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NFPA® 204

Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting

2012 Edition



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NFPA® 204

Standard for

Smoke and Heat Venting

2012 Edition

This edition of NFPA 204, *Standard for Smoke and Heat Venting*, was prepared by the Technical Committee on Smoke Management Systems and acted on by NFPA at its June Association Technical Meeting held June 12–15, 2011, in Boston, MA. It was issued by the Standards Council on August 11, 2011, with an effective date of August 31, 2011, and supersedes all previous editions.

This edition of NFPA 204 was approved as an American National Standard on August 31, 2011.

Origin and Development of NFPA 204

This project was initiated in 1956 when the NFPA Board of Directors referred the subject to the Committee on Building Construction. A tentative guide was submitted to NFPA in 1958. Revised and tentatively adopted in 1959 and again in 1960, the guide was officially adopted in 1961. In 1968, a revised edition was adopted that included a new section, Inspection and Maintenance.

In 1975, a reconfirmation action failed as concerns over use of the guide in conjunction with automatic sprinklered buildings surfaced. Because of this controversy, work on a revision to the guide continued at a slow pace.

The Technical Committee and Subcommittee members agreed that the state of the art had progressed sufficiently to develop improved technology-based criteria for design of venting; therefore, the 1982 edition of the document represented a major advance in engineered smoke and heating venting, although reservations over vent and sprinkler applications still existed.

At the time the guide was formulated, the current venting theory was considered unwieldy for this format; consequently, the more adaptable theory as described herein was adopted. Appreciation must be extended to Dr. Gunnar Heskestad at the Factory Mutual Research Corporation (now FM Global) for his major contribution to the theory applied in this standard, which is detailed in Annex B.

The 1985 edition again revised Chapter 6 on the subject of venting in sprinklered buildings. Test data from work done at the Illinois Institute of Technology Research, which had been submitted to the Committee as part of a public proposal, did not permit consensus to be developed on whether sprinkler control was impaired or enhanced by the presence of automatic roof vents of typical spacing and area. The revised wording of Chapter 6 encouraged the designer to use the available tools and data referenced in the document while the use of automatic venting in sprinklered buildings was under review.

The 1991 edition made minor changes to Chapter 6 to acknowledge that a design basis existed for using sprinklers and automatic heat venting together but that such had not received wide recognition.

The 1998 edition represented a complete revision of the guide. The rewrite deleted the previous tables that listed vent areas and incorporated engineering equations and referenced computer models, such as LAVENT and DETACT, to provide the designer with the necessary tools to develop vent designs based on performance objectives. This rewrite was based extensively on state-of-the-art technology published in the references. In many cases, the authors of these references participated in the task group's rewrite efforts.

The 2002 edition of NFPA 204 was converted from a guide to a standard, thus implementing mandatory requirements and updated language. The document was also updated to meet *Manual of Style for NFPA Technical Committee Documents* requirements.

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The 2007 edition included a number of technical changes. New provisions on air entrainment into the fire plume, the effect of wind on the location of air vents, sizing of air paths, air velocity limitations, and plugholing were provided. Information on the use of vents as air inlets and a better description of the smoke layer interface were added. Revisions with regard to how heat release rates, discharge coefficients, exhaust rates, and the number of exhaust inlets are to be determined were incorporated. Reference to international standards on vents, mechanical smoke extract, and draft curtains, as well as updated annex text on recent research efforts, were provided.

The 2012 edition has been updated to include additional requirements and annex material for venting in sprinklered buildings.

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Alternates

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(Alt. to R. W. Tucker)
Craig L. Beyler, Hughes Associates, Inc., MD [SE]
(Alt. to M. J. Ferreira)
Diane B. Copeland, Dillon Consulting Engineers, Inc., CA [SE]
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(Alt. to S. D. Wolin)
Blake M. Shugarman, Underwriters Laboratories Inc., IL [RT]
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Committee Scope: This Committee shall have primary responsibility for documents on the design, installation, testing, operation, and maintenance of systems for the control, removal, or venting of heat or smoke from fires in buildings.

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Contents

Chapter 1 Administration **204–** 5
1.1 Scope **204–** 5
1.2 Purpose. (Reserved) **204–** 5
1.3 Application **204–** 5
1.4 Retroactivity **204–** 5
1.5 Equivalency **204–** 5
1.6 Units and Formulas **204–** 5

Chapter 2 Referenced Publications **204–** 6
2.1 General **204–** 6
2.2 NFPA Publications **204–** 6
2.3 Other Publications **204–** 6
2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections **204–** 6

Chapter 3 Definitions **204–** 7
3.1 General **204–** 7
3.2 NFPA Official Definitions **204–** 7
3.3 General Definitions **204–** 7

Chapter 4 Fundamentals **204–** 8
4.1 Design Objectives **204–** 8
4.2 Design Basis **204–** 8
4.3 Determination of Contents Hazard **204–** 8
4.4 Venting **204–** 8
4.5 Smoke Production **204–** 8
4.6 Vent Flows **204–** 8

Chapter 5 Vents **204–** 8
5.1 Listed Vents **204–** 8
5.2 Vent Design Constraints **204–** 8
5.3 Methods of Operation **204–** 9
5.4 Dimensions and Spacing of Vents **204–** 9
5.5 Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems **204–** 9

Chapter 6 Air Inlets **204–**10
6.1 General **204–**10
6.2 Construction **204–**10
6.3 Location **204–**10
6.4 Installation **204–**10
6.5 Methods of Operation **204–**10
6.6 Dimensions and Spacing of Air Inlets **204–**10
6.7 Air Paths **204–**10

Chapter 7 Draft Curtains **204–**10
7.1 General **204–**10
7.2 Construction **204–**10
7.3 Location and Depth **204–**10
7.4 Spacing **204–**11

Chapter 8 The Design Fire **204–**11
8.1 General **204–**11
8.2 Steady (Limited-Growth) Fires **204–**11
8.3 Growing (Continuous-Growth) Fires **204–**11

Chapter 9 Sizing Vents **204–**12
9.1 General **204–**12
9.2 Hand Calculations **204–**12
9.3 Models **204–**14

Chapter 10 Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems **204–**14
10.1 General **204–**14
10.2 Exhaust Rates **204–**14
10.3 Fire Exposure **204–**14
10.4 Number of Exhaust Inlets **204–**14
10.5 Intake Air **204–**14

Chapter 11 Venting in Sprinklered Buildings **204–**14
11.1 Design **204–**14
11.2 Automatic Sprinkler Systems **204–**14
11.3 Storage Occupancies Protected by Control Mode Sprinklers **204–**15

Chapter 12 Inspection and Maintenance **204–**15
12.1 General **204–**15
12.2 Requirements **204–**15
12.3 Inspection, Maintenance, and Acceptance Testing **204–**15
12.4 Conduct and Observation of Operational Tests **204–**15
12.5 Air Inlets **204–**16
12.6 Ice and Snow Removal **204–**16

Chapter 13 Design Documentation **204–**16
13.1 Documentation Required **204–**16

Annex A Explanatory Material **204–**17

Annex B The Theoretical Basis of LAVENT **204–**26

Annex C User Guide for the LAVENT Computer Code **204–**36

Annex D Sample Problem Using Engineering Equations (Hand Calculations) and LAVENT **204–**50

Annex E Predicting the Rate of Heat Release of Fires **204–**64

Annex F Design Information **204–**71

Annex G Informational References **204–**79

Index **204–**81

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NOTICE: An asterisk (*) following the number or letter designating a paragraph indicates that explanatory material on the paragraph can be found in Annex A.

Changes other than editorial are indicated by a vertical rule beside the paragraph, table, or figure in which the change occurred. These rules are included as an aid to the user in identifying changes from the previous edition. Where one or more complete paragraphs have been deleted, the deletion is indicated by a bullet (•) between the paragraphs that remain.

A reference in brackets [ ] following a section or paragraph indicates material that has been extracted from another NFPA document. As an aid to the user, the complete title and edition of the source documents for extracts in mandatory sections of the document are given in Chapter 2 and those for extracts in informational sections are given in Annex G. Extracted text may be edited for consistency and style and may include the revision of internal paragraph references and other references as appropriate. Requests for interpretations or revisions of extracted text shall be sent to the technical committee responsible for the source document.

Information on referenced publications can be found in Chapter 2 and Annex G.

Chapter 1 Administration

1.1 Scope.

1.1.1* This standard shall apply to the design of venting systems for the emergency venting of products of combustion from fires in buildings. The provisions of Chapters 4 through 10 shall apply to the design of venting systems for the emergency venting of products of combustion from fires in nonsprinklered, single-story buildings using both hand calculations and computer-based solution methods as provided in Chapter 9. Chapter 11 shall apply to venting in sprinklered buildings.

1.1.2* This standard shall not specify under which conditions venting is to be provided or required.

1.1.3 Where a conflict exists between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable.

1.2 Purpose. (Reserved)

1.3 Application.

1.3.1* This standard shall not apply to ventilation within a building designed for regulation of environmental air for personnel comfort, to regulation of commercial cooking operations, to regulation of odor or humidity in toilet and bathing facilities, to regulation of cooling of production equipment, or to venting for explosion pressure relief.

1.3.2 This standard shall apply to building construction of all types.

1.3.3 This standard shall apply to venting fires in building spaces with ceiling heights that permit the design fire plume and smoke layer to develop.

1.3.4* This standard shall apply to situations in which the hot smoke layer does not enhance the burning rate of the fuel array. Vent designs developed with this standard shall not be valid for those time intervals where smoke layer temperatures exceed 600°C (1112°F).

1.3.5* This standard shall not be valid for fires having heat release rates greater than $Q_{feasible}$ as determined in accordance with the following equation:

$$Q_{feasible} = 12{,}000\left(z_s\right)^{5/2} \qquad (1.3.5)$$

where:

$Q_{feasible}$ = feasible fire heat release rate (kW)
z_s = height of the smoke layer boundary above the fire base (m)

1.3.6* The engineering equations or computer-based models incorporated into this standard shall be used to calculate the time duration that the smoke layer boundary is maintained at or above the design elevation in a curtained area, relative to the design interval time.

1.4 Retroactivity.

1.4.1 The provisions of this standard shall not be required to be applied retroactively.

1.4.2 Where a system is being altered, extended, or renovated, the requirements of this standard shall apply only to the work being undertaken.

1.5 Equivalency. Nothing in this standard is intended to prevent the use of systems, methods, or devices of equivalent or superior quality, strength, fire resistance, effectiveness, durability, and safety over those prescribed by this standard. Technical documentation shall be submitted to the authority having jurisdiction to demonstrate equivalency. The system, method, or device shall be approved for the intended purpose by the authority having jurisdiction.

1.6 Units and Formulas. The following symbols define the variables in the equations used throughout the body of this standard:

A = area (of burning surface)
A_i = inlet area for fresh air, below design level of smoke layer boundary
A_v = total vent area of all vents in a curtained area
α = thermal diffusivity, $k/\rho c$
α_g = fire growth coefficient
γ = exhaust location factor (dimensionless)
c_p = specific heat
$C_{d,v}$ = vent discharge coefficient
$C_{d,i}$ = inlet discharge coefficient

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d = smoke layer depth
d_c = depth of draft curtain
D = base diameter of the fire
g = acceleration of gravity
H = ceiling height above base of fire
h_c = heat of combustion
h_g = heat of gasification
K = fraction of adiabatic temperature rise
k = thermal conductivity
k_β = constant used in Equation E.5.1
$k\rho c$ = thermal inertia
l = thickness
L = mean flame height above the base of the fire
L_f = flame length, measured from leading edge of burning region
L_v = length of vent opening in the longer direction
$\dot{m}$ = mass burning rate
$\dot{m}''$ = mass burning rate per unit area
$\dot{m}''_\infty$ = mass burning rate per unit area for an infinite diameter pool
$\dot{m}_v$ = mass flow rate through vent
$\dot{m}_p$ = mass flow rate in the plume
$\dot{m}_{pL}$ = mass flow rate in the plume at mean flame height (L)
$\dot{q}''_i$ = incident heat flux per unit area
Q = total heat release rate
Q'' = total heat release rate per unit floor area
Q_c = convective heat release rate = $\chi_c Q$
$Q_{feasible}$ = feasible fire heat release rate (kW)
r = radius from fire axis
RTI = response time index $\tau u^{1/2}$
τ = time constant of heat-responsive element for convective heating
ρ = density
ρ_o = ambient air density
S = center to center spacing of vents
t = time
t_d = time to detector activation
t_g = growth time of fire
t_{ig} = time to ignition
t_r = design interval time
t_{sa} = time to sprinkler activation
t_{vo} = time to vent opening
ΔT = gas temperature rise (from ambient) at detector site
ΔT_a = adiabatic temperature rise
ΔT_e = temperature rise (from ambient) of heat-responsive element
T = smoke layer temperature (K)
T_o = ambient air temperature
T_{ig} = ignition temperature
T_s = surface temperature
u = gas velocity at detector site
W_{min} = lateral fire spread by radiation
W_s = largest horizontal dimension of fire
W_v = width of vent opening in the shorter direction
V = flame spread velocity
χ_c = convective fraction of total heat release rate (fraction carried as heat in plume above flames) where χ_c is a convective-heat fraction between 0.6 and 0.7
χ_r = radiant fraction of total heat release rate
y = elevation of smoke layer boundary
y_{ceil} = elevation of ceiling
y_{curt} = elevation of bottom of draft curtain
y_{fire} = elevation of the base of the fire above the floor
z_s = height of the smoke layer boundary above base of fire
z_{si} = height of the smoke layer interface above the base of the fire
z_o = height of virtual origin above base of fire (below base of fire, if negative)

Chapter 2 Referenced Publications

2.1* General. The documents or portions thereof listed in this chapter are referenced within this standard and shall be considered part of the requirements of this document.

2.2 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems,* 2010 edition.

NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 edition.

NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction,* 2012 edition.

NFPA 259, *Standard Test Method for Potential Heat of Building Materials,* 2008 edition.

2.3 Other Publications.

2.3.1 ASTM Publications. ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM E 84, *Standard Test Method for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials,* 2007.

ASTM E 136, *Standard Test Method for Behavior of Materials in a Vertical Tube Furnace at 750°C,* 2004.

2.3.2 FM Publications. FM Global Technologies LLC, 1301 Atwood Avenue, P.O. Box 7500, Johnston, RI 02919.

FM 4430, *Approval Standard for Heat and Smoke Vents,* 2007.

2.3.3 NIST Publications. National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1070.

DETACT-QS (Detector Actuation — quasi-steady) software.

DETACT-T2 (Detector Actuation — time squared) software.

GRAPH graphics code.

LAVENT (Link-Actuated VENTS) software.

2.3.4 UL Publications. Underwriters Laboratories Inc., 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-2096.

ANSI/UL 723, *Test for Surface Burning Characteristics of Building Materials,* 2008.

ANSI/UL 793, *Standard for Automatically Operated Roof Vents for Smoke and Heat,* 2008.

