

GUIDANCE FOR COMPLETING THE VENTILATION SYSTEM EVALUATION FORM

Part 1.0 General Information

Prior inspection report and/or ventilation system maintenance record available for review?

Please request and identify any records maintained by building owner or representatives of post-9/11 inspections of the building or ventilation system, cleaning, repairs, or any other post-9/11 related activity.

Other comments:

Make comments that are relevant to the determination of WTC dust in the building. Appropriate comments may include relevant historical information such as whether the building ventilation systems were operating throughout the WTC collapse. In the absence of prior inspection or maintenance records, it would be appropriate to comment on any cleaning or other modifications to the ventilation system post-9/11.

Ventilation system types:

Central ventilation system – refers to an air handling system that includes supply and return air (the air handling system may also take in outside air). A central ventilation system will typically service common areas such as lobbies, corridors, stairwells, etc.

Mechanical make-up air system - refers to a fan-operated system designed to bring outside air into the building. Mechanical make-up air systems frequently service areas where make up air is required for the operation of other equipment such as boilers, clothes dryers, or kitchen exhaust systems.

Mechanical exhaust system– refers to a fan-operated system used to remove air, moisture and odors from the building, and primarily includes bathroom and kitchen exhaust systems.

Passive shaft/duct – refers to a non-mechanically ventilated shaft that is used for passively transferring either make-up air into the building or exhaust air out of the building.

Other ventilation system – refers to any heating, ventilating or air conditioning system encountered by the HVAC Evaluator that does not fall into one of the above categories.

Part 2.0 Visual Inspection Forms

2.1 Central Ventilation System

Perform the most vigorous visual inspection possible. Minimum inspection equipment should include screwdrivers, a utility knife (for opening panels, diffusers, grilles, etc. that are painted or caulked in place), cordless drill, hole plugs, telescoping mirror, flashlight, and portable

borescope. In addition, the HVAC Evaluator should attempt to penetrate visible dust to determine if a WTC layer is present.

When a ventilation system component is accessed for inspection, indicate whether or not surface dust/debris is present, and whether or not suspect WTC dust is present in the second and third columns, respectively.

Associated Mechanical Room – indicate if there is a mechanical room associated with the central ventilation system, e.g., the air handling unit is located in the mechanical room, the mechanical room is an air mixing chamber for the air handling unit, etc.

Outside air intake, air handling unit – please check for all components that apply. If a listed component is not part of the system, then indicate “not present” (NP) in the right-hand column. If the component is likely to be present, but it cannot be located, indicate “not found” (NF) in the right-hand column. If the listed component is present and is located, but is not accessible for inspection, indicate “inaccessible” (I) in the right-hand column.

Supply air distribution – Roughly estimate the total linear footage of supply air ducts associated with the central ventilation system, and indicate the number of locations where the interior of the duct was accessed for inspection in the spaces provided. Also circle the type of material from which the duct is constructed (e.g., metal, fibrous glass lined metal, masonry, fibrous glass board, flex duct, wood). If more than one type of duct material is present, circle all that apply.

Accessible in-line fire dampers, accessible turning vanes, in-line reheat/cooling coils, supply air diffusers – roughly estimate the number of each type of component present. If the component is completely inaccessible, the estimated quantity should be listed as “unknown”. If the component is clearly not present, the estimated quantity is zero. Indicate the number of locations where the listed component was accessed for inspection in the space provided.

Return air distribution - roughly estimate the total linear footage of return air ducts associated with the central ventilation system, and indicate the number of locations where the interior of the duct was accessed for inspection in the spaces provided. Also circle the type of material from which the duct is constructed (e.g., metal, fibrous glass lined metal, masonry, fibrous glass board, flex duct, wood). If more than one type of duct material is present, circle all that apply.

Return air plenum, return air plenum damper, accessible in-line fire dampers, accessible turning vanes, return air grilles – roughly estimate the number of each type of component present. If the component is completely inaccessible, the estimated quantity should be listed as “unknown”. If the component is clearly not present, the estimated quantity is zero. Indicate the number of locations where the listed component was accessed for inspection in the space provided.

Other components—use this space to describe any other component not already included on the form that is part of the central ventilation system.

Other information –

Indicate the level of visible particulate loading on the filter. Light – lightly visible accumulation. Moderate – obvious visible accumulation. Heavy – heavy accumulation that may result in filter panel disfiguration or filter bypass.

