

HVCA

Specification

**Heating and
Ventilating
Contractors'
Association**

For Kitchen Ventilation Systems



DW/172

FOREWORD



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Since its publication in 1999, the *HVCA's Standard for Kitchen Ventilation Systems* (DW/171) has sold an impressive 2,300 copies. More importantly, it has become widely acknowledged as *the* standard for kitchen ventilation design throughout in the UK.

Like any other standard, however, it must be revised and updated from time to time, in the light of new thinking, new procedures and new developments.

This review process has now been completed by the HVCA Ductwork Group. The result is this new publication— designated DW/172 and re-badged as a *specification* rather than simply a *standard*, in recognition of the authoritative status it has achieved within the kitchen ventilation sector.

Among the many amendments and clarifications contained in the new document, three are worthy of particular note.

Firstly, the previous publication made reference to the feasibility of establishing a test procedure for grease filters. Since then, the Loss Prevention Council has published – and the Association of British Insurers has endorsed – LPS1263, which sets out the procedures, including the testing and grading of grease filters, required to reduce the risk of fire in commercial kitchens.

Secondly, the section on appliances and their coefficients has been significantly expanded, and now includes advice on the requirement for an interlock between the ventilation system and the gas supply.

And, finally, for the purpose of this specification, stainless steel is the only suitable material for the fabrication of canopies, and mesh filters can only be used as a secondary method of grease extraction. For ventilated ceilings, however, some manufacturers incorporate anodized aluminium into the supporting frame. This form of construction should be agreed with the client or specifier.

All other sections have been revised and updated in the hope and expectation that the HVCA's *Specification for Kitchen Ventilation Systems* (DW/172) will be widely used by all sectors of the catering industry.