2.3.5 Other Publications.

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 11th edition, Merriam-Webster, Inc., Springfield, MA, 2003.

2.4 References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections.

NFPA 72®, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code, 2010 edition.

NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems,* 2012 edition.

NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction,* 2012 edition.

NFPA 318, *Standard for the Protection of Semiconductor Fabrication Facilities,* 2012 edition.

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Chapter 3 Definitions

3.1 General. The definitions contained in this chapter shall apply to the terms used in this standard. Where terms are not defined in this chapter or within another chapter, they shall be defined using their ordinarily accepted meanings within the context in which they are used. *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary,* 11th edition, shall be the source for the ordinarily accepted meaning.

3.2 NFPA Official Definitions.

3.2.1* Approved. Acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction.

3.2.2* Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). An organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, an installation, or a procedure.

3.2.3 Labeled. Equipment or materials to which has been attached a label, symbol, or other identifying mark of an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with product evaluation, that maintains periodic inspection of production of labeled equipment or materials, and by whose labeling the manufacturer indicates compliance with appropriate standards or performance in a specified manner.

3.2.4* Listed. Equipment, materials, or services included in a list published by an organization that is acceptable to the authority having jurisdiction and concerned with evaluation of products or services, that maintains periodic inspection of production of listed equipment or materials or periodic evaluation of services, and whose listing states that either the equipment, material, or service meets appropriate designated standards or has been tested and found suitable for a specified purpose.

3.2.5 Shall. Indicates a mandatory requirement.

3.2.6 Should. Indicates a recommendation or that which is advised but not required.

3.3 General Definitions.

3.3.1 Ceiling Jet. A flow of hot smoke under the ceiling, extending radially from the point of fire plume impingement on the ceiling.

3.3.2 Clear (Air) Layer. The zone within a building containing air that has not been contaminated by the smoke produced from a fire in the building, and that is located between the floor and the smoke layer boundary.

3.3.3* Clear Layer Interface. The boundary between a smoke layer and smoke-free air.

3.3.4 Continuously Growing Fires. Fires that, if unchecked, will continue to grow over the design interval time.

3.3.5 Curtained Area. An area of a building that has its perimeter delineated by draft curtains, full height partitions, exterior walls, or any combinations thereof.

3.3.6 Design Depth of the Smoke Layer. The difference between the height of the ceiling and the minimum height of the smoke layer boundary above the finished floor level that meets design objectives.

3.3.7 Design Fire. As used in this standard, the time-rate heat release history selected as the input for the calculations prescribed herein.

3.3.8 Design Interval Time. The duration of time for which a design objective is to be met, measured from the time of detector activation.

3.3.9 Draft Curtain. A solid material, beam, girder, or similar material or construction that is attached to the underside of the ceiling and that protrudes a limited distance downward and creates a reservoir for collecting smoke.

3.3.10* Effective Ignition. The time at which a *t*-squared design fire starts.

3.3.11 Fuel Array. A collection and arrangement of materials that can support combustion.

3.3.12 Heat Detector. A fire detector that detects either abnormally high temperature or rate of temperature rise, or both. [***72,*** 2010]

3.3.13 Limited-Growth Fires. Fires that are not expected to grow beyond a predictable maximum heat release rate.

3.3.14 Material.

3.3.14.1 ***Limited-Combustible Material.*** Refers to a building construction material not complying with the definition of noncombustible that, in the form in which it is used, has a potential heat value not exceeding 8141 kJ/kg (3500 Btu/lb), where tested in accordance with NFPA 259 and includes either: (1) materials having a structural base of noncombustible material, with a surfacing not exceeding a thickness of 3.2 mm (⅛ in.) that has a flame spread index not greater than 50; or (2) materials, in the form and thickness used having neither a flame spread index greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion, and of such composition that surfaces that would be exposed by cutting through the material on any plane would have neither a flame spread index greater than 25 nor evidence of continued progressive combustion, when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or ANSI/UL 723. [**220,** 2012]

3.3.14.2 ***Noncombustible Material.*** A material that, in the form in which it is used and under the conditions anticipated, will not ignite, burn, support combustion, or release flammable vapors when subjected to fire of heat. Materials that are reported as passing ASTM E 136 shall be considered noncombustible materials.

3.3.15 Mechanical Smoke Exhaust System. A dedicated or shared-duty fan system designed and suitable for the removal of heat and smoke.

3.3.16 Plastics.

3.3.16.1* ***Class CC1 Plastics.*** Materials that have a burning extent of 25 mm (0.98 in.) or less when tested at a nominal thickness of 0.152 mm (0.060 in.) or in the thickness intended for use.

3.3.16.2* ***Class CC2 Plastics.*** Materials that have a burning rate of 1.06 mm/s (0.042 in./s) or less when tested at a nominal thickness of 0.152 mm (0.060 in.) or in the thickness intended for use.

3.3.17 Plugholing. The condition where air from below the smoke layer is pulled through the smoke layer into the smoke exhaust due to a high exhaust rate. [**92,** 2012]

3.3.18 Smoke. The airborne solid and liquid particulates and gases evolved when a material undergoes pyrolysis or combustion, together with the quantity of air that is entrained or otherwise mixed into the mass. [**318,** 2012]

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3.3.19* Smoke Layer. The accumulated thickness of smoke below a physical or thermal barrier. [**92,** 2012]

3.3.20* Smoke Layer Boundary. An effective boundary centered in a transition zone between the dense portion of the smoke layer and the first indication of smoke.

3.3.21 Vent. As used in this standard, a device or construction that, when activated, is an opening directly to the exterior at or near the roof level of a building that relies on the buoyant forces created by a fire to exhaust smoke and heat.

3.3.22 Vent System. A system used for the removal of smoke and heat from a fire that utilizes manually or automatically operated heat and smoke vents at roof level and that exhausts smoke from a reservoir bounded by exterior walls, interior walls, or draft curtains to achieve the design rate of smoke mass flow through the vents, and that includes a provision for makeup air.

Chapter 4 Fundamentals

4.1* Design Objectives. The design objectives to be achieved over the design interval time by a vent system design during a design fire or design fires shall include the following:

(1) The minimum allowable smoke layer boundary height
(2) The maximum allowable smoke layer temperature

4.2* Design Basis. A design for a given building and its combustible contents and their distribution shall comprise selecting a design basis (limited-growth versus continuous-growth fire) and establishing the following parameters:

(1) Layout of curtained areas
(2) A draft curtain depth
(3) Type detector and specific characteristics
(4) Detector spacing
(5) A design interval time, t_r, following detection for maintaining a clear layer (for continuous-growth fires)
(6) Total vent area per curtained area
(7) Distribution of individual vents
(8) An air inlet area

4.3 Determination of Contents Hazard.

4.3.1 The determination of contents hazard shall take into account the fuel loading and the rate of heat release anticipated from the combustible materials or flammable liquids contained within the building.

4.3.2 The heat release rate of the design fire shall be quantified in accordance with Chapter 8.

4.4 Venting.

4.4.1 Design Objectives. In order to satisfy design objectives, a vent system shall be designed to slow, stop, or reverse the descent of a smoke layer produced by fire in a building, by exhausting smoke to the exterior.

4.4.2* Vent System Designs and Smoke Production.

4.4.2.1 Vent systems shall be designed in accordance with this standard by calculating the vent area required to achieve a mass rate of flow through the vents that equals the mass rate of smoke production.

4.4.2.2 Vent system designs shall limit the descent of the smoke layer to the design elevation of the smoke layer boundary.

4.4.2.3 Alternative vent system designs shall be permitted to be developed in accordance with this standard by calculating the vent area required to achieve a mass rate of flow through the vents that is less than the mass rate of smoke production, such that the descent of the smoke layer is slowed to meet the design objectives.

4.4.3* Vent Mass Flow. Vent system designs shall be computed on the basis that the mass flow rate through a vent is determined primarily by buoyancy pressure.

4.5 Smoke Production.

4.5.1* Base of the Fire. For the purposes of the equations in this standard, the base of the fire shall be at the bottom of the burning zone.

4.5.2* Fire Size. Burning and entrainment rates of possible fire scenarios shall be considered before establishing the conditions of the design fire.

4.5.3* Entrainment.

4.5.3.1 The entrainment formulas specified in this standard shall be applied only to a single fire origin.

4.5.3.2* Virtual Origin. Predicted plume mass flow above the top of the flame shall take into account the virtual origin, z_o, of the fire as determined in 9.2.3.2.

4.6 Vent Flows.

4.6.1* Buoyancy and Vent Flow.

4.6.1.1 Flow through a vent shall be calculated on the basis of buoyancy pressure difference, assuming that no pressure is contributed by the expansion of gases.

4.6.1.2* Beneficial wind effects shall not be taken into account when calculating vent areas.

4.6.1.3 Air inlets and vents shall be located to avoid adverse wind effects.

4.6.2* Inlet Air.

4.6.2.1 Predicted vent flows shall take into account the area of inlet air openings.

4.6.2.2 Inlet air shall be introduced below the smoke layer boundary.

4.6.2.3 Wall and ceiling leakage above the smoke layer boundary in the curtained area shall not be included in vent flow calculations. *(See Chapter 6 for information on air inlets.)*

Chapter 5 Vents

5.1* Listed Vents. Normally closed vents shall be listed and labeled in accordance with ANSI/UL 793, *Standard for Automatically Operated Roof Vents for Smoke and Heat*; FM 4430, *Approval Standard for Heat and Smoke Vents*; or other approved, nationally recognized standards.

5.2 Vent Design Constraints.

5.2.1* The means of vent actuation shall be selected with regard to the full range of expected ambient conditions.

5.2.2* Vents shall consist of a single unit (vent), in which the entire unit (vent) opens fully with the activation of a single detector, or multiple units (vents) in rows or arrays (ganged vents) in which the units (vents) open simultaneously with the activation of a single heat detector, a fusible link, a smoke detector, a sprinkler waterflow switch, or other means of detection to satisfy the venting requirements for a specific hazard.

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5.2.3* Where the hazard is localized, vents shall open directly above such hazard.

5.2.4 Vents, and their supporting structure and means of actuation, shall be designed so that they can be inspected visually after installation.

5.3 Methods of Operation.

5.3.1* Normally, closed vents shall be designed to open automatically in a fire to meet design objectives or to comply with performance objectives or requirements.

5.3.2* Vents, other than thermoplastic drop-out vents, shall be designed to fail in the open position such that failure of a vent-operating component results in an open vent.

5.3.3 Vents shall be opened using gravity or other approved opening force.

5.3.4 The opening mechanism shall not be prevented from opening the vent by snow, roof debris, or internal projections.

5.3.5* All vents shall be designed to open by manual means. Means of opening shall be either internal or external, as approved by the authority having jurisdiction.

5.3.6 Vents designed for remote operation shall utilize approved fusible links and shall also be capable of actuation by an electric power source, heat-responsive device, or other approved means.

5.3.7 Vents designed to activate by smoke detection, sprinkler waterflow, or other activation methods external to the vent shall be approved in accordance with Section 5.1.

5.4 Dimensions and Spacing of Vents.

5.4.1 The dimensions and spacing of vents shall meet the requirements of 5.4.1.1 and 5.4.1.2 to avoid plugholing.

5.4.1.1 The area of a unit vent shall not exceed $2d^2$, where d is the design depth of the smoke layer.

5.4.1.2* For vents with $L_v/W_v > 2$, the width, W_v, shall not exceed the design depth of the smoke layer, d.

5.4.2* In plan view, the center-to-center spacing of vents in a rectangular matrix, S, as shown in Figure 5.4.2(a), within a curtained area shall not exceed $4H$, where H is the ceiling height as shown in Figure 5.4.2(b), parts (a) through (d).

5.4.3* The spacing of vents, in plan view, shall be such that the horizontal distance from any point on a wall or draft curtain to the center of the nearest vent, within a curtained area, does not exceed $2.8H$ as indicated in Figure 5.4.3.

5.4.4 The total vent area per curtained area shall be sized to meet the design objectives and the performance objectives relative to the design fire, determined in accordance with Chapter 8.

5.5 Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems. Mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be designed in accordance with Chapter 10.

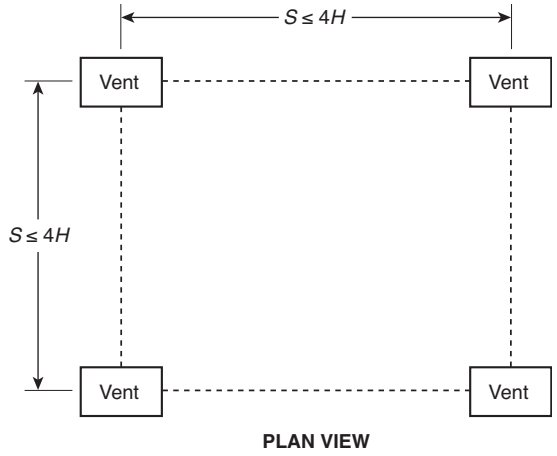


FIGURE 5.4.2(a) Vent Spacing in Rectangular Matrix (plan view).

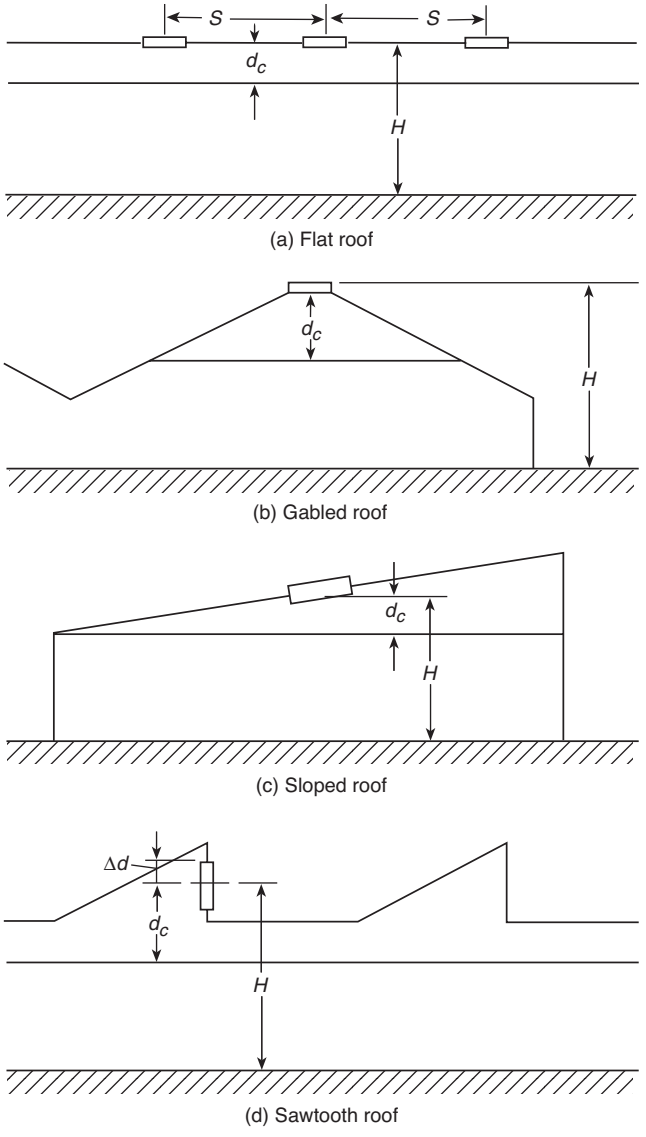


FIGURE 5.4.2(b) Measurement of Ceiling Height *(H)* and Curtain Board Depth *(d_c)*.