Indicate whether damaged interior acoustical duct lining is observed. If possible, note the location where the damage is observed.

Indicate obvious sources of filter bypass, e.g., improper size of filters, tracks, damaged or missing tracks, or other causes of poor fit in tracks.

General impression – this space is for the HVAC Evaluator's general impression of whether or not cleaning is indicated based on the presence of WTC dust. The HVAC Evaluator should note any other comments that are deemed relevant to the determination of WTC dust or comments on conditions that would likely impact the scope or feasibility of cleaning.

2.2 Mechanical Exhaust System

Perform the most vigorous visual inspection possible. Minimum inspection equipment should include screwdrivers, a utility knife (for opening panels, diffusers, grilles, etc. that are painted or caulked in place), cordless drill, hole plugs, telescoping mirror, flashlight, and portable borescope. In addition, the HVAC Evaluator should attempt to penetrate visible dust to determine if a WTC layer is present.

When a ventilation system component is accessed for inspection, indicate whether or not surface dust/debris is present, and whether or not suspect WTC dust is present in the second and third columns, respectively.

Associated Mechanical Room – indicate if there is a mechanical room associated with the mechanical exhaust system, e.g., the exhaust fan unit is located in the mechanical room.

Exhaust air outlet, exhaust fan unit – please check for all components that apply. If a listed component is not part of the system, then indicate “not present” (NP) in the right-hand column. If the component is likely to be present, but it cannot be located, indicate “not found” (NF) in the right-hand column. If the listed component is present and is located, but is not accessible for inspection, indicate “inaccessible” (I) in the right-hand column.

Exhaust air distribution – Roughly estimate the total linear footage of mechanical exhaust air ducts associated with the mechanical exhaust system, and indicate the number of locations where the interior of the duct was accessed for inspection in the spaces provided. Also circle the type of material from which the duct is constructed (e.g., metal, fibrous glass lined metal, masonry, fibrous glass board, flex duct, wood). If more than one type of duct material is present, circle all that apply.

Accessible in-line fire dampers, accessible turning vanes, exhaust air grilles – roughly estimate the number of each type of component present. If the component is completely inaccessible, the estimated quantity should be listed as “unknown”. If the component is clearly not present, the estimated quantity is zero. Indicate the number of locations where the listed component was accessed for inspection in the space provided.

Other components – use this space to describe any other component not already included on the form that is part of the mechanical exhaust system.

Other information – use this space if needed to indicate any other information relevant for documenting the condition of the mechanical exhaust system.

General impression – this space is for the HVAC Evaluator’s general impression of whether or not cleaning is indicated based on the presence of WTC dust. The HVAC Evaluator should note any other comments that are deemed relevant to the determination of WTC dust or comments on conditions that would likely impact the scope or feasibility of cleaning.

2.3 Mechanical Make-up Air System

Perform the most vigorous visual inspection possible. Minimum inspection equipment should include screwdrivers, a utility knife (for opening panels, diffusers, grilles, etc. that are painted or caulked in place), cordless drill, hole plugs, telescoping mirror, flashlight, and portable borescope. In addition, the HVAC Evaluator should attempt to penetrate visible dust to determine if a WTC layer is present.

When a ventilation system component is accessed for inspection, indicate whether or not surface dust/debris is present, and whether or not suspect WTC dust is present in the second and third columns, respectively.

Associated Mechanical Room – indicate if there is a mechanical room associated with the mechanical make-up air system, e.g., the make-up air handling unit is located in the mechanical room, the mechanical room is an air mixing chamber for the air handling unit, etc.

Outside air intake, make-up air handling unit – please check for all components that apply. If a listed component is not part of the system, then indicate “not present” (NP) in the right-hand column. If the component is likely to be present, but it cannot be located, indicate “not found” (NF) in the right-hand column. If the listed component is present and is located, but is not accessible for inspection, indicate “inaccessible” (I) in the right-hand column.

Make-up air distribution – Roughly estimate the total linear footage of supply air ducts associated with the mechanical make-up air system, and indicate the number of locations where the interior of the duct was accessed for inspection in the spaces provided. Also circle the type of material from which the duct is constructed (e.g., metal, fibrous glass lined metal, masonry, fibrous glass board, flex duct, wood). If more than one type of duct material is present, circle all that apply.

