

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
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Performance Test Requirements for Type I Hoods

Code: 2018 Mechanical Code
Section: 507.6¹, 507.6.1, 507.6.2

Date: May 2, 2019

Question:

What are the performance test requirements for a Type I hood?

Answer:

Section 507.6 requires a performance test for Type I and Type II hoods. The testing for a Type I hood shall verify the makeup and exhaust air flow, proper operation, and capture and containment performance of the exhaust system. The field test shall be conducted with all appliances under the hood at operating temperatures, with all sources of outdoor air providing make-up air for the hood operating, and with all sources of recirculated air providing conditioning for the space in which the hood is located operating. Capture and containment shall be verified visually by observing smoke or steam produced by actual or simulated cooking, such as with smoke candles, smoke puffers, etc. The test shall be witnessed by the code official or by a professional engineer who shall provide certification of performance to the code official.

Follow-up Question #1

The 2012 Code stated:

“These tests shall be witnessed by the code official, or **at the code official’s option**, by a professional engineer who shall provide certification of performance to the code official.”

And the 2018 Code States:

“These tests shall be witnessed by the code official, or by a professional engineer who shall provide certification of performance to the code official.”

Is there meant to be any significant enforcement change?

Answer:

No. The change was simply meant to clarify that the code is not intending to allow the code enforcement to arbitrarily require the professional engineer to perform the test, only that the option exists. This generally would occur if there was a potential scheduling conflict for a commercial kitchen on a tight deadline. This change was meant only as a clarifying item and not a wholesale change in enforcement of this code item.

¹ In 2012 Code this was in Section 507.16, 507.16.1, and 507.16.2.