards Council on November 11, 2016, with an effective date of December 1, 2016, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 96 was approved as an American National Standard on December 1, 2016.

Origin and Development of NFPA 96

The subject of the ventilation of restaurant-type cooking equipment was first considered by the NFPA Committee on Blower and Exhaust Systems, which developed material on ventilation of restaurant-type cooking equipment to be included in NFPA 91, *Standard for the Installation of Blower and Exhaust Systems for Dust, Stock, and Vapor Removal or Conveying*. That standard was adopted by the Association in 1946, and revisions were adopted in 1947 and 1949.

When the NFPA Committee on Chimneys and Heating Equipment was organized in 1955, the material on ventilation of restaurant cooking equipment in NFPA 91 was assigned to the new committee with the suggestion that it be revised and published as a separate standard. Since then, the standard has been published as NFPA 96. Editions prepared by the Committee on Chimneys and Heating Equipment were adopted by the Association in 1961, 1964, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1973, 1976, 1978, 1980, and 1984.

The Correlating Committee on Chimneys and Other Heat and Vapor Removal Equipment was discharged by the Standards Council in 1986. The Technical Committee that prepared the 1987 edition of NFPA 96 became known as the Technical Committee on Venting Systems for Cooking Appliances.

In the 1991 edition, clearance requirements to combustible material were revised and expanded, including appendix figures that illustrated examples. A new definition for *limited-combustible* was added to the standard, and an appendix table was included to show typical construction assemblies. Chapters 3 and 4 were totally revised.

In the 1994 edition, the Committee changed the name of the standard from *Standard for the Installation of Equipment for the Removal of Smoke and Grease-Laden Vapors from Commercial Cooking Equipment* to *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*. The title change reflected other changes in the standard: two new chapters, one on recirculating systems and the other on solid fuel cooking operations, were added. A change to clearance and enclosure requirements in the 1994 edition allowed, for the first time, materials or products to be directly applied to a duct.

The Committee prepared a revision to the standard reporting to the 1996 Fall Meeting, which was returned to the Committee at the Technical Committee Reports Session.

The 1998 edition contained new definitions, minor revisions throughout, and a completely revised Chapter 7 on fire-extinguishing equipment.

The 2001 edition revised the document scope to clarify the application of the standard regarding residential-type cooking equipment. Further technical changes clarified requirements for duct installation, rooftop terminations, and fire protection equipment. The 2001 edition also contained a significant organizational and editorial revision based on the *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents*.

The 2004 edition added a chapter that addressed the requirements for downdraft appliance ventilation as well as clarifications of the requirements for cleaning and maintaining exhaust systems and diagrams detailing new arrangements for hoods with integrated supply air.

The 2008 edition clarified the requirements for field-applied and factory-built grease duct enclosures. It also recognized new technologies for venting, such as ultraviolet hoods and ventilating ceilings. New requirements were also added for documentation of exhaust system cleaning and maintenance.

The 2011 edition added additional requirements for equipment installed in hoods and ducts. It also required persons conducting inspection and testing of listed hoods to be certified. The maximum permitted distance between a fire extinguisher and an appliance was clarified, and notification of the impairment of the fire-extinguishing system was required to be given in writing.

The 2014 edition introduced new requirements for the use of solid fuel as a flavor enhancer. It also added a listing requirement for fans used in exhaust systems, a diagram of a wall-mounted fan, and a requirement for exhaust fan activation when any appliance under a hood is turned on. Criteria that affected existing dry or wet chemical systems not in compliance with ANSI/UL 300, *Standard for Fire Testing of Fire Extinguishing Systems for Protection of Commercial Cooking Equipment*, when significant changes are made to a system and that established a deadline for fire protection systems to meet the minimum requirements also were added.

The 2017 edition adds a new normative annex on mobile and temporary cooking operations. The normative annex is written in mandatory language but is not intended to be enforced unless specifically adopted by a jurisdiction or is applied on a voluntary basis. This annex includes requirements not limited to clearance, hoods, ducts, terminations, fire extinguishing systems, carbon monoxide detectors, location, training, generators, LP-gas, as well as procedures for the use, inspection, testing, and maintenance of equipment. The language in the body of the standard clarifies that fixed and mobile cooking equipment is covered by NFPA 96. The term *solid fuel* is used in lieu of charcoal to cover the different types of solid fuel, not just one type. A device installed in a duct, such as a pollution control device, now must be protected by its own fire extinguishing system.

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Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on fire safety in the design, installation, and use of exhaust systems (including hoods, grease removal devices, exhaust ducts, dampers, air-moving devices; and auxiliary equipment) for the removal of products of combustion, heat, grease, and vapors from cooking equipment, including the application of associated fire extinguishing systems.

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