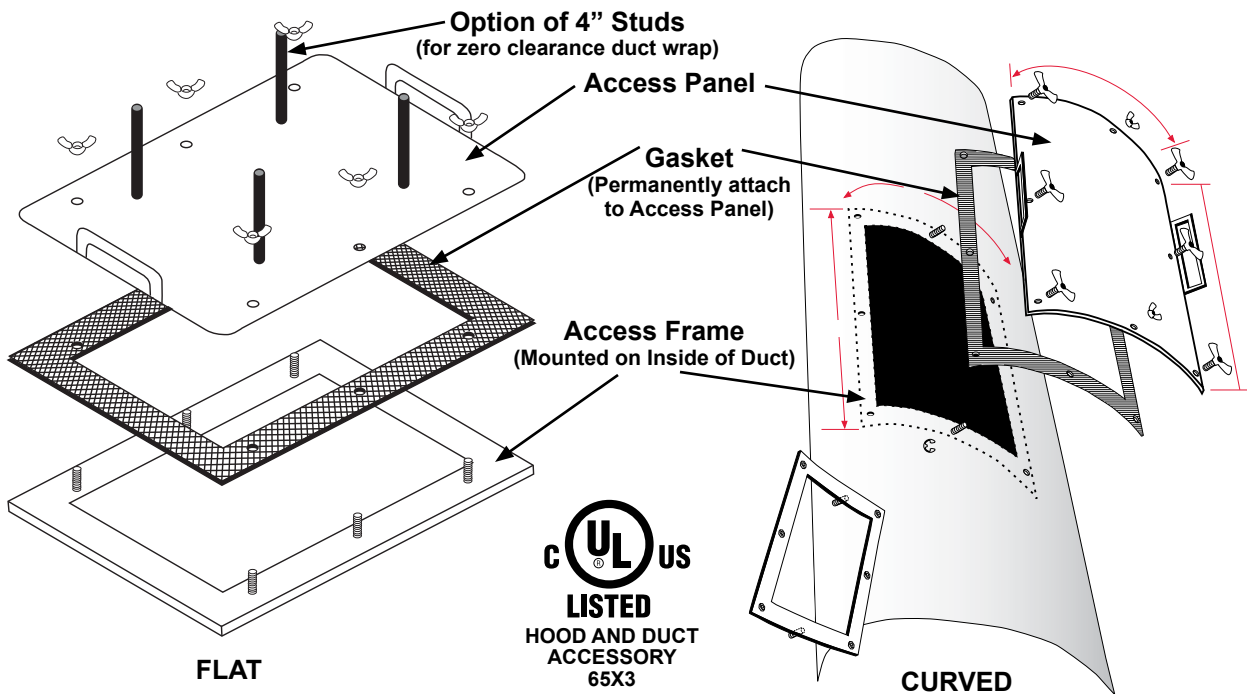


# Fire Rated Grease Duct Access Doors

- UL Listed
- Unique Patented Design
  - Easy Installation
  - No Welding Required

## **Flame Gard®**

- Gasket rated to 2300 F° for fire tight seal
- Gasket is high-temp bonded to front panel
- Heavy-duty 16 gauge steel construction
  - Stainless Steel model available
- Available with extended studs to accommodate fire wrap for curved and flat duct applications
- Positive bolt pattern ensures fire-safe closure
  - Back frame reinforces duct cut-out
  - Easy to clean and easy to install
  - No minimum order requirements
- Standard and custom sizes available



**UL** **US**  
**LISTED**  
HOOD AND DUCT  
ACCESSORY  
65X3

NFPA #96  
UL File No. MH16475

**CHG**  
COMPONENT HARDWARE  
GROUP, INC.

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# Listed Grease Duct Access Doors

## *The need for proper access in commercial kitchen exhaust systems*

### NFPA #96

A commercial kitchen exhaust system is generally composed of three main parts - hood, duct and fan. The duct work in these systems is constructed to be, quite literally, out of site and out of mind. However, if there is no means with which to examine the interiors of these ventilation systems, a serious calamity can take place.

Kitchen exhaust systems are designed to pull grease vapors and cooking residues out of the kitchen and into the atmosphere. As this occurs, some of the grease will condense on the interior of the duct system and over a surprisingly short period of time, especially with certain forms of cooking, enough grease will accumulate to create a very serious fire hazard. Ignition of oils on the cooking surfaces can send volatile flames up into the exhaust system, setting fire to grease build up. These fires burn extremely

hot (2300°+) and can ignite surrounding areas and building materials. Serious fires will reach the roof and burn the entire building down.

To prevent fire, proper inspection and grease removal must be performed. The only way these systems can adequately be inspected is if proper access openings are installed strategically throughout the length of the ducting system.

This well-known concern is behind the attempts to entrench proper access provisions into the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) #96 Standard and other code bodies and ultimately, into jurisdiction legislation.

*“If you can’t see it... you can’t inspect it!”*

#### ACCESS OPENINGS

Section 4.1.8 of NFPA #96 (2001 edition) states:

*“All interior surfaces of the exhaust system shall be reasonably accessible for cleaning and inspection purposes.”*

This particular NFPA clause is probably one of the most important statements in the Standard because the vast majority of systems are not fully accessible.

As regards access openings, NFPA #96 generally states:

- Access openings are required every 12 feet (3.7m) and at every change in direction of horizontal duct work, unless the duct is large enough for personnel entry (approximately 24" x 24").
- Openings are required within 18" (457mm) of hoods containing dampers which block the opening of the duct (which includes most water-wash type hoods).
- Openings in vertical ducts are to be on every floor or on the top of the vertical riser if personnel entry is possible.
- Exhaust fans with duct work connected to both sides must have access within 3' (0.92m) on each side of the fan.

#### ACCESS PANELS/DOORS

Properly constructed and installed access doors or panels are obligatory to cover these openings. This is best achieved by requiring that only Flame Gard® UL Listed Access Panels/Doors be used.

NFPA #96 7.1.7 states:

*“Listed grease duct access door assemblies (access panels) shall be installed in accordance with the terms of the listing and the manufacturer’s instructions.”*

The construction requirements of these UL Listed access panels must be as follows:

- Access panels shall be of the same material and thickness as the duct
- Access panels shall have a gasket or sealant that is rated for 1500°F (815.6°C) and shall be greasetight
- Fasteners, such as bolts, weld studs, latches or wing nuts, used to secure the access panels shall be of carbon steel or stainless steel and must not penetrate the duct walls
- Listed grease duct access door assemblies (access panels) shall be installed in accordance with the terms of the listing and the manufacturers’ instructions.

Architects and consultants should specify Flame Gard® UL Listed access panels on new construction and renovation plan drawings.

By maintaining the above conditions for the location of openings and the quality of access panels, maintenance engineers and property owners can be assured of adequate supervision of grease build up and cleaning. The quality of Flame Gard® UL Listed Grease Duct Access Doors ensures a proper air-tight, grease-tight and fire-tight fit to the duct work.