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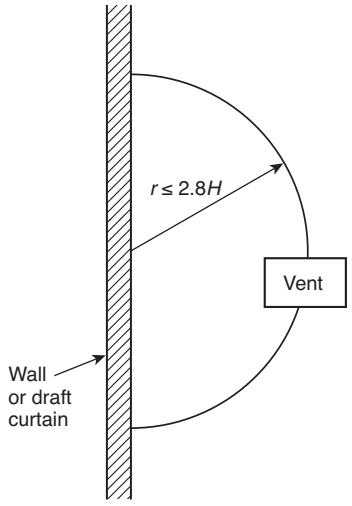


FIGURE 5.4.3 Vent Location near a Wall or Draft Curtain (plan view).

Chapter 6 Air Inlets

6.1* General. Air inlets shall be provided for supplying makeup air for vent systems.

6.2 Construction. Air inlets consisting of louvers, doors, dampers, windows, shutters, or other approved openings shall be designed and constructed to provide passage of outdoor air into the building.

6.3* Location. Air inlets shall be installed as indicated in 6.3.1 or 6.3.2.

6.3.1 Air inlets shall be installed in external walls of the building below the height of the design level of the smoke layer boundary and shall be clearly identified or marked as air inlets.

6.3.2 In larger buildings where there is more than one curtained area, air inlets shall be permitted to be provided by vents in other nonadjacent curtained areas.

6.4 Installation.

6.4.1 Materials of construction and methods of installation for air inlets shall resist expected extremes of temperature, wind, building movement, rain, hail, snow, ice, sunlight, corrosive environment, internal and external dust, dirt, and debris.

6.4.2 The means of air inlet actuation shall be selected with regard to the full range of expected ambient conditions.

6.4.3 To satisfy the vent system requirements, air inlets shall consist of one of the following:

(1) A single unit (air inlet) in which the entire unit (air inlet) opens fully with the activation of a single detector
(2) Multiple units (air inlets) in rows or arrays (ganged air inlets) in which the units (air inlets) open simultaneously with the activation of a single heat detector, a fusible link, a smoke detector, a sprinkler waterflow switch, or other means of detection to satisfy the vent system requirements

6.4.4 Air inlets and their supporting structures and means of actuation shall be designed such that they can be inspected visually after installation.

6.5 Methods of Operation.

6.5.1 Air inlets shall be either constantly open or automatically placed in the open position after a fire is detected.

6.5.2 Air inlets shall be designed to open in a fire to meet design objectives or to comply with performance objectives or requirements.

6.5.3 Air inlets shall be designed to fail in the open position such that failure of an air inlet–operating component results in an open air inlet.

6.5.4 Air inlets shall be opened using an approved means as the opening force.

6.5.5 Air inlet opening mechanisms shall not be prevented from opening the air inlet by snow, debris, or internal projections.

6.5.6 Operating mechanisms for air inlets shall be jam-proof, corrosion-resistant, dust-resistant, and resistant to pressure differences arising from applicable positive or negative loading resulting from environmental conditions, process operations, overhead doors, or traffic vibrations.

6.5.7 Air inlets designed for remote operation shall be activated by approved devices and shall be capable of actuation by an electrical power source, heat-responsive device, or other approved means.

6.6 Dimensions and Spacing of Air Inlets.

6.6.1 The total inlet area per curtained area shall be sized to meet the design objectives and the performance objectives or requirements specified relative to the design fire, determined in accordance with Chapter 8.

6.6.2 One inlet area shall be permitted to serve more than one curtained area.

6.6.3* The air velocity at the plume shall not exceed 1 m/s (3.28ft /s).

6.7 Air Paths. Air paths from an air inlet opening to the curtained area where smoke is being exhausted shall be at least three times the size of the air inlet opening.

Chapter 7 Draft Curtains

7.1* General. In large, open areas, draft curtains shall be provided for prompt activation of vents and to increase vent effectiveness by containing the smoke in the curtained area and increasing the depth of the smoke layer.

7.2* Construction.

7.2.1* Draft curtains shall be constructed of noncombustible or limited-combustible materials in buildings of Type I or Type II construction as defined by NFPA 220, *Standard on Types of Building Construction*, and shall be designed and constructed to resist the passage of smoke.

7.2.2 Draft curtains shall remain in place and shall confine smoke when exposed to the maximum predicted temperature for the design interval time, assuming a design fire in close proximity to the draft curtain.

7.3 Location and Depth.

7.3.1* Draft curtains shall extend vertically downward from the ceiling the minimum distance required so that the value of

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d_c, as shown in Figure 5.4.2(a), is a minimum of 20 percent of the ceiling height, H, measured as follows:

(1) For flat roofs and sawtooth roofs with flat ceiling areas, from the ceiling to the floor
(2) For sloped roofs, from the center of the vent to the floor

7.3.2 Where there are differing vent heights, H, each vent shall be calculated individually.

7.4 Spacing.

7.4.1* Neither the length nor the width of a curtained area shall exceed eight times the ceiling height.

7.4.2* Where draft curtains extend to a depth of less than 30 percent of the ceiling height, the distance between draft curtains shall be not less than one ceiling height.

Chapter 8 The Design Fire

8.1* General.

8.1.1 The design fire shall be selected from among a number of challenging candidate fires, consistent with the building and its intended use, considering all of the following factors that tend to increase the challenge:

(1) A low-level flame base (usually floor level)
(2) Increasing fire growth rate
(3) Increasing ultimate heat release rate in the design interval time

8.1.2 The candidate fire that produces a vent system design meeting the design objectives for all candidate fires shall be selected as the design fire.

8.2 Steady (Limited-Growth) Fires.

8.2.1 For steady fires, or fires that do not develop beyond a maximum size, the required vent area per curtained area shall be calculated based on the maximum calculated heat release rate (Q and Q_c), the associated distance from the fire base to the design elevation of the smoke layer boundary (z_s), and the predicted fire diameter (D).

8.2.2* Steady fires shall be permitted to include special-hazard fires and fires in occupancies with concentrations of combustibles separated by aisles of sufficient width to prevent the spread of fire by radiation beyond the initial fuel package or initial storage array.

8.2.3 The minimum aisle width required to prevent lateral fire spread by radiation, W_{min}, shall be calculated for radiant heat flux from a fire based on an ignition flux of 20 kW/m^2 (2.5 hp/ft^2) in accordance with the following equation:

$$W_{min} = 0.042 Q_{max}^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(8.2.3)}$$

where:
W_{min} = minimum aisle width required to prevent lateral fire spread by radiation (m)
Q_{max} = maximum anticipated heat release rate (kW)

8.2.4 The fire diameter, D, shall be the diameter of a circle having the same area as the floor area of the fuel concentration.

8.2.5 The heat release rate shall be the heat release rate per unit area times the floor area of the fuel concentration, using the maximum storage height above the fire base and associated heat release rate.

8.2.6* The heat release rate per unit area shall be determined by test or from published data acceptable to the AHJ.

8.3 Growing (Continuous-Growth) Fires.

8.3.1* For fuel configurations that have been tested, the fire growth shall be modeled to follow the test results acceptable to the AHJ. For other fuel configurations that have not been tested, a t-squared fire growth as shown in Figure 8.3.1 shall be used with a fire growth coefficient based on published data acceptable to the AHJ and in accordance with the following equation:

$$Q = 1055\left(\frac{t}{t_g}\right)^2 \quad \textbf{(8.3.1)}$$

where:
Q = heat release rate of fire (kW)
t = time from effective ignition following an incubation period (s)
t_g = time at which the fire exceeds an intermediate size of 1055 kW (s)

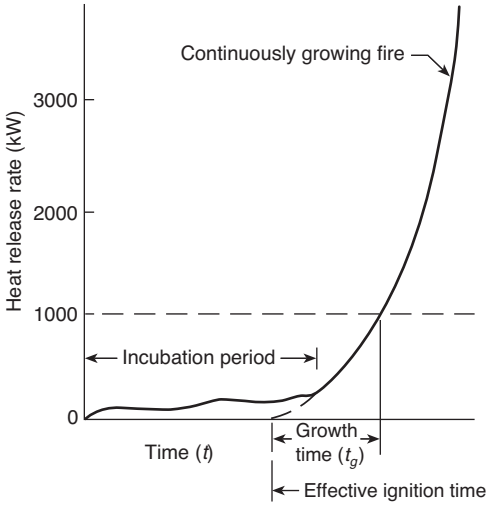


FIGURE 8.3.1 Conceptual Illustration of Continuous-Growth Fire.

8.3.2* A t-squared fire growth shall be permitted to be expressed in terms of a fire growth coefficient, α_g, in lieu of growth time, t_g, as follows:

$$Q = \alpha_g t^2 \quad \textbf{(8.3.2)}$$

where:
Q = heat release rate of fire (kW)
α_g = fire growth coefficient (kW/s^2)
t = time (s)

8.3.3 The instantaneous heat release rate per unit height of the storage array shall be considered to be constant, regardless of the storage height. Accordingly, for different storage heights, the growth time, t_g, shall be calculated as being inversely proportional to the square root of the storage height, and the fire growth coefficient, α_g, shall be calculated as being directly proportional to the storage height. *(See Section F.1.)*

8.3.4* The vent system shall maintain the smoke boundary layer above the design elevation from the time of effective ignition until the end of the design interval time, t_r, where t_r is measured from the time of detection, t_d.

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8.3.5 The heat release rate at the end of the design interval time shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$Q = 1055\left(\frac{t_r + t_d}{t_g}\right)^2 \qquad \textbf{(8.3.5)}$$

where:
Q = heat release rate (kW)
t_r = time at end of design interval (s)
t_d = time of detection (s)
t_g = time at which fire exceeds 1055 kW (s)

8.3.6 The end of the design interval time, t_r, shall be selected to correspond to the design objectives as determined for the specific project design.

8.3.7 The instantaneous diameter of the fire needed for the calculation of L and z_o shall be calculated from the instantaneous heat release rate, Q, and data on the heat release rate per unit floor area, Q'', where Q'' is proportional to storage height in accordance with the following equation:

$$D = \left(\frac{4Q}{\pi Q''}\right)^{1/2} \qquad \textbf{(8.3.7)}$$

where:
D = instantaneous fire diameter (m)
Q = instantaneous heat release rate (kW)
Q'' = heat release rate per unit floor area (kW/m^2)

Chapter 9 Sizing Vents

9.1* General.

9.1.1* The design vent area in a curtained area shall equal the vent area required to meet the design objectives for the most challenging fire predicted for the combustibles within the curtained area.

9.1.2 Vent areas shall be determined using hand calculations in accordance with Section 9.2 or by use of a computer-based model in accordance with Section 9.3.

9.1.3 The design fire used in the evaluation of a proposed vent design in accordance with Section 9.1 shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 8.

9.1.4* Vent systems shall be designed specifically for the hazard of each curtained area in a building.

9.2 Hand Calculations.

9.2.1 Vent System Designs. Vent systems, other than those complying with Section 9.3, shall be sized and actuated to meet design objectives in accordance with Section 9.2.

9.2.2 Design Concepts.

9.2.2.1* Equilibrium shall be assumed as illustrated in Figure 9.2.2.1, where symbols are as defined in Section 1.6.

9.2.2.2 The smoke layer boundary shall be at or above the bottom of the draft curtains.

9.2.2.3 At equilibrium, the mass flow rate into the smoke layer shall be equal to the mass flow rate out of the vent or vents ($\dot{m}_p = \dot{m}_v$).

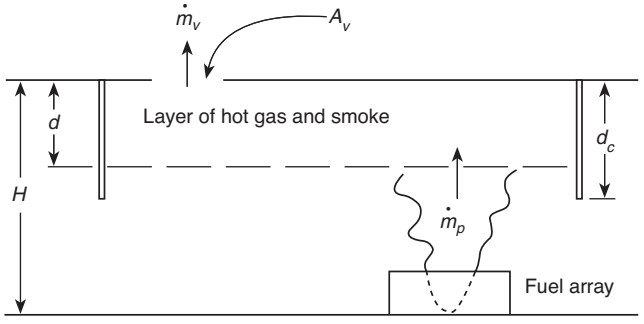


FIGURE 9.2.2.1 Schematic of Venting System.

9.2.3 Mass Flow Rate in Plume.

9.2.3.1* The mean flame height shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$L = -1.02D + 0.235\,Q^{2/5} \qquad \textbf{(9.2.3.1)}$$

where:
L = mean flame height above the base of the fire (m)
D = base diameter of fire (m)
Q = total heat release rate (kW)

9.2.3.2 The virtual origin, z_o, is the effective point source of the fire plume and shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$z_o = 0.083Q^{2/5} - 1.02D \qquad \textbf{(9.2.3.2)}$$

where:
z_o = virtual fire origin
Q = total heat release rate (kW)
D = base diameter of fire (m)

9.2.3.3 Smoke entrainment relationships shall be applicable to axisymmetric plumes.

9.2.3.4 For line-like fires where a long, narrow plume is created by a fuel or storage array, the smoke production calculated in accordance with this standard shall be applicable only if the height of the smoke layer boundary above the base of the fire (z_s) is greater than or equal to four times the largest horizontal dimension of the fire, W_s.

9.2.3.5 If z_s is smaller than $4W_s$, the smoke production rates calculated in accordance with this standard shall be increased by the factor $[4W_s/(z_s)]^{2/3}$.

9.2.3.6 When the mean flame height, L, is below the smoke layer boundary ($L < z_s$), the mass flow rate in the fire plume shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$\dot{m}_p = \left[0.071\,Q_c^{1/3}\left(z_s - z_o\right)^{5/3}\right]\left[1 + 0.027\,Q_c^{2/3}\left(z_s - z_o\right)^{-5/3}\right] \qquad \textbf{(9.2.3.6)}$$

where:
$\dot{m}_p$ = mass flow rate in the plume (kg/s)
Q_c = convective heat release rate = $0.7Q$ (kW)
z_s = height of the smoke layer boundary above the base of the fire (m)
z_o = height of virtual origin above the base of the fire (if below the base of the fire, z_o is negative) (m)

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9.2.3.7 When the mean flame height (L) is equal to or above the smoke layer boundary ($L \geq z_s$), the mass flow rate shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$\dot{m}_p = (0.0056 Q_c)\frac{z_s}{L} \qquad \textbf{(9.2.3.7)}$$

where:
$\dot{m}_p$ = mass flow rate in the plume (kg/s)
Q_c = convective heat release rate = $0.7Q$ (kW)
z_s = height above the base of the fire (m)
L = mean flame height (m)

9.2.3.8 The base of the fire shall be the lowest point of the fuel array.

9.2.4* Mass Flow Rate Through Vents.

