



Clark County Department of Building & Fire Prevention

Building Division – Inspection Services

Field Inspection Guideline

SUBJECT: Metallic Duct in Exposed Ceiling Applications	FIG-M-020	
<i>Effective Date:</i> July 23, 2008	<i>Revised:</i> March 10, 2015	<i>Approved By:</i> BAT
<i>Code Chapter:</i> 2012 UMC Section 602.4	Page 1 of 1	

Interpretation: The Mechanical Code requires that all joints and seams of duct systems be made substantially airtight. The intent of the code is to prevent air leakage into floor/ceiling assemblies or attic spaces that are not conditioned. Metallic duct systems installed within commercial structures that serve a common conditioned space where no ceiling is intended and the duct remains exposed shall be allowed to be installed without the use of joint sealant at duct and fitting connections.

Field Application: Metallic duct and fitting connections shall not be required to be made air-tight in commercial construction when placed in rooms without ceilings or above ceilings in which air passes freely to the floor area. The intent of this interpretation is to permit low pressure duct systems to be installed without duct joint sealants when ceiling and floor areas share common air.

This application will apply to low pressure duct systems. It shall not apply to medium or high pressure duct systems.

Revision History:

Reference #	Title	Effective Date	Revised	Reviewed
FIG-M-020	Metallic Duct in Exposed Ceiling Applications	July 23, 2008		May 31, 2013
FIG-M-020	Metallic Duct in Exposed Ceiling Applications			June 04, 2014
FIG-M-020	Metallic Duct in Exposed Ceiling Applications		March 10, 2015	