

**NC Department of Insurance
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Clarification of Flexible Air Duct and Flexible Air Connector

Code: 2012 Mechanical Code
Section: 603.6

Date: September 1, 2011

Question:

What is the difference between a “flexible air duct” and a “flexible air connector”?

Answer:

Flexible air duct and flexible air connectors are similar in appearance causing confusion of their identification and sometimes resulting in improper use. The listing label on “flexible duct” is rectangular in shape and states “Listed Air Duct.” The listing label on a flexible air connector is circular in shape and states “Listed Air Connector.” Both are listed to UL 181 requirements. The length of a “flexible air connector” is limited to 14 feet maximum. The length of a “flexible air duct” is not limited in length.

For a complete listing of the limitations of use of flexible air ducts and flexible air connectors, refer to the manufacturer’s installation instructions. Note that the Air Diffusion Council’s publication “Flexible Duct Performance and Installation Standards” contains guidance that is normally incorporated into the manufacturer’s instructions.