9.2.4.1* The mass flow through the vent shall be calculated in accordance with the following equation:

$$\dot{m}_v = \frac{C_{d,v}A_v}{\sqrt{1+\frac{C_{d,v}^2 A_v^2}{C_{d,i}^2 A_i^2}\left(\frac{T_o}{T}\right)}}\sqrt{(2\rho_o^2 g d)}\sqrt{\frac{T_o(T-T_o)}{T^2}} \qquad \textbf{(9.2.4.1)}$$

where:
$\dot{m}_v$ = mass flow through vent (kg/s)
$C_{d,v}$ = vent discharge coefficient
A_v = vent area (m^2)
ρ_o = ambient density (kg/m^3)
g = acceleration due to gravity (9.81 m/s^2)
d = smoke layer depth (m)
T_o = ambient temperature (K)
T = smoke layer temperature (K)
$C_{d,i}$ = inlet discharge coefficient
A_i = inlet area (m^2)

9.2.4.2* The discharge coefficients for the vents and inlets used shall be those provided by the vent or inlet manufacturer. If no data are available, the discharge coefficient shall be taken from Table 9.2.4.2 unless an analysis or data acceptable to the AHJ are provided by the designer to validate the use of an alternative value.

9.2.4.3 The smoke layer temperature, T, used in 9.2.4.1 shall be determined from the following equation:

$$T = T_o + \frac{KQ_c}{c_p \dot{m}_p} \qquad \textbf{(9.2.4.3)}$$

Table 9.2.4.2 Default Discharge Coefficients for Vents and Inlets

Vent or Inlet Type	Discharge Coefficient [(*d*, *v*) and (*d*, *i*)]
Louvered with blades at 90 degrees to airflow	0.55
Flap type or door open at least 55 degrees	
Drop-out vent leaving clear opening	
Flap type or door open at least 30 degrees	0.35
Fixed weather louver with blades at 45 degrees	0.25

where:
T = smoke layer temperature (K)
T_o = ambient temperature (K)
K = fraction of convected energy contained in the smoke layer gases *(see 9.2.4.4)*
Q_c = convective heat release rate (kW)
c_p = specific heat of the smoke layer gases (kJ/kg-K)
$\dot{m}_p$ = plume mass flow rate (kg/s) *(see 9.2.3)*

9.2.4.4 The value of K used in Equation 9.2.4.3 shall be 0.5, unless an analysis acceptable to the AHJ is provided by the designer to validate the use of an alternative value.

9.2.5 Required Vent Area and Inlet Area.

9.2.5.1 Vent Area. The required vent area shall be the minimum total area of all vents within a curtained area required to be open to prevent the smoke from descending below the design level of the smoke layer boundary when used in conjunction with the required inlet area.

9.2.5.2 Inlet Area. The required inlet area shall be the minimum total area of all inlets required to be open to prevent the smoke from descending below the design level of the smoke layer boundary when used in conjunction with the required vent area(s).

9.2.5.3 Area Calculation. The required vent area and inlet areas shall be calculated by equating the plume mass flow rate determined in 9.2.3 and the vent mass flow rates determined in 9.2.4.

9.2.5.4 Detection and Activation.

9.2.5.4.1* Detection, for the purpose of automatically actuating vents, shall be by one of the following methods:

(1) By either heat or smoke at the vent location
(2) By activation of fire protection systems
(3) By heat or smoke detectors installed on a regular matrix within the curtained area in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*
(4) By other approved means shown to meet design objectives

9.2.5.4.2 For calculating both the detection time, t_d, of the first detector to operate and the detection time, t_{vo}, of the detector controlling the actuation of the last vent to operate in a curtained area prior to the end of the design interval time, the location of the design fire shall be assumed to be the farthest distance possible from both the first and last detectors to operate the vents within the curtained area.

9.2.5.4.2.1* Detection times for heat detectors or fusible links shall be determined in accordance with *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*.

9.2.5.4.3 Detection times for smoke detectors shall be determined as the time to reach a certain temperature rise, ΔT, at activation. In the case of continuous-growth, t-squared fires, gas temperatures shall be determined in accordance with the following equation, where ΔT is assumed to be 0 when the numerator of the first bracket is zero or negative:

$$\Delta T = \frac{3575}{t_g^{4/5} H^{3/5}}\left[\frac{t/\left(t_g^{2/5} H^{4/5}\right) - 0.442(1+r/H)}{1+1.65r/H}\right]^{4/3} \qquad \textbf{(9.2.5.4.3)}$$

where:
T = temperature (C)
t_g = fire growth time (s)
H = ceiling height above the base of the fire (m)
r = radius from fire axis (m)

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9.2.5.4.3.1* The temperature rise for activation shall be based on dedicated tests, or the equivalent, for the combustibles associated with the occupancy and the detector model to be installed.

9.2.5.4.3.2 Where the data described in 9.2.5.4.3.1 are not available, a minimum temperature rise of 20°C (68°F) shall be used.

9.2.5.4.4 Detection Computer Programs.

9.2.5.4.4.1* As an alternate to the calculations specified in 9.2.5.4.2, DETACT-T2 shall be permitted to be used to calculate detection times in continuous-growth and *t*-squared fires.

9.2.5.4.4.2* As an alternative to the calculations specified in 9.2.5.4.2, DETACT-QS shall be permitted to be used to calculate detection times in fires of any fire growth history.

9.2.5.4.4.3 Other computer programs determined to calculate detection times reliably shall be permitted to be used when approved by the AHJ.

9.3 Models.

9.3.1 Vents, other than vent systems designed in accordance with Section 9.2, shall be sized and actuated to meet design objectives in accordance with Section 9.3.

9.3.2 The computer model LAVENT or other approved mathematical models shall be used to assess the effects of the design fire and to establish that a proposed vent system design meets design objectives. *(See Section F.2.)*

9.3.3 When models other than LAVENT are used, evidence shall be submitted to demonstrate efficacy of the model to evaluate the time-varying events of a fire and to calculate the effect of vent designs reliably in terms of the design objectives.

9.3.4 The design fire used in the evaluation of a proposed vent system design in accordance with Section 9.3 shall be determined in accordance with Chapter 8.

Chapter 10 Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems

10.1* General.

10.1.1* Mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be permitted in lieu of the vent systems described in Chapter 9.

10.1.2 Mechanical smoke exhaust systems and vent systems shall not serve the same curtained area.

10.1.3 Mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be designed in accordance with Sections 10.2 through 10.4.

10.2 Exhaust Rates. Exhaust rates per curtained area shall be not less than the mass plume flow rates, $\dot{m}_p$, as determined in accordance with 9.2.3, unless it can be demonstrated that a lower exhaust rate will prevent the smoke from descending below the design level of the smoke layer boundary during the design period.

10.3 Fire Exposure.

10.3.1 Mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be capable of functioning under the expected fire exposure.

10.3.2 The temperature of the smoke layer shall be determined in accordance with 9.2.4.3 and 9.2.4.4.

10.4* Number of Exhaust Inlets.

10.4.1 The minimum number of exhaust inlets shall be determined so that the maximum flow rates for exhaust without plugholing are not exceeded.

10.4.2 More than the minimum number of exhaust inlets required shall be permitted.

10.4.3* The maximum volumetric flow rate that can be exhausted by a single exhaust inlet without plugholing shall be calculated using Equation 10.4.3.

$$V_{max} = 4.16\gamma d^{5/2}\left(\frac{T_s - T_o}{T_o}\right)^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(10.4.3)}$$

where:
V_{max} = maximum volumetric flow rate without plugholing at T_s (m^3/sec)
γ = exhaust location factor (dimensionless)
d = depth of smoke layer below the lowest point of the exhaust inlet (m)
T_s = absolute temperature of the smoke layer (K)
T_o = absolute ambient temperature (K)

10.4.4* For exhaust inlets centered no closer than twice the diameter from the nearest wall, a value of 1 shall be used for γ.

10.4.5* For exhaust inlets centered less than twice the diameter from the nearest wall, a value of 0.5 shall be used for γ.

10.4.6* For exhaust inlets on a wall, a value of 0.5 shall be used for γ.

10.4.7* The ratio d/D_i shall be greater than 2, where D_i is the diameter of the inlet.

10.4.8 For rectangular exhaust inlets, D_i shall be calculated using Equation 10.4.8 as follows:

$$D_i = \frac{2ab}{a+b} \quad \textbf{(10.4.8)}$$

where:
D_i = diameter of exhaust inlet
a = length of the inlet
b = width of the inlet

10.4.9 Where multiple exhaust inlets are required to prevent plugholing *(see 10.4.1)*, the minimum separation distance shall be calculated using Equation 10.4.9 as follows:

$$S_{min} = 0.9V_e^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(10.4.9)}$$

where:
S_{min} = minimum edge-to-edge separation between inlets (m)
V_e = volumetric flow rate of one exhaust inlet (m^3/s)

10.5 Intake Air. Intake air shall be provided to make up air required to be exhausted by the mechanical smoke exhaust systems. *(See Chapter 6 for additional information on the location of air inlets.)*

Chapter 11 Venting in Sprinklered Buildings

11.1* Design. Where provided, the design of venting for sprinklered buildings shall be based on an engineering analysis acceptable to the AHJ, demonstrating that the established objectives are met. *(See Section F.3.)*

11.2* Automatic Sprinkler Systems. The automatic sprinkler system shall be designed in accordance with NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems.*

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11.3* Storage Occupancies Protected by Control Mode Sprinklers.

11.3.1 Where draft curtains are provided, they shall be located over the longitudinal center of an aisle.

11.3.2 The aisle width shall not be less than 1.5 times the spacing between sprinklers in the direction perpendicular to the draft curtain.

11.3.3 Sprinklers shall be located on both sides of the curtain per NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, requirements for sprinkler placement with respect to walls.

11.3.4 The aisle width required by 11.3.2 shall not be required if a full height partition is used in lieu of a draft curtain.

Chapter 12 Inspection and Maintenance

12.1* General. Smoke and heat venting systems and mechanical smoke exhaust systems shall be inspected and maintained in accordance with Chapter 12.

12.2* Requirements.

12.2.1 Mechanically Opened Vents. Mechanically opened vents shall be provided with manual release devices that allow direct activation to facilitate inspection, maintenance, and replacement of actuation components.

12.2.2 Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents. Thermoplastic drop-out vents do not allow nondestructive operation; however, inspection of installed units shall be conducted to ensure that the units are installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and that all components are in place, undamaged, and free of soiling, debris, and extraneous items that might interfere with the operation and function of the unit.

12.2.3 Inspection and Maintenance. The inspection and maintenance of multiple-function vents shall ensure that other functions do not impair the intended fire protection operation.

12.3 Inspection, Maintenance, and Acceptance Testing.

12.3.1 Inspection Schedules.

12.3.1.1 A written inspection schedule and procedures for inspection and maintenance shall be developed.

12.3.1.2 Inspection programs shall provide written notations of the date and time of inspections and of discrepancies found.

12.3.1.3 All deficiencies shall be corrected immediately.

12.3.1.4* Vents shall be inspected and maintained in an operating condition in accordance with Chapter 12.

12.3.2 Mechanically Opened Vents.

12.3.2.1 An acceptance performance test and inspection of all mechanically opened vents shall be conducted immediately following installation to establish that all operating mechanisms function properly and that installation is in accordance with this standard and the manufacturer's specifications.

12.3.2.2* Mechanically opened vents shall be inspected and subjected to an operational test annually, following the manufacturer's recommendations.

12.3.2.3* All pertinent characteristics of performance shall be recorded.

12.3.2.4 Special mechanisms, such as gas cylinders, thermal sensors, or detectors, shall be checked annually or as specified by the manufacturer.

12.3.3 Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents.

12.3.3.1* An acceptance inspection of all thermoplastic drop-out vents shall be conducted immediately after installation and shall include verification of compliance with the manufacturer's drawings and recommendations by visual examination.

12.3.3.2* Thermoplastic drop-out vents shall be inspected annually in accordance with 12.4.2 and the manufacturer's recommendations.

12.3.3.3 Changes in appearance, damage to any components, fastening security, weather tightness, and the adjacent roof and flashing condition shall be noted at the time of inspection, and any deficiency shall be corrected.

12.3.3.4 Any soiling, debris, or encumbrances that could impair the operation of the vent shall be promptly removed without causing damage to the vent.

12.3.4 Inlet Air Sources. Where required for the operation of vent systems, intake air sources shall be inspected at the same frequency as vents.

12.4 Conduct and Observation of Operational Tests.

12.4.1 Mechanically Opened Vents and Air Inlets.

12.4.1.1 Mechanically opened vents and air inlets shall be operated during tests by simulating actual fire conditions.

12.4.1.2 The restraining cable at the heat-responsive device (or other releasing device) shall be disconnected, releasing the restraint and allowing the trigger or latching mechanism to operate.

12.4.1.3* When the heat-responsive device restraining cable for mechanically opened vents or air inlets is under tension, observation shall be made of its whip and travel path to determine any possibility that the vent, building construction feature, or service piping could obstruct complete release. Any interference shall be corrected by removal of the obstruction, enclosure of cable in a suitable conduit, or other appropriate arrangement.

12.4.1.4 Following any modification, the unit shall be retested for evaluation of adequacy of corrective measures.

12.4.1.5 Latches shall release smoothly and the vent or air inlet shall open immediately and move through its design travel to the fully opened position without any assistance and without any problems such as undue delay indicative of a sticking weather seal, corroded or unaligned bearings, or distortion binding.

12.4.1.6 Manual releases shall be tested to verify that the vents and air inlets operate as designed.

12.4.1.7 All operating levers, latches, hinges, and weather-sealed surfaces shall be examined to determine conditions, such as deterioration and accumulation of foreign material. An operational test shall be conducted after corrections are completed, when conditions are found to warrant corrective action.

12.4.1.8 Following painting of the interior or exterior of vents and air inlets or the addition of sealants or caulking, the units shall be opened and inspected to check for paint, sealants, or caulking that causes the parting surfaces to adhere to each other.

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12.4.1.9 Heat-responsive devices coated with paint or other substances that could affect their response shall be replaced with devices having an equivalent temperature and load rating.

12.4.2 Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents.

12.4.2.1 All weather-sealed surfaces on thermoplastic drop-out vents shall be examined to determine any adverse conditions, such as any indication of deterioration and accumulation of foreign material. Any adverse condition that interferes with normal vent operation, such as caulking or sealant bonding the drop-out vent to the frame, shall be corrected.

12.4.2.2 Following painting of the interior or exterior of the frame or flashing of the vents, the units shall be inspected for paint adhering surfaces together; any paint that interferes with normal operation shall be removed or the vent shall be replaced with a new, listed and labeled unit having comparable operating characteristics.

