Grease Removal Device (GRD) Fact Sheet

Grease Removal Devices (GRDs) are a type of hydromechanical grease interceptor (HGI) that treats kitchen wastewater from food service establishments (FSEs) and are equipped with automatic grease removal features. They are typically installed indoors and connected to one to four sinks in the kitchen. They accumulate fats, oil and grease (FOG) in a relatively small separator tank. The accumulated FOG is automatically removed from the GRD and transferred to a separate FOG waste container reducing the need for cleaning (see the figure below).

**Design and Sizing**

GRDs are typically made of corrosion resistant materials and are equipped with baffles, screens, and external waste containers to store the removed FOG waste. Some are equipped with heaters, skimmers, pumps or hydrostatic pressure chambers to assist in removal of the FOG. They are sized according to the same Uniform Plumbing Code (UPC) sizing methods that are used for HGIs (Chapter 10, Table 10-2). Flow control devices must be installed internal or external of GRDs to control the wastewater flow to the certified flow rate of the GRD.

**Certification and Approval**

GRDs are tested and certified to ASME A112.14.3 and ASME A112.14.4 standards at the GRD’s specified maximum flow rate. Sewering agencies often require that GRDs be certified to these standards before they can be approved for use in their service area. Plan check approvals should make sure that one or more GRDs are connected to all the significant grease waste drains (e.g., pot sink, pre-rinse sink, wok station).

**Proper Maintenance**

GRDs should be maintained through daily emptying of the solids basket into the trash and emptying the FOG waste container into a larger FOG waste container for proper disposal or recycling. Because many GRDs have heaters and skimmers and other critical mechanical equipment, these must be maintained by the FSE and cleaned or replaced, as needed.

**Inspections**

Agency inspections should focus on making sure that the GRDs are in proper working order and are being maintained frequently enough to prevent an over-accumulation of FOG and solids. Inspectors will typically notify the FSE if the GRD needs more frequent cleaning or maintenance. FSEs are often required to maintain logs to show the inspector that the proper maintenance is being performed.