



KITCHEN EXTRACT – A REAL FIRE HAZARD

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

Recently, a new form of legislation has come into force, which effectively fills the gaps in the current legislation. Apart from the loss of life, the loss of an investment through fire, cost UK businesses millions every year.

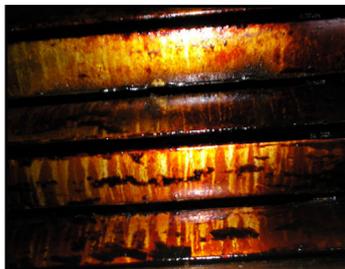


Fig 1. Grease build-up in Kitchen Extract: a serious potential fire risk.

Most of the existing legislation was replaced on 1st October 2006 with the new Fire Safety Order. In businesses up and down the country, this means that there will be a “responsible person” appointed to maintain a Fire Safety record, and be able to prove the provisions for Fire Safety and Prevention have been met.

This means that there is now a legally enforceable requirement for owners or managers of premises to appoint a “responsible person or persons” who will have the responsibility to prepare fire risk assessments and to ensure that action is taken to eliminate or, at the very least, minimise any identified risk to building occupants.

Unfortunately, non compliance to such regulations can lead to serious penalties. Failure to carry out the aforesaid preparations can lead to criminal liability action against the “responsible person” in the event of fire causing injury, and/or death to building occupants. In a worst case scenario where a fire has happened; if it is proved that fire regulations have not been met, compensations claims will be at risk.

Comply with the
Fire Safety Order
with the help of Overclean

Traditionally, the above regulations would incite “responsible persons” to install fire extinguishers, fire doors and escapes etc, and in most cases, the **Kitchen extract system** would rarely be considered as a potential source of fire.

In fact, the grease particles in a Kitchen extract system accumulate to produce a very real risk of fire. Not only that, since the extract often penetrates deep within a building; which means the risk of fire spreading from the kitchen is that much greater.

Ductwork is out of sight, and in most cases, also out of mind. However, fires are not so discerning.



Figs 2 and 3. Before cleaning & after cleaning

Overclean Ltd. is hard at work promoting the new Regulations in order to raise awareness of this issue to ensure “responsible persons” are compliant. Overclean can perform risk assessments in which the state of your kitchen extract system will be appraised. If needed the extract system can be cleaned to a satisfactory level of fire safety to certify that legislation has been complied with.