12.4.2.3 Manual releases shall be tested annually.

12.4.3 Inspection, Maintenance, and Testing of Mechanical Smoke-Exhaust Systems.

12.4.3.1 Component Testing.

12.4.3.1.1 The operational testing of each individual system component of the mechanical smoke-exhaust system shall be performed as each component is completed during construction.

12.4.3.1.2 It shall be documented in writing that each individual system component's installation is complete and that the component has been tested and found to be functional.

12.4.3.2 Acceptance Testing.

12.4.3.2.1 Acceptance tests shall be conducted to demonstrate that the mechanical smoke-exhaust system installation complies with and meets the design objectives and is functioning as designed.

12.4.3.2.2 Documentation from component system testing shall be available for review during final acceptance testing.

12.4.3.2.3 If standby power has been provided for the operation of the mechanical smoke-exhaust system, the acceptance testing shall be conducted while on both normal and standby power.

12.4.3.2.4 Acceptance testing shall be performed on the mechanical smoke-exhaust system by completing the following steps:

(1) Activate the mechanical smoke-exhaust system.
(2) Verify and record the operation of all fans, dampers, doors, and related equipment.
(3) Measure fan exhaust capacities, air velocities through inlet doors and grilles, or at supply grilles if there is a mechanical makeup air system.

12.4.3.2.5 Operational tests shall be performed on the applicable part of the smoke-exhaust system wherever there are system changes and modifications.

12.4.3.2.6 Upon completion of acceptance testing, a copy of all operational testing documentation shall be provided to the owner and shall be maintained and made available for review by the AHJ.

12.4.3.3 Periodic Testing.

12.4.3.3.1 Mechanical smoke-exhaust systems shall be tested semiannually by persons who are knowledgeable in the operation, testing, and maintenance of the systems.

12.4.3.3.2 The results of the tests shall be documented and made available for inspection.

12.4.3.3.3 Tests shall be conducted under standby power where applicable.

12.4.3.4 Exhaust System Maintenance.

12.4.3.4.1 During the life of the building, maintenance shall be performed to ensure that mechanical smoke-exhaust systems will perform their intended function under fire conditions.

12.4.3.4.2 Maintenance of the systems shall include the testing of all equipment, including initiating devices, fans, dampers, and controls.

12.4.3.4.3 Equipment shall be maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

12.4.3.5 Inspection Schedule.

12.4.3.5.1 A written inspection schedule and procedures for inspection and maintenance for mechanical smoke-exhaust systems shall be developed.

12.4.3.5.2 Inspection programs shall provide written notations of date and time of inspections and for discrepancies found.

12.4.3.5.3 All system components shall be inspected semiannually in conjunction with operational tests.

12.4.3.5.4 Any deficiencies noted in the system components or smoke-exhaust system performance shall be corrected immediately.

12.5 Air Inlets.

12.5.1 Air inlets necessary for operation of smoke and heat vents or mechanical smoke-exhaust systems shall be maintained clear and free of obstructions.

12.5.2 Operating air inlet louvers, doors, dampers, and shutters shall be examined and operated to assure movement to fully open positions.

12.5.3 Operating equipment shall be maintained and lubricated as necessary.

12.6 Ice and Snow Removal. Ice and snow shall be removed from vents promptly, following any accumulation.

Chapter 13 Design Documentation

13.1* Documentation Required. All of the following documents shall be generated by the designer during the design process:

(1) Design brief
(2) Conceptual design report
(3) Detailed design report
(4) Operations and maintenance manual

13.1.1 Design Brief. The design brief shall contain a statement of the goals and objectives of the vent system and shall provide the design assumptions to be used in the conceptual design.

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13.1.1.1 The design brief shall include, as a minimum, all of the following:

(1) System performance goals and design objectives *(see Section 4.1 and 4.4.1)*
(2) Performance criteria (including design tenability criteria, where applicable)
(3) Building characteristics (height, area, layout, use, ambient conditions, other fire protection systems)
(4) Design basis fire(s) *(see 4.5.2 and Chapter 8)*
(5) Design fire location(s)
(6) Identified design constraints
(7) Proposed design approach

13.1.1.2 The design brief shall be developed in the first stage of the design process to assure that all stakeholders understand and agree to the goals, objectives, design fire, and design approach, so that the conceptual design can be developed on an agreed-upon basis. Stakeholders shall include, as a minimum, the building owner and the AHJ.

13.1.2 Conceptual Design Report. The conceptual design report shall provide the details of the conceptual design, based upon the design brief, and shall document the design calculations.

13.1.2.1 The conceptual design shall include, as a minimum, all of the following design elements and the technical basis for the design elements:

(1) Areas of curtained spaces
(2) Design depth of the smoke layer and draft curtain depth
(3) Detection method, detector characteristics, and spacing
(4) Design interval time (if applicable)
(5) Vent size and number per curtained area, method of vent operation, and vent spacing
(6) Inlet vent area(s), location(s), and operation method

13.1.2.2 The conceptual design report shall include all design calculations performed to establish the design elements, all design assumptions, and all building use limitations that arise out of the system design.

13.1.3 Detailed Design Report.

13.1.3.1 The detailed design report shall provide documentation of the vent system as it is to be installed.

13.1.3.2 The detailed design report shall include, as a minimum, all of the following:

(1) Vent and draft curtain specifications
(2) Inlet and vent operation system specifications
(3) Detection system specifications
(4) Detailed inlet, vent, and draft curtain siting information
(5) Detection and vent operation logic
(6) Systems commissioning procedures

13.1.4 Operations and Maintenance Manual. The operations and maintenance manual shall provide to the building owner the requirements to ensure the intended operation of the vent system over the life of the building.

13.1.4.1 The procedures used in the initial commissioning of the vent system shall be described in the manual, as well as the measured performance of the system at the time of commissioning.

13.1.4.2 The manual shall describe the testing and inspection requirements for the system and system components and the required frequency of testing. *(See Chapter 12 for testing frequency.)*

13.1.4.3 The manual shall describe the critical design assumptions used in the design and shall provide limitations on the building and its use that arise out of the design assumptions and limitations.

13.1.4.4 Copies of the operations and maintenance manual shall be provided to the owner and to the AHJ.

13.1.4.5 The building owner shall be responsible for all system testing and shall maintain records of all periodic testing and maintenance using the operations and maintenance manual.

13.1.4.6 The building owner shall be responsible for providing a copy of the operations and maintenance manual, including testing results, to all tenants of the space protected by the vent system.

13.1.4.7 The building owner and tenants shall be responsible for limiting the use of the space in a manner consistent with the limitations provided in the operations and maintenance manual.

Annex A Explanatory Material

Annex A is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only. This annex contains explanatory material, numbered to correspond with the applicable text paragraphs.

A.1.1.1 This standard incorporates engineering equations (hand calculations) and references models to provide a designer with the tools to develop vent system designs. The designs are based on selected design objectives, stated in 4.4.1, related to specific building and occupancy conditions. Engineering equations are included for calculating vent flows, smoke layer depths, and smoke layer temperatures, based on a prescribed burning rate. Examples using the hand calculations and the LAVENT (Link-Actuated VENTs) computer model are presented in Annex D.

Previous editions of this document have included tables listing vent areas based on preselected design objectives. These tables were based on the hot upper layer at 20 percent of the ceiling height. Different layer depths were accommodated by using a multiplication factor. Draft curtain and vent spacing rules were set. Minimum clear visibility times were related to fire growth rate, ceiling height, compartment size, curtain depth, and detector activation times, using engineering equations.

The following list provides a general description of the significant phenomena that occur during a fire when a fire-venting strategy is implemented:

(1) Due to buoyancy, hot gases rise vertically from the combustion zone and flow horizontally below the roof until blocked by a vertical barrier (a wall or draft curtain), thus forming a layer of hot gases below the roof.
(2) The volume and temperature of gases to be vented are a function of the fire's rate of heat release and the amount of air entrained into the buoyant plume produced.
(3) As the depth of the layer of hot gases increases, the layer temperature continues to rise and the vents open.
(4) The operation of vents within a curtained area enables some of the upper layer of hot gases to escape and thus slows the thickening rate of the layer of hot gases. With sufficient venting area, the thickening rate of the layer can be arrested and even reversed. The rate of discharge through a vent of a given area is primarily determined by the depth of the layer of hot gases and the layer temperature. Adequate quantities

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of replacement inlet air from air inlets located below the hot upper layer are needed if the products of combustion-laden upper gases are to be exhausted according to design. See Figure A.1.1.1(a) for an illustration of the behavior of fire under a vented and curtained roof, and Figure A.1.1.1(b) for an example of a roof with vents.

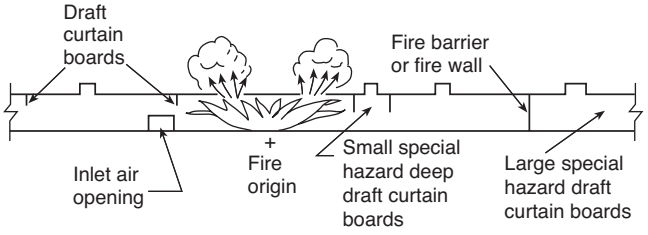


FIGURE A.1.1.1(a) Behavior of Combustion Products Under Vented and Curtained Roof.



FIGURE A.1.1.1(b) View of Roof Vents on Building.

The majority of the information provided in this standard applies to nonsprinklered buildings. A limited amount of guidance is provided in Chapter 11 for sprinklered buildings.

The provisions of this standard can be applied to the top story of multiple-story buildings. Many features of these provisions would be difficult or impracticable to incorporate into the lower stories of such buildings.

A.1.1.2 The decision whether to provide venting in a building depends on design objectives set by a building owner or occupant or on local building code and fire code requirements.

A.1.3.1 See NFPA 90A, *Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*, for ventilation to regulate environmental air for personnel comfort. See NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, for regulation of commercial cooking operations. See NFPA 68, *Standard on Explosion Protection by Deflagration Venting*, for venting for explosion pressure relief.

A.1.3.4 The distance from the fire base to the smoke layer boundary, z_s, is a dominant variable and should be considered carefully. Additionally, some design situations can result in smoke layer temperatures, as expressed in Equation 9.2.4.3, that exceed 600°C (1112°F). In such cases, the radiation from the smoke layer can be sufficient to ignite all of the combustibles under the curtained area at this temperature, and perhaps in the adjacent area, which is unacceptable.

A.1.3.5 The feasibility of roof venting should be questioned when the heat release rate approaches values associated with ventilation control of the burning process (i.e., where the fire becomes controlled by the inlet air replacing the vented hot gas and smoke). Ventilation-controlled fires might be unable to support a clear layer.

To maintain a clear layer, venting at heat release rates greater than $Q_{feasible}$ necessitates vent areas larger than those indicated by the calculation scheme provided in this standard.

A.1.3.6 Large, undivided floor areas present extremely difficult fire-fighting problems because the fire department might need to enter these areas in order to combat fires in central portions of the building. If the fire department is unable to enter because of the accumulation of heat and smoke, fire-fighting efforts might be reduced to an application of hose streams to perimeter areas while fire continues in the interior. Windowless buildings also present similar fire-fighting problems. One fire protection tool that can be a valuable asset for fire-fighting operations in such buildings is smoke and heat venting.

An appropriate design time facilitates such activities as locating the fire, appraising the fire severity and its extent, evacuating the building, and making an informed decision on the deployment of personnel and equipment to be used for fire fighting.

A.2.1 Some of these documents might also be referenced in this standard for specific informational purposes and are therefore also listed in Annex G.

A.3.2.1 Approved. The National Fire Protection Association does not approve, inspect, or certify any installations, procedures, equipment, or materials; nor does it approve or evaluate testing laboratories. In determining the acceptability of installations, procedures, equipment, or materials, the authority having jurisdiction may base acceptance on compliance with NFPA or other appropriate standards. In the absence of such standards, said authority may require evidence of proper installation, procedure, or use. The authority having jurisdiction may also refer to the listings or labeling practices of an organization that is concerned with product evaluations and is thus in a position to determine compliance with appropriate standards for the current production of listed items.

A.3.2.2 Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ). The phrase "authority having jurisdiction," or its acronym AHJ, is used in NFPA documents in a broad manner, since jurisdictions and approval agencies vary, as do their responsibilities. Where public safety is primary, the authority having jurisdiction may be a federal, state, local, or other regional department or individual such as a fire chief; fire marshal; chief of a fire prevention bureau, labor department, or health department; building official; electrical inspector; or others having statutory authority. For insurance purposes, an insurance inspection department, rating bureau, or other insurance company representative may be the authority having jurisdiction. In many circumstances, the property owner or his or her designated agent assumes the role of the authority having jurisdiction; at government installations, the commanding officer or departmental official may be the authority having jurisdiction.

A.3.2.4 Listed. The means for identifying listed equipment may vary for each organization concerned with product evaluation; some organizations do not recognize equipment as listed unless

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it is also labeled. The authority having jurisdiction should utilize the system employed by the listing organization to identify a listed product.

A.3.3.3 Clear Layer Interface. See Figure A.3.3.3 for a description of the smoke layer interface, smoke layer, and first indication of smoke.

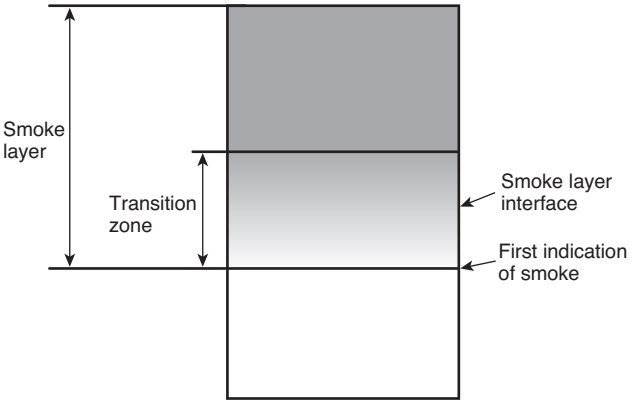


FIGURE A.3.3.3 First Indication of Smoke.

A.3.3.10 Effective Ignition. See Figure 8.3.1 for a conceptual illustration of continuous fire growth and effective ignition time.

A.3.3.16.1 Class CC1 Plastics. Burning extent can be determined in accordance with ASTM D 635, *Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Self-Supporting Plastics in a Horizontal Position.*

A.3.3.16.2 Class CC2 Plastics. Burning rate can be determined in accordance with ASTM D 635, *Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Self-Supporting Plastics in a Horizontal Position.*

A.3.3.19 Smoke Layer. See Figure A.3.3.3 for a description of the clear layer interface, smoke layer, and smoke layer boundary.

A.3.3.20 Smoke Layer Boundary. See Figure A.3.3.3 for a description of the clear layer interface, smoke layer, and smoke layer boundary.

