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Dear Shahzad,

Site: 790 Hyde Road, Manchester, M18 7JD

Please see below a general details about the ducting used for launderettes.

Technical requirements:

Exhaust Ducting

All exhaust ductwork must be designed by a competent operative to ensure that the installation does not have any detrimental effect on the performance of the machines. The duct should follow the shortest possible route to atmosphere using the least number of bends possible and should be constructed of a smooth wall, rigid stainless steel or galvanized tubing. The diameter of the ducting should never be reduced in size and where possible 45º bends should be used in place of 90º bends. Rigid ducting should be used right up to the machine spigot. If this is not possible, flexible ducting can be used as a final connection only and should be limited to a maximum 0.5 metres in length and must not change direction.

Plastic or foil flexible ducting must not be used, only use metal flexible such as rega-duct, steelflex or glassflex duct.

If a common duct is to be used to vent multiple dryer installations, the diameter must be increased to accommodate the cumulative effect of all the dryers. ***Launderette proposed at this site, it would be minimum of 500mm in diameter spiral ducting.***

Backdraft dampers are built into the machine, so additional dampers in the ductwork are not required.

Ducting terminations for horizontal duct terminations should be via a downturn 90º or 45º elbow-vertical ducts to be terminated via inverted china hats or a135º return. ***Conventional china hats (hoods)must not be used as this as a massive effect on back pressure.*** Suitable louvres or grills may be used to prevent entry by foreign objects, but consideration must be given to potential restrictions to air flow and must also allow easy cleaning of the grill or louvre.

The termination shall be at least 2000 mm from any opening or fresh air inlet into the building. The configuration of the exhaust termination in respect of the makeup air inlet grille shall not allow re-circulation of the exhausted damp, warm air back into the make-up air vent. The exhaust should be properly sealed at all the joints by duct tape (not rivets or screws). Larger diameter or rectangular ducting may require some

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additional fixing by screws or rivets, but these must be kept to a minimum in number and length. In all cases adequate access must be made for cleaning purposes. Site conditions may vary and these should be considered when planning the exhaust system.

Pressure Test Point -The permitted static back pressure must be measured at a measuring point of 300mm from the exhaust outlet on the machine. It is critical that the pressure taken at this point is correct or the machine will not operate correctly. - ***This takes place when JLA Commission the machines before use.***

Ventilation

Whilst in operation, the dryer removes a large amount of air from the room via the exhaust. Therefore, the air inside the room must be continually replenished with fresh air from atmosphere. Ventilation must be fixed and unrestricted and sized to provide the correct amount of fresh air intake. If there is an imbalance between the air being pushed out to that which is being drawn in, there will be an adverse effect on the performance and operation of the dryer.

Louvres and grills may be used but consideration should be given to any restriction imposed by them.
The makeup air inlet grille must be at least ***2000mm from any exhaust ducting***. The configuration of the makeup air inlet grille in respect of the exhaust termination shall not allow re-circulation of the exhausted air back into the make-up air vent. If more than one dryer is installed, the opening should be increased in size to match their requirements-there is no need to make a separate opening. Where ventilation from outside is provided through a cavity, the cavity must be lined and sealed in a plenum box or suitable alternative. Site conditions may vary and these should be considered when planning the ventilation

Noise Levels

Noise levels from modern laundries and launderettes are not as high as they used to be thanks to significant improvements in the way washers and dryers are now constructed. The following sections describe these changes.

Noise transfer occurs in two ways, Airborne Sound and Structure Borne Sound. The following sections identify and describe these areas and provide methods which may be considered to reduce the noise levels.

When dealing with sound it is important to remember that accurate or definite figures are extremely difficult to predict without proper scientific experimentation on the actual finished site. This is because the noise level from any item of machinery will depend on the construction and condition of its surroundings.

If you put one washer in a small cork lined room and one in a huge empty steel building the latter would seem to be louder, although both washers are exactly the same and doing exactly the same job.

Launderettes

The normal ambient level of a retail area would be approximately 80 decibels, rising to around 100 decibels for a busy main road. The machine data at the end of this document shows that the machines will operate at around 70 decibels as a maximum test bay reading.
(Based on the largest reading which is for a large rigid mount washer.)

It is highly unlikely that the launderette will cause a noise nuisance above the normal ambient level of a busy high street within normal working hours.

Where a planning authority insists that steps are taken to reduce the noise to an absolute minimum, any of the following methods may be employed.

Use more soft furnishings (curtains, blinds, carpets, seats etc) to absorb more of the sound.
Fix 40mm Fischer tiles to the ceiling, which will reduce the noise level by up to 20%.

Fix laths and boards to the external and party walls to create an additional cavity, which can then be filled with a sound

Tumble Dryer Ducting

This item is sometimes (incorrectly) considered a noise nuisance. The very slight noise is generated by the dryer and air flow creating a mechanical resonance within the steel ducting.

Again, there is not much one can do about this since dryers have to be exhausted to outside and only metal ducting can be used.

The easiest way to minimise this slight noise even further is to ensure that the dryer duct exits in a place where the noise is of no consequence (usually above the eaves)This has been the practice used on many other launderettes.

Yours sincerely
For JLA Limited

James Crumpton
Retail Manager (North)