



Informal Interpretation Report Number 7112



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Section 505.2

Question:

Is it the intent of this section when it says "automatically controlled" is referring to a "motorized" means of closure?

Answer

No. The requirement is for the supply of make-up air to be automatically provided when the exhaust hood is operational. This could be through gravity or mechanical means, as long as it opens and closes when the exhaust fan is in operation without the need for the use of manual controls by the user.

Commentary:

One possible method would be to provide a gravity operated backdraft damper which is forced open by the negative pressure of the fan and automatically closes when the exhaust fan is not in operation.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.