A.4.1 Design objectives for a vent system can include one or more of the following goals:

(1) To provide occupants with a safe path of travel to a safe area
(2) To facilitate manual fire fighting
(3) To reduce the damage to buildings and contents due to smoke and hot gases

A.4.2 Tests and studies provide a basis for the division of occupancies into classes, depending on the fuel available for contribution to fire. Wide variation is found in the quantities of combustible materials in the many kinds of buildings and areas of buildings.

A.4.4.2 The heat release rate of a fire, the fire diameter, and the height of the clear layer above the base of the fire are major factors affecting the production of smoke.

A.4.4.3 Mass flow through a vent is governed mainly by the vent area and the depth of the smoke layer and its temperature. Venting becomes more effective with smoke temperature differentials between ambient temperature and an upper layer of approximately 110°C (230°F)or higher. Where temperature differences of less than 110°C (230°F)are expected, vent flows might be reduced significantly; therefore, consideration should be given to using powered exhaust. NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, should be consulted for guidance for power venting at these lower temperatures.

The vent designs in this standard allow the fire to reach a size such that the flame plume enters the smoke layer. Flame height may be estimated using Equation 9.2.3.1.

A.4.5.1 The rate of smoke production depends on the rate of air entrainment into a column of hot gases produced by and located above a fire. Entrainment is affected by the fire diameter and rate of heat release, and it is strongly affected by the distance between the base of the fire and the point at which the smoke plume enters the smoke layer.

A.4.5.2 Because smoke production is related to the size of a fire, it follows that, all factors being equal, larger fires produce more smoke. Entrainment, however, is strongly affected by the distance between the base of a fire and the bottom of the hot layer. The base of the fire (where combustion and entrainment begin) should be selected on the basis of the worst case. It is possible for a smaller fire having a base near the floor to produce more smoke than a larger fire with a base at a higher elevation. Air entrainment is assumed to be limited to the clear height between the base of the fire and the bottom of the hot layer. The buoyant plume associated with a fire produces a flow into the hot upper layer. As the plume impinges on the ceiling, the plume turns and forms a ceiling jet. The ceiling jet flows radially outward along the ceiling.

A.4.5.3 Where the possibility of multiple fires and, therefore, multiple plumes exists, smoke production rates increase beyond the rate predicted for a single plume for a fire of equivalent output. Multiple fires are beyond the scope of this standard.

A.4.5.3.2 Plume mass flow above the flame level is based on the concept that, except for absolute scales, the shapes of velocity and temperature profiles at the mean flame height are invariable. This concept leads to an expression for mass flow above the flames that involves the so-called *virtual origin*, a point source from which the plume above the flames appears to originate. The virtual origin might be above or below the base of the fire.

A.4.6.1 It is assumed that openings exist to the outside and therefore no pressure results from the expansion of gases. Also, wind effects are not taken into account because wind might assist or interfere with vent flows, depending on specific circumstances. It is also assumed that the fire environment in a building space is divided into two zones — a hot upper layer and a relatively cool, clear (comparatively free of smoke) lower region. When a fire grows to a size approaching ventilation-limited burning, the building might no longer maintain a clear lower region, and this standard would no longer be applicable. Finally, caution must be exercised when using this standard for conditions under which the upper-gas-layer temperature approaches 600°C (1112°F), because flashover might occur within the area. When a fire develops to flashover or ventilation-limited burning, the relationships provided in this standard are not applicable.

Buoyancy pressure is related to the depth of the hot layer, the absolute temperature of the hot layer, the temperature rise above ambient of the hot layer, and the density of the ambient air. The mass rate of flow of hot gases through a vent is a function of vent area, layer depth, and hot layer temperature. The temperature of the hot layer above ambient affects mass flow through a vent.

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Maximum flow occurs at temperature differences of approximately 300°C (572°F)above ambient. Flows at other temperature differentials are diminished, as shown in Figure A.4.6.1.

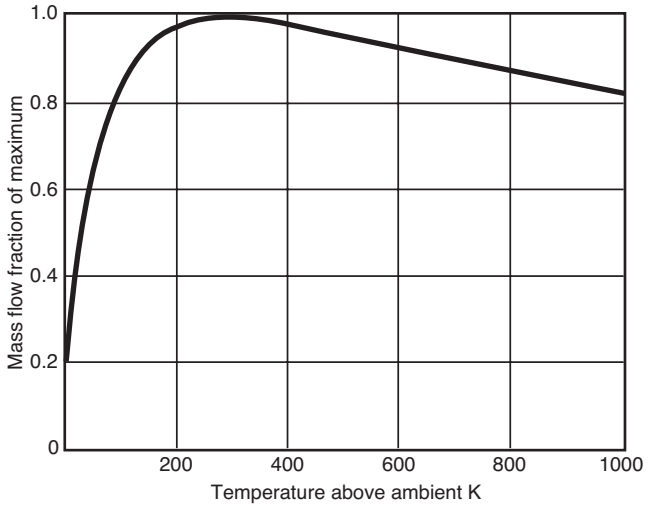


FIGURE A.4.6.1 Effect of Temperature on Mass Flow Through a Vent.

A.4.6.1.2 In order to provide a design that is not dependent on beneficial wind effects, design calculations are carried out that ignore wind effects and that are based only on buoyancy effects (and fan assistance for mechanical systems).

Nevertheless, it is important to consider wind effects since adverse wind effects can reduce or even reverse vent flow. Exhaust vents and air inlets should be located so that under any wind conditions there is an overall wind suction effect from inlet to exhaust.

This is normally achieved when the roof slope is 30 degrees or less and vents have a horizontal clear space at least three times the height difference from any taller structures such as parapets, roof lights, or taller roofs.

Otherwise, if the designer cannot show by calculation or by data that there will be no adverse wind effects, a mechanical smoke extract system should be used.

A.4.6.2 To function as intended, a building venting system needs sufficiently large fresh air inlet openings at low levels. It is essential that a dependable means for admitting or supplying inlet air be provided promptly after the first vent opens.

A.5.1 There is an ISO standard for vents (ISO DIS 21927-2, *Specification for natural smoke and heat exhaust ventilators*). The ISO standard is technically equivalent to European (EN) standards for these products. Products that carry the CE mark, which is mandatory for sale of these products within the European Union, are subject to independent testing and ongoing factory production control by Notified Bodies appointed by national governments. The standard is EN 12101-2, *Specification for natural smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

A.5.2.1 Compatibility between the vent-mounting elements (e.g., holding power, electrochemical interaction, wind lift, building movement) and the building structure to which they are attached needs to be ensured.

A.5.2.2 To avoid inadvertent operation, it is important that the actuating means be selected with regard to the full range of expected ambient conditions.

A.5.2.3 Dip tanks or discrete solvent storage areas are examples of localized hazards where the vents are to be located directly above such hazard.

A.5.3.1 An automatic mechanism for opening the roof vents is stipulated for effective release of heat, smoke, and gaseous by-products. The means of automatic vent actuation must take the anticipated fire into consideration, and an appropriate means of opening vents should be used. If design objectives cannot be met using heat-actuated devices, smoke detectors with appropriate linkages to open vents or other devices that respond more quickly should be considered for use.

A.5.3.2 Latching mechanisms should be jam-proof, corrosion-resistant, dust-resistant, and resistant to pressure differences arising from applicable positive or negative loading resulting from environmental conditions, process operations, overhead doors, or traffic vibrations.

A.5.3.5 The location of the manual device must be coordinated with tactics of the reporting fire department.

If not actually mounted on the vent, the manual device can be connected to the vent by mechanical, electrical, or any other suitable means, protected as necessary to remain operable for the design period.

A.5.4.1.2 See Figure 5.4.2(b) for the measurement of ceiling height and curtain board depth.

A.5.4.2 The spacing of vents is limited to $4H$ to assure that ceiling jet temperatures at the vent are sufficiently high to operate the thermal actuating mechanism at the vent. The spacing limit specified is designed to achieve ceiling jet temperature above ambient at the nearest vent, not less than half the plume temperature above ambient at the point of plume impact on the ceiling. (See Figure A.5.4.2, which reflects the maximum allowable spacing of $4H$.)

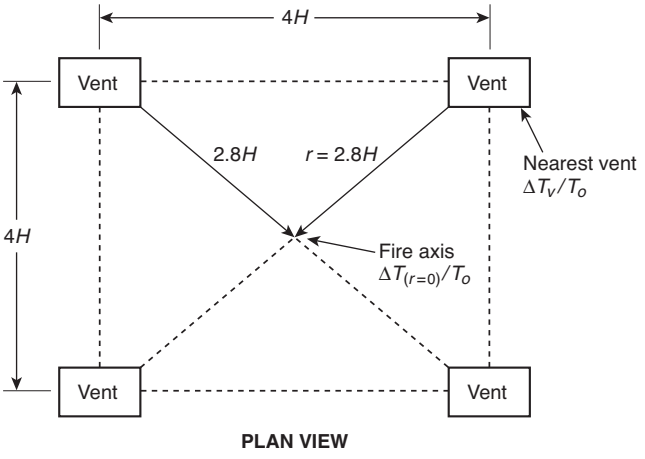


FIGURE A.5.4.2 Vent Spacing in Rectangular Matrix, When $r = 2.8H$, $(\Delta T_v/T_o) = 0.5$ $(\Delta T(r = 0)/T_o)$ (plan view).

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A.5.4.3 The limitation on horizontal distance from a potential fire axis adjacent to a draft curtain or wall is intended to assure ceiling jet temperatures at the vent are sufficiently high to activate the thermal actuating mechanism. The spacing limit specified is designed to achieve ceiling jet temperature above ambient at the nearest vent, not less than half the plume temperature above ambient at the point of plume impact on the ceiling. *(See Figure A.5.4.3.)* This requirement does not reflect the potential for reduced entrainment for a fire adjacent to a wall. This conservatism was knowingly accepted.

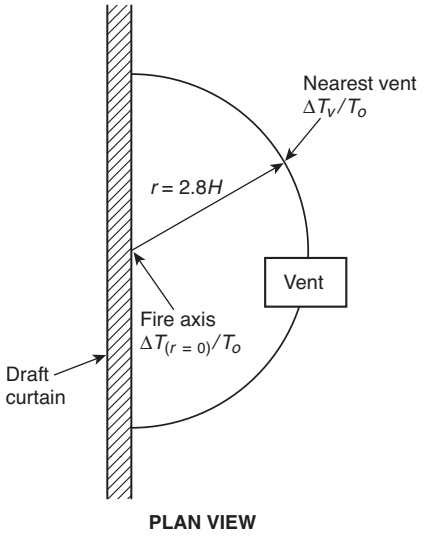


FIGURE A.5.4.3 Vent Spacing near a Draft Curtain, When $r = 2.8H$, $(\Delta T_v/T_o) = 0.5$ $(\Delta T(r = 0/T_o)$ (plan view).

A.6.1 The simplest method of introducing makeup air into the space is through direct openings to the outside, such as doors and louvers, which can be opened upon system activation. Such openings can be coordinated with the architectural design and can be located as required below the design smoke layer. For locations having mechanical smoke exhaust systems where such openings are impractical, a powered supply system could be considered. This could possibly be an adaptation of the building's HVAC system if capacities, outlet grille locations, and velocities are suitable. For such systems, means should be provided to prevent supply systems from operating until exhaust flow has been established, to avoid pressurization of the fire area. For those locations where climates are such that the damage to the space or contents could be extensive during testing or frequent inadvertent operation of the system, consideration should be given to heating the makeup air. See NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems* for additional information on mechanical systems.

A.6.3 Normal practice has been to provide air inlet from low-level air inlets as recommended in previous editions of this standard. In some buildings this may be difficult to achieve, due either to lack of suitable clear wall area or to concerns about loss of security when the air inlets open. In buildings containing more than one curtained area, it can be possible to open vents in curtained areas not affected by smoke to provide inlet air instead. If this is done, then the vents must meet all the requirements of Chapter 6.

A.6.6.3 The inlet air velocity should be limited for three reasons: (1) to avoid disturbing the fire plume and causing excess air entrainment, (2) to limit the degree of depressurization of the space and consequent effects on door opening and closing, and (3) to avoid incoming air hampering escape of occupants.

NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems* sets a limit of 1.02 m/s (200 ft/min) to minimize disturbance of the plume, which will create more entrainment than anticipated.

Excess depressurization of the space will increase door opening forces for outward-opening doors and risk slamming closed for inward-opening doors. Neither situation is acceptable.

Research indicates that people can move reasonably freely against an airflow of up to 10 m/s (32.8 ft/s).

A.7.1 A draft curtain is intended to be relatively smoke-tight. The function of a draft curtain is to intercept the ceiling jet and the entrained smoke produced by a fire in the building. The curtain should prevent the smoke from spreading along the underside of the roof deck to areas of the building located beyond the draft curtain and should create a hot smoke layer that develops buoyancy forces sufficient to exhaust the smoke through the vent openings in the roof. A full-height partition or wall, including an exterior wall, can serve as a draft curtain.

A.7.2 Materials suitable for use as draft curtains include steel sheeting, cementitious panels, and gypsum board.

A.7.2.1 There is an ISO standard for draft curtains (ISO DIS 21927-1, *Specification for smoke barriers*). The ISO standard is technically equivalent to the European (EN) standard for these products. Products that carry the CE mark, which is mandatory for sale of these products within the European Union, are subject to independent testing and ongoing factory production control by Notified Bodies appointed by national governments. The standard is EN 12101-1, *Specification for smoke barriers.*

A.7.3.1 If d_c exceeds 20 percent of H, $H–d_c$ should be not less than 3 m (9.8 ft). For Figure 5.4.2(b), parts (a) through (d), this concept is valid where $\Delta d/d_c$ is much less than 1.

Consideration should be given to minimizing of the expected smoke layer depth with respect to the occupancy. Such arrangement can allow the smoke layer to be maintained above the top of equipment or storage, thus maximizing visibility and reducing nonthermal damage to contents. For buildings of limited height, it can also allow the designer to utilize the primary structural frame to act as a draft curtain (if solid-webbed) or support one (if open-webbed), thus reducing costs.

Also, in a transient situation, prior to achieving equilibrium mass flow, if the smoke layer extends below the top of equipment or storage, that volume displaced by equipment or storage should be subtracted from available space for the smoke layer to accumulate, or the smoke layer depth will extend below that estimated.

A.7.4.1 To ensure that vents remote from the fire within the curtained compartment are effective, the distance between draft curtains or between walls must be limited.

A.7.4.2 From reanalysis of this issue based on Delichatsios [1981], Heskestad and Delichatsios [1978], and Koslowski and Motevalli [1994].

A.8.1 Chapter 8 presents techniques for predicting the heat release rate of various fuel arrays likely to be present in buildings where smoke and heat venting is a potential fire safety provision. It primarily addresses the estimation of fuel concentrations found in storage and manufacturing locations. NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, addresses the types

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of fuel arrays more common to the types of building situations covered by that document. The methods provided in Chapter 8 for predicting the rate of heat release are based on "free burning" conditions, in which no ceiling or smoke layer effects are involved.

A.8.2.2 The minimum aisle width to prevent lateral spread by radiation, W_{min} in Equation 8.2.3, is based on Alpert and Ward [1984]. The values produced by Equation 8.2.3 can be produced from the following equation if χ_r is assumed to be 0.5:

$$\dot{q}''_i = \frac{\chi_r}{4\pi r^2} \qquad \textbf{(A.8.2.2)}$$

A.8.2.6 The heat release rate is taken as the heat release rate per unit area times the floor area of the fuel concentration. The maximum foreseeable storage height (above the fire base) and associated heat release rate should be considered.

The heat release rate per unit area might be available from listings for a given storage height, such as Table A.8.2.6. To establish estimates for other than specified heights, it can be assumed that the heat release rate per unit area is proportional to the storage height, based on tests (Yu and Stavrianidis, 1991) and the data in Table A.8.2.6 for wood pallets. For fuel configurations that have not been tested, other procedures should be used. See Annex E for estimating heat release rates of other fuel arrays.

There is a distinct possibility that a combustible storage array could collapse before the end of the design interval of the venting system. The design interval might end, for example, when manual fire fighting is expected to begin. The fire diameter increases, contributing to increased smoke production (via a lower flame height and virtual origin). However, the heat release rate and fire growth rate after collapse are likely to be smaller than with no collapse. Consequently, it is reasonable to assume that the net effect of collapse is not significant for the calculation procedure.

A.8.3.1 The growth time, t_g, is a measure of the fire growth rate — the smaller the growth time, the faster the fire grows.

A.8.3.2 By comparing Equations 8.3.1 and 8.3.2, the following relation exists:

$$\alpha_g = \frac{1000}{t_g^2} \qquad \textbf{(A.8.3.2)}$$

A.8.3.4 Design objectives and the design interval time, t_r, should take into consideration all of the following critical events:

(1) Arrival and deployment of the emergency response team
(2) Arrival and deployment of fire fighters from the public fire department
(3) Completion of evacuation
(4) Other critical events

A.9.1 The procedures in Chapter 9 are based on the automatic activation of vents by a heat-responsive device with an established response time index (RTI) and known activation temperature. These assumptions do not preclude other means of vent activation, as long as the activation time of the alternative means is known or can be calculated using the procedures contained herein or can be established as acceptable by a specific listing, specific test data, or engineering analysis. Activation by heat detectors, smoke detectors, thermoplastic drop-out vent panels, or other approved means is acceptable as long as the design objectives are met.

Table A.8.2.6 Unit Heat Release Rates for Commodities

Commodity	Heat Release Rate (kW per m^2 of floor area)*
Wood pallets, stacked 0.46 m high (6%–12% moisture)	1,420
Wood pallets, stacked 1.52 m high (6%–12% moisture)	4,000
Wood pallets, stacked 3.05 m high (6%–12% moisture)	6,800
Wood pallets, stacked 4.88 m high (6%–12% moisture)	10,200
Mail bags, filled, stored 1.52 m high	400
Cartons, compartmented, stacked 4.5 m high	1,700
PE letter trays, filled, stacked 1.5 m high on cart	8,500
PE trash barrels in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
FRP shower stalls in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	1,400
PE bottles packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	6,200
PE bottles in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
PU insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.6 m high	1,900
PS jars packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	14,200
PS tubs nested in cartons, stacked 4.2 m high	5,400
PS toy parts in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
PS insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.2 m high	3,300
PVC bottles packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	3,400
PP tubs packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	4,400
PP and PE film in rolls, stacked 4.1 m high	6,200
Methyl alcohol	740
Gasoline	2,500
Kerosene	1,700
Fuel oil, no. 2	1,700

PE: polyethylene. PP: polypropylene. PS: polystyrene. PU: polyurethane. PVC: polyvinyl chloride. FRP: fiberglass-reinforced polyester.
*Heat release rate per unit floor area of fully involved combustibles, based on negligible radiative feedback from the surroundings and 100 percent combustion efficiency.

The equations and procedures for hand calculations in Section 9.2 and the models in Section 9.3 address the venting of limited-growth fires and continuously growing fires.

A.9.1.1 The vent area in a curtained area should not be required to exceed the vent area calculated for the largest limited-growth fire predicted for the combustibles beneath any curtained area. Using sufficiently small concentrations of combustibles and aisles of sufficient width to prevent spread according to Equation 8.2.3, it might be possible to satisfy venting requirements by using vent areas smaller than those required for a vent design and a continuous-growth fire.

A.9.1.4 Many large facilities have buildings or areas subject to differing fire hazards.

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A.9.2.2.1 In Figure 9.2.2.1, z_s is the height of the smoke layer boundary above the base of the fire; H is the distance between the base of the fire and the ceiling; d_c is the depth of the draft curtains; d is the depth of the smoke layer; $\dot{m}_p$ is the mass flow rate of hot gas from the fire plume into the smoke layer; $\dot{m}_v$ is the mass flow rate of hot gas out of the vent (or vents) in the curtained area; and A_v is the vent area in the curtained area (total vent area in the curtained area if more than one vent is provided).

The vent area calculated for equilibrium conditions corresponds to the area needed for a long-term steady fire or to the area needed at the end of a design interval for a slow-growing fire. For shorter-term steady fires and for faster-growing fires, the calculated equilibrium vent area will prevent the smoke layer boundary from descending completely to the bottom of the draft curtains. Therefore, equilibrium calculations represent a safety factor in the design.

A.9.2.3.1 The mass flow rate in the plume depends on whether locations above or below the mean flame height are considered (i.e., whether the flames are below the smoke layer boundary or reach into the smoke layer).

A.9.2.4 The calculations in this section assume that the vent is exhausting only smoke from the smoke layer. When the smoke layer is at its design depth, the provisions for avoidance of plugholing in Section 5.4 will ensure that this is so.

However, during part of the time period when the smoke layer is descending to its design height, the vents will extract a mixture of smoke from the smoke layer and the ambient air from below the smoke layer. They will therefore extract less smoke than the calculations indicate, causing the smoke layer to descend at a faster rate.

Existing research has provided formulae to assess at what point a vent starts plugholing, but not to assess the smoke extract rate while a vent is plugholing.

There is therefore no experimentally validated method of assessing the effect of plugholing on the rate of descent of a smoke layer. A method has been published in BS 7346-5, *Functional recommendations and calculation methods for smoke and heat exhaust ventilation systems employing time-dependent design fires.*

A.9.2.4.1 The mass flow rate through the vent is the product of gas density, velocity, and cross-sectional area of the flow in the vent. The velocity follows from equating the buoyancy head across the vent to the dynamic head in the vent, with consideration of the pressure drop across the air inlets. The factor $[(T_o\Delta T)/T^2]^{1/2}$ is quite insensitive to temperature as long as the smoke layer temperature rise, ΔT, is not small. For example, assuming $T_o = 294$ K, the factor varies through 0.47, 0.50, and 0.47 as the smoke layer temperature rise varies through 150 K, 320 K, and 570 K. At a temperature rise of 60 K, the factor is 0.38, and at a temperature rise of 20 K, it is 0.24, or about one-half its maximum value. Consequently, roof venting by natural ventilation becomes increasingly less effective as the smoke layer temperature decreases. For low smoke layer temperatures, powered ventilation as covered in NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, should be considered.

Where high upper-layer temperatures of 400 K above ambient are anticipated, 80 percent of the predicted vent flow is expected to be achieved with an inlet area/vent area ratio of 1, whereas it is expected that 90 percent of the vent flow will result from a ratio of 2. Where relatively low upper-layer temperatures, such as 200 K above ambient, are expected, a ratio of inlet air/vent area of 1 would result in about 70 percent of the predicted vent flow, whereas a ratio of 2 would be expected to produce about 90 percent of the predicted vent flow.

A.9.2.4.2 The aerodynamic vent area is always smaller than the geometric vent area, A_v. A discharge coefficient of 0.6 should be reasonable for most vents and for doors and windows that open at least 45 degrees. However, the discharge coefficient can be different for other types of openings. For example, an opening with a louver can have a coefficient ranging between 0.1 and 0.4.

A.9.2.5.4.1 For continuous-growth fires, the earlier the fire is detected and vents actuated, the smaller the fire size at the end of the design interval and the smaller the required vent area. In the case of limited-growth fires, the earlier the fire is detected and the vents actuated, the less likely to occur are an initial underspill of smoke at the draft curtains and smoke layer descent to low heights.

If a design objective is to confine smoke to the curtained area of origin, the time the last required vent opens, t_{vo}, should not exceed the time the smoke layer boundary drops below draft curtains, which can be determined in accordance with Equation A.9.2.5.4.1a for steady fires and Equation A.9.2.5.4.2.1b for unsteady fires.

$$\frac{z_{si}}{H} = 0.67 - 0.28 \ln\left[\frac{\left(tQ^{1/3}/H^{4/3}\right)}{\left(A_c/H^2\right)}\right] \quad \textbf{(A.9.2.5.4.1a)}$$

$$\frac{z_{si}}{H} = 0.23\left[\frac{t}{t_g^{2/5}\left(H^{4/5}\right)\left(A_c/H^2\right)^{3/5}}\right]^{-1.45} \quad \textbf{(A.9.2.5.4.1b)}$$

where:

z_{si} = height of smoke layer interface above the base of the fire
t = time (s)
Q = total heat release rate
H = ceiling height above base of fire
A_c = curtained area being filled with smoke (m^2)

A.9.2.5.4.2.1 The response data in *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, assume extensive, flat, horizontal ceilings.

This assumption might appear optimistic for installations involving beamed ceilings. However, any delay in operation due to beams is at least partially offset by the opposite effects of the following:

(1) Heat banking up under the ceiling because of draft curtains or walls
(2) The nearest vent or detector usually being closer to the fire than the assumed, greatest possible distance

Fusible links are commonly used as actuators for mechanically opened heat and smoke vents. Where the response time index (RTI) and fusing temperature of a fusible link are known, and assuming that the link is submerged in the ceiling jet, the relationships described in *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, for heat-actuated alarm devices can be used to estimate the opening of a mechanical vent.

A.9.2.5.4.3.1 This requirement does not have a parallel in *NFPA 72, National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*. Temperature rise for activation of smoke detectors depends on the specific detector as well as the material undergoing combustion. Limited data on temperature rise at detection have previously been recorded in the range of 2°C to 42°C, depending on the detector/material combination [Heskestad and Delichatsios, 1977].

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A.9.2.5.4.4.1 A computer program known as DETACT-T2 (Detector Actuation — time squared) [Evans and Stroup, 1985] is available for calculating the detection times of heat detectors or fusible links in continuous-growth, *t*-squared fires. DETACT-T2 assumes the detector is located in a large compartment with an unconfined ceiling, where there is no accumulation of hot gases at the ceiling. Thus, heating of the detector is only from the flow of hot gases along the ceiling. Input data consist of ceiling height, time constant or RTI of the detector, operating temperature, distance of the detector from plume centerline, and fire growth rate. The model calculates detection times for smoke detectors *(see 9.2.5.4.3)* based on the predecessor equations. The predecessor equations assume complete combustion of the test fuel used in the experiments used to develop the equations based on the actual heat of combustion:

$$\frac{u}{\left(\Delta T_g / T_o\right) g H^{1/2}} = 0.59\left(\frac{r}{H}\right)^{-0.63} \quad \textbf{(A.9.2.5.4.4.1)}$$

where:

u = gas velocity at detector site
r = radius from fire axis
ΔT_g = gas temperature rise from ambient at detector/sprinkler site
T_o = ambient air temperature
g = acceleration of gravity
H = ceiling height (above combustibles)

However, DETACT-T2 can still be used, provided that the projected fire growth coefficient, α_g, is multiplied by the factor 1.67. In addition, when DETACT-T2 is used, the outputs of heat release rate at detector response from the program calculations must be divided by 1.67 in order to establish heat release rates at detector response.

A.9.2.5.4.4.2 Another program, DETACT-QS (Detector Actuation — quasi-steady) [Evans and Stroup, 1985], is available for calculating detection times of heat detectors, fusible links, and smoke detectors in fires of arbitrary fire growth. DETACT-QS assumes that the detector is located in a large compartment with an unconfined ceiling, where there is no accumulation of hot gases at the ceiling. Thus, heating of the detector is only from the flow of hot gases along the ceiling. Input data consist of ceiling height, time constant or RTI of the detector, operating temperature, distance of the detector from the plume centerline, and fire growth rate. The model calculates detection times for smoke detectors *(see 9.2.5.4.3)* based on the predecessor equations. Quasi-steady temperatures and velocities are assumed (i.e., instantaneously, gas temperatures and velocities under the ceiling are assumed to be related to the heat release rate as in a steady fire). Compared to DETACT-T2, DETACT-QS provides a means of addressing fires that cannot be approximated as *t*-squared fires. However, for *t*-squared fires, DETACT-QS is less accurate than DETACT-T2 (if the projected fire growth coefficient is increased as described in 9.2.5.4.4.1 and A.9.2.5.4.4.1), especially for fast-growing fires.

A.10.1 There is an ISO standard for mechanical smoke extract (ISO DIS 21927-3, *Specification for powered smoke and heat exhaust ventilators*). The ISO standard is technically equivalent to the European (EN) standard for these products. Products that carry the CE mark, which is mandatory for sale of these products within the European Union, are subject to independent testing and ongoing factory production control by Notified Bodies appointed by national governments. The standard is EN 12101-3, *Specification for powered smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

A.10.1.1 Where temperature differences of less than 110°C (230°F) are expected, vent flows might be reduced significantly; therefore, consideration should be given to using powered exhaust. NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, should be consulted for guidance for power venting at these lower temperatures.

A.10.4 The sizing and spacing of exhaust fan intakes should balance the following concerns:

(1) The exhaust intakes need to be sufficiently close to one another to prevent the smoke from cooling to the point that it loses buoyancy as it travels along the underside of the ceiling to an intake and descends from the ceiling. This is particularly important for spaces where the length is greater than the height, such as shopping malls.
(2) The exhaust intakes need to be sized and distributed in the space to minimize the likelihood of air beneath the smoke layer from being drawn through the layer. This phenomenon is called plugholing.

The objective of distributing fan inlets is therefore to establish a gentle and generally uniform rate over the entire smoke layer. To accomplish this, the velocity of the exhaust inlet should not exceed the value determined from Equation A.10.4.

For plugholing calculations, the smoke temperature should be calculated as follows:

$$T = T_o + \frac{KQ_c}{mC_p} \quad \textbf{(A.10.4)}$$

where:

T = smoke layer temperature (°F)
T_o = ambient temperature (°F)
K = fraction of convective energy contained in the smoke layer gases
Q_c = convective portion of heat release (Btu/sec)
m = mass flow rate of the plume (lb/sec)
C_p = specific heat of plume gases (0.24 Btu/lb-°F)

A value of $K = 0.5$ is suggested unless more detailed information is available.

