

TEL. NO: 222101  
OUR REF: FPB 108/0002  
YOUR REF:  
REF: NUMBER AND DATE SHOULD  
BE QUOTED IN REFERENCE  
TO THIS LETTER.



FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT,  
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU,  
QUEEN'S ROAD EAST,  
HONG KONG.

5th June, 1968.

Dear Sirs,

Air Conditioning - Structural Ducts

It is not uncommon to utilise structural ducts in buildings, which are primarily designed to accommodate various services, to effect further economies in the air conditioning installation by additionally using them as fresh air or exhaust ducts.

2. These structural ducts have a designed fire resistance, and under the Building (Ventilating Systems) Regulations 1964, fire dampers are required at the point where the duct structure is broken. It is known to this Department that many existing installations have been designed in this manner, and the subject has been discussed at some length. A compromise has been reached, and assuming two rooms per floor being served from the structural duct, 66% of the fire dampers required, may possibly be eliminated subject to maintaining floor separation. It is appreciated that in many cases, due to other services being contained in the duct that it is not always possible to achieve this, unfortunately in this event the normal rule must apply. The position may therefore be concluded as follows :-

"That openings not exceeding 20 square inches in free area, per room, in any structural duct, are not required to be fitted with fire dampers and fusible links provided that fire dampers and fusible links are fitted to ensure separation between floors."

3. I look forward to your continued cooperation.

Yours faithfully,

*James R. A. Pickett*  
(J.R.S. Pickett)  
for: Director of Fire Services.

TP/ysp