BUILDING & ENGINEERING SERVICES ASSOCIATION

DUCTWORK FIRE HAZARD NOTE

IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS IN A GREASE EXTRACT DUCTWORK SYSTEM

It is often extremely difficult accurately to assess the extent of deposit build-up on the internal surfaces of a grease extract ductwork system, owing to access limitations. However, a number of simple ways do exist whereby the existence of a potential fire hazard can be established.

- *In order to enable a grease extract ductwork system to be fully cleaned, access doors must be installed within the system at minimum intervals of 3m.*

- *If access panels* have *been installed in a grease extract ductwork system, it is possible to review the internal conditionof the ductwork system by the removal of one or more of the access panels.*

- *If access panels have* not *been installed in a grease extract ductwork system, it is almost certain that it has never been been properly cleaned.*

- *If there is evidence of grease deposits on the canopy filters – or running through the filters into the ventilation canopy – it is likely that the system contains potentially fire-hazardous grease deposits.*

- *Similarly, if there is evidence of grease deposits on the point of discharge to atmosphere, it is likely that the system contains potentially fire-hazardous grease deposits.*

- *Certificates of cleaning may be issued by many less reputable contractors when only a partial clean has been undertaken, and fire hazardous grease deposits have not been fully removed.*

Building & Engineering Services Association
Esca House 34 Palace Court London W2 4JG

T 020 7313 4900 contact@b-es.org

JANUARY 2014

www.b-es.org