A.10.4.3 The plugholing equation of this paragraph is consistent with and derived from the scale model studies of Spratt and Heselden [1974]. The equation is also consistent with the recent study of Nii, Nitta, Harada, and Yamaguchi [2003].

A.10.4.4 The γ factor of 1.0 applies to ceiling vents remote from a wall. *Remote* is regarded as a separation greater than two times the depth of the smoke layer below the lower point of the exhaust opening.

A.10.4.5 The γ factor of 0.5 is based upon potential flow considerations for a ceiling vent adjacent to a wall. While γ should vary smoothly from 0.5 for a vent directly adjacent to a wall to 1.0 for a ceiling vent remote from a wall, the available data do not support this level of detail in the requirements of the standard.

A.10.4.6 The γ factor of 0.5 is used for all wall vents. Because no data exist for wall exhausts, a value of γ greater than 0.5 could not be justified.

A.10.4.7 Noise due to exhaust fan operation or due to velocity at the exhaust inlet should be limited to allow the fire alarm signal to be heard.

A.11.1 Chapters 4 through 10 represent the state of technology of vent and draft curtain board design in the absence of sprinklers. A broadly accepted equivalent design basis for using sprinklers, vents, and curtain boards together for hazard control (e.g.,

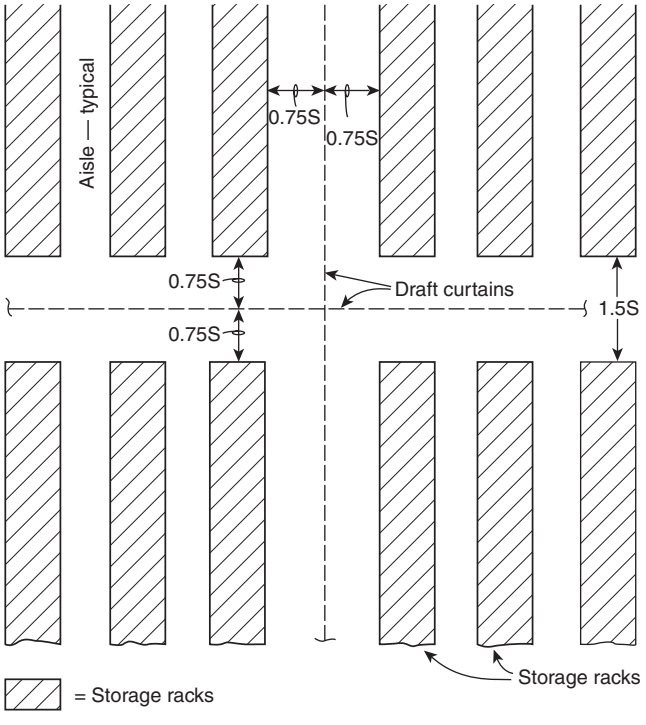
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life safety, property protection, water usage, obscuration) is currently not available. Designers are cautioned that the use of venting with automatic sprinklers is an area of ongoing research to determine its benefit and effect in conjunction with automatic suppression. See Section F.3 for more information.

A.11.2 Smoke and heat vents should be designed not to adversely impact the performance of the automatic sprinkler system. See 12.1.1 of NFPA 13. Testing and computer model studies conducted to date that have addressed the interaction of smoke and heat vents have been limited to control mode sprinklers. Because ESFR sprinklers have not been considered in any such studies, use of the guidance in this document is not applicable to ESFR sprinklers. The RTI is considerably lower than, and the required water discharge per sprinkler is considerably higher than, those of control mode sprinklers. There is concern that early operation of a smoke and heat venting system could adversely affect the performance of the fire suppression provided by ESFR sprinklers.

A.11.3 Figure A.11.3 shows the recommended spacing of sprinklers with respect to the draft curtain locations.

A.12.1 Regular inspection and maintenance is essential for emergency equipment and systems that are not subjected to their intended use for many years.



Example: Sprinkler spacing is 10 ft (3 m) in both directions.
Minimum spacing between face of storage and draft curtain is 7.5 ft (2.3 m) so minimum aisle space at draft curtain > 15 ft (4.6 m).

FIGURE A.11.3 Recommended Sprinkler Spacing with Respect to Draft Curtain Locations.

A.12.2 Various types of approved automatic thermal smoke and heat vents are available commercially. These vents fall into the following two general categories:

(1) Mechanically opened vents, which include spring-lift, pneumatic-lift, or electric motor-driven vents
(2) Thermoplastic drop-out vents, which include polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or acrylic drop-out panels

Thermoplastic drop-out vents do not allow nondestructive operation.

A.12.3.1.4 Vents designed for multiple functions (e.g., the entrance of daylight, roof access, comfort ventilation) need maintenance of the fire protection function that might be impaired by the other uses. These impairments can include loss of spring tension; racking or wear of moving parts; adverse exterior cooling effects on the fire protection release mechanism; adverse changes in performance sequence, such as premature heat actuation leading to opening of the vent; or reduced sensitivity to heat.

A.12.3.2.2 Inspection schedules should include provisions for testing all units at 12-month intervals or on a schedule based on a percentage of the total units to be tested every month or every two months. Such procedures improve reliability. A change in occupancy, or in neighboring occupancies, and in materials being used could introduce a significant change in the nature or severity of corrosive atmosphere exposure, debris accumulation, or physical encumbrance and could necessitate a change in the inspection schedule.

A.12.3.2.3 Recording and logging of all pertinent characteristics of performance allows results to be compared with those of previous inspections or acceptance tests and thus provides a basis for determining the need for maintenance or for modifying the frequency of the inspection schedule to fit the experience.

A.12.3.3.1 The same general considerations for inspection that apply to mechanically opened vents also pertain to thermoplastic drop-out vents. The thermoplastic panels of these vents are designed to soften and drop out from the vent opening in response to the heat of a fire. This makes an operational test after installation impracticable. Recognized fire protection testing laboratories have developed standards and procedures for evaluating thermoplastic drop-out vents, including factory and field inspection schedules. It is suggested that laboratory recommendations be followed for the field inspection of such units.

A.12.3.3.2 Thermoplastic drop-out vents utilize various types of plastics such as PVC and acrylic. Without the presence of ultraviolet (UV) stabilizers, exposure to UV rays can cause degradation and failure of the thermoplastic component (dome). Indication of UV degradation includes yellowing, browning, or blackening of the dome, as well as cracking or a brittle texture of the dome. (This condition can prevent proper operation of the thermoplastic material; i.e., it will not operate at its design activation temperature.) Corrective action requires replacing the thermoplastic dome with a dome having an equivalent thermal response.

A.12.4.1.3 The whipping action of the cable on release presents a possibility of injury to anyone in the area. For this reason, the person conducting the test should ensure that all personnel are well clear of the area where whipping of the cable might occur.

A.13.1 Design documentation is critical to the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of the smoke and heat vent systems. It forms the basis for evaluating the system's adequacy to perform as intended if the building or its use is modified.

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Annex B The Theoretical Basis of LAVENT

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

B.1 Overview. This annex develops the physical basis and an associated mathematical model for estimating the fire-generated environment and the response of sprinkler links in well-ventilated compartment fires with curtain boards and ceiling vents actuated by heat-responsive elements such as fusible links or thermoplastic drop-out panels. Complete equations and assumptions are presented. Phenomena taken into account include the following:

(1) Flow dynamics of the upward-driven, buoyant fire plume
(2) Growth of the elevated-temperature smoke layer in the curtained compartment
(3) Flow of smoke from the layer to the outside through open ceiling vents
(4) Flow of smoke below curtain partitions to building spaces adjacent to the curtained space of fire origin
(5) Continuation of the fire plume in the upper layer
(6) Heat transfer to the ceiling surface and the thermal response of the ceiling as a function of radial distance from the point of plume–ceiling impingement
(7) Velocity and temperature distribution of plume-driven near-ceiling flows and the response of near-ceiling–deployed fusible links as functions of distance below the ceiling
(8) Distance from plume–ceiling impingement

The theory presented here is the basis of the LAVENT computer program that is supported by a user guide, which is presented in Annex C, and that can be used to study parametrically a wide range of relevant fire scenarios [1–3].

B.2 Introduction. The space under consideration is a space of a plan area, A, defined by ceiling-mounted curtain boards with a fire of time-dependent energy release rate, $\dot{Q}(t)$, and with open ceiling vents of total time-dependent area, $A_V(t)$. The curtained area can be considered as one of several such spaces in a large building compartment. Also, by specifying that the curtains be deep enough, they can be thought of as simulating the walls of a single, uncurtained compartment. This annex presents the physical basis and associated mathematical model for estimating the fire-generated environment and the response of sprinkler links in curtained compartment fires with ceiling vents actuated by heat-responsive elements such as fusible links or thermoplastic drop-out panels.

The overall building compartment is assumed to have near-floor wall vents that are large enough to maintain the inside environment, below any near-ceiling smoke layers that could form, at assumed initial outside-ambient conditions. Figure F.2(a) depicts the generic fire scenario for the space under consideration. The assumption of large near-floor wall vents necessitates that the modeling be restricted to conditions where y, the elevation of the smoke layer interface, is above the floor elevation (i.e., $y > 0$). The assumption also has important implications with regard to the cross-ceiling vent pressure differential. This is the pressure differential that drives elevated-temperature upper-layer smoke through the ceiling vents to the outside. Therefore, below the smoke layer (i.e., from the floor of the facility to the elevation of the smoke layer interface), the inside-to-outside hydrostatic pressure differential exists at all elevations in the reduced-density smoke layer itself (higher pressure inside the curtained area, lower pressure in the outside environment), the maximum differential occurring at the ceiling and across the open ceiling vents.

B.3 The Basic Equations. A two-layer, zone-type compartment fire model is used to describe the phenomena under investigation. As is typical in such models, the upper smoke layer of total mass, m_U, is assumed to be uniform in density, ρ_U, and absolute temperature, T_U.

The following time-dependent equations describe conservation of energy, mass, and the perfect gas law in the upper smoke layer.

Conservation of energy,

$$\frac{d\left[\left(y_{ceil}-y\right)\rho_U T_U A C_V\right]}{dt} = \dot{q}_U + \left(\rho A \frac{dy}{dt}\right) \tag{B.3a}$$

Conservation of mass,

$$\frac{dm_U}{dt} = \dot{m}_U \tag{B.3b}$$

$$m_U = \left(y_{ceil}-y\right)\rho_U A \tag{B.3c}$$

Perfect gas law,

$$\frac{\rho_U}{R} \propto \frac{\rho}{R} = constant = \rho_U T_U = \rho_{amb} T_{amb} \tag{B.3d}$$

That is,

$$T_U = \frac{T_{amb}\rho_{amb}}{\rho_U} \tag{B.3e}$$

In the preceding equations, y_{ceil} is the elevation of the ceiling above the floor, $R = C_p - C_V$ is the gas constant, C_p and C_V are the specific heats at a constant pressure and volume, respectively, and p is a constant characteristic pressure (e.g., p_{atm}) at the floor elevation. In Equation B.3a, $\dot{q}_U$ is the net rate of enthalpy flow plus heat transfer to the upper layer and is made up of flow components as follows: $\dot{q}_{curt}$, from below the curtain; $\dot{q}_{plume}$, from the plume; $\dot{q}_{vent}$, from the ceiling vent; and the component $\dot{q}_{HT}$, the total heat transfer rate.

$$\dot{q}_U = \dot{q}_{curt} + \dot{q}_{plume} + \dot{q}_{vent} + \dot{q}_{HT} \tag{B.3f}$$

In Equation B.3b, $\dot{m}_U$ is the net rate of mass flow to the upper layer with flow components; $\dot{m}_{curt}$, from below the curtain; $\dot{m}_{plume}$, from the plume; and $\dot{m}_{vent}$, from the ceiling vent.

$$\dot{m}_U = \dot{m}_{curt} + \dot{m}_{plume} + \dot{m}_{vent} \tag{B.3g}$$

Using Equation B.3c in Equation B.3a leads to

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \frac{\dot{q}_U}{AC_\rho \rho_{amb} T_{amb}} \tag{B.3h}$$

if

$$y = y_{ceil} \text{ and } \dot{q}_U \geq 0$$

or

$$0 < y > y_{ceil} \text{ and } \dot{q}_U \text{ is arbitrary}$$

Because both of these conditions are satisfied, Equation B.3h is always applicable.

The basic problem of mathematically simulating the growth and properties of the upper layer for the generic Figure F.2(a) scenario necessitates the solution of the system of Equation B.3b and Equation B.3h for m_U and y. When $m_U > 0$,

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ρ_U can be computed from Equation B.3c according to the following:

$$\rho_U = \frac{(y_{ceil} - y)A}{m_U}; \text{ if } m_U > 0 \qquad \textbf{(B.3i)}$$

and T_U can be determined from Equation B.3e.

B.4 Mass Flow and Enthalpy Flow Plus Heat Transfer.

B.4.1 Flow to the Upper Layer from the Vents. Conservation of momentum across all open ceiling vents as expressed by Bernoulli's equation leads to the following:

$$V = C\left(\frac{2\Delta\rho_{ceil}}{\rho_U}\right)^{1/2} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.1a)}$$

$$\dot{m}_{vent} = -\rho_U A_V V = -A_V C\left(2\rho_U \Delta\rho_{ceil}\right)^{1/2} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.1b)}$$

where:

V = the average velocity through all open vents
C = the vent flow coefficient (0.68) [4]
$\Delta\rho_{ceil}$ = the cross-vent pressure difference

From hydrostatics,

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\rho_{ceil} &= \rho_U(y = y_{ceil}) - \rho_{amb}(y = y_{ceil}) \\ &= (\rho_{amb} - \rho_U) g (y_{ceil} - y)\end{aligned} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.1c)}$$

where:

g = the acceleration of gravity

Substituting Equation B.4.1c into Equation B.4.1b leads to the desired $\dot{m}_{vent}$ result, as follows:

$$\dot{m}_{vent} = -A_V C\left[2\rho_U(\rho_{amb} - \rho_U) g (y_{ceil} - y)\right]^{1/2} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.1d)}$$

which is equivalent to the equations used to estimate ceiling vent flow rates *(see Equation 9.2.4.1 and references [5] and [6])*. Using Equation B.4.1d, the desired $\dot{q}_{vent}$ result is as follows:

$$\dot{q}_{vent} = \dot{m}_{vent} C_P T_U \qquad \textbf{(B.4.1e)}$$

B.4.2 Flow to the Layer from the Plume and Radiation from the Fire. It is assumed that the mass generation rate of the fire is small compared to $\dot{m}_{ent}$, the rate of mass of air entrained into the plume between the fire elevation, y_{fire}, and the layer interface, or compared to other mass flow rate components of $\dot{m}_U$. It is also assumed that all of the $\dot{m}_{ent}$ penetrates the layer interface and enters the upper layer. Therefore,

$$\dot{m}_{plume} = \dot{m}_{ent} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.2a)}$$

$$\dot{q}_{plume} = \dot{m