Accessible in-line fire dampers, accessible turning vanes, in-line reheat/cooling coils, supply air diffusers – roughly estimate the number of each type of component present. If the component is completely inaccessible, the estimated quantity should be listed as “unknown”. If the component is not present, the estimated quantity is zero. Indicate the number of locations where the listed component was accessed for inspection in the spaces provided.

Other components—use this space to describe any other component not already included on the form that is part of the mechanical make-up air system.

Other information –

Indicate the level of visible particulate loading on the filter. Light – lightly visible accumulation. Moderate – obvious visible accumulation. Heavy – heavy accumulation that may result in filter panel disfiguration or filter bypass.

Indicate whether damaged interior acoustical duct lining is observed. If possible, note the location where the damage is observed.

Indicate obvious sources of filter bypass, e.g., improper size of filters, tracks, damaged or missing tracks, or other causes of poor fit in tracks.

General impression – this space is for the HVAC Evaluator’s general impression of whether or not cleaning is indicated based on the presence of WTC dust. The HVAC Evaluator should note any other comments that are deemed relevant to the determination of WTC dust or comments on conditions that would likely impact the scope or feasibility of cleaning.

2.4 Passive Shaft/Duct

Perform the most vigorous visual inspection possible. Minimum inspection equipment should include screwdrivers, a utility knife (for opening panels, diffusers, grilles, etc. that are painted or caulked in place), telescoping mirror, flashlight, and portable borescope. In addition, the HVAC Evaluator should attempt to penetrate visible dust to determine if a WTC layer is present.

When a ventilation system component is accessed for inspection, indicate whether or not surface dust/debris is present, and whether or not suspect WTC dust is present in the second and third columns, respectively.

Outside air intake, exhaust outlet/louver – please check for all components that apply. If a listed component is not part of the system, then indicate “not present” (NP) in the right-hand column. If the component is likely to be present, but it cannot be located, indicate “not found” (NF) in the right-hand column. If the listed component is present and is located, but is not accessible for inspection, indicate “inaccessible” (I) in the right-hand column.

Supply air distribution/return air distribution – Roughly estimate the total number of supply air outlets or return air inlets in the passive shaft/duct, and indicate the number of locations

where the outlets or inlets were accessed for inspection in the spaces provided. Also circle the type of material from which the passive shaft/duct is constructed (e.g., metal, fibrous glass lined metal, masonry, fibrous glass board, flex duct, wood). If more than one type of material is present, circle all that apply.

Accessible in-line fire dampers – roughly estimate the number of fire dampers located in the supply air outlets or exhaust air inlets of the shaft. If the fire dampers are completely inaccessible, the estimated quantity should be listed as “unknown”. If the fire dampers are not present, the estimated quantity is zero. Indicate the number of locations where the fire dampers were accessed for inspection in the space provided.

Other components—use this space to describe any other component not already included on the form that is part of the passive shaft-duct structure.

Other information – use this space to indicate any other information deemed relevant to documenting the condition of the passive shaft/duct.

General impression – this space is for the HVAC Evaluator’s general impression of whether or not cleaning is indicated based on the presence of WTC dust. The HVAC Evaluator should note any other comments that are deemed relevant to the determination of WTC dust or comments on conditions that would likely impact the scope or feasibility of cleaning.

2.5 Other Ventilation System

This form is for any ventilation system equipment or configuration that does not appear to conform to any of the types 2.1 through 2.4.

Perform the most vigorous visual inspection possible. Minimum inspection equipment should include screwdrivers, a utility knife (for opening panels, diffusers, grilles, etc. that are painted or caulked in place), cordless drill, hole plugs, telescoping mirror, flashlight, and portable borescope. In addition, the HVAC Evaluator should attempt to penetrate visible dust to determine if a WTC layer is present.

When a ventilation system component is accessed for inspection, indicate whether or not surface dust/debris is present, and whether or not suspect WTC dust is present in the second and third columns, respectively.

Associated Mechanical Room – indicate if there is a mechanical room associated with the other ventilation system, e.g., one or more components located in the mechanical room.

System components – please list all components of the other ventilation system. If the listed component is located, but is not accessible for inspection, indicate “inaccessible” (I) in the right-hand column.

Other information – use this space to indicate any other information deemed relevant to

documenting the condition of the other ventilation system.

General impression – this space is for the HVAC Evaluator's general impression of whether or not cleaning is indicated based on the presence of WTC dust. The HVAC Evaluator should note any other comments that are deemed relevant to the determination of WTC dust or comments on conditions that would likely impact the scope or feasibility of cleaning.