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Wood fired pizza ovens installed indoors

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Introduction

In view of the relatively high temperature of flue gases emitted from wood fired solid fuel equipment it is a requirement of DW172 that a suitably designed and equipped separate stand alone canopy and ventilation system should be used to that covering gas, electrically or charcoal powered equipment.

DW172 requires that the ventilation system should comprise extraction and supply air ventilation and the extraction should be separate from all other exhaust systems but interlocked with them to ensure that the main extraction cannot be operating when the pizza oven extraction is not.

If a wood fired pizza oven is installed “front of house” in cases where there is separate extraction ventilation in a kitchen area, there is likely to be slight negative pressure in the front of house area due to the kitchen ventilation drawing some of the make up air from surrounding spaces. In these cases, it is recommended that the oven still should be installed under a canopy with extract ducting to ensure that there is no chance of Carbon Monoxide being drawn out of the oven, particularly during the cool down period when the wood is only smouldering.

What DW172 does not refer to is the possibility of a wood fired pizza oven being installed “front of house” and fitted with a flue that discharges to the outside atmosphere.

The following information relates to this scenario.

Regulations that affect the installation

Any constructional works, or provision of a controlled service carried out within a building in the UK is required to meet the legal provision of the Building Regulations 2010, and includes those controlled services encompassed by Approved Document J Combustion Appliances and Fuel Storage Systems. In general, any works on a combustion appliance in a building which is not a repair or maintenance will in most cases be constituted as notifiable work.



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Notification to the local authority

As wood burning pizza ovens have been predominantly designed to be installed outside the building envelope (i.e., outside or in an exempted building) and flued direct to the atmosphere, then in most cases, notification to the local authority would not be required. However, in situations where the installation of a pizza oven in this way is within a building (e.g., commercial restaurant), then the local authority may consider the installation in the same way as a wood burning stove and in most cases deem it necessary to provide a sign off certificate, which can either be done through a competent person scheme such as HETAS or be notified directly through the local building authority by means of on-site inspection.

HETAS Certificates

The easiest way to get HETAS certificate is to contact a local wood burning stove supplier who will have access to an installer who can check the installation for you and issue a certificate (providing the installation is correct). It may be wise to ask the company to assist in the installation to ensure that the requirements of the regulations are met.

A list of HETAS Accredited installers can be found at www.hetas.co.uk/consumer/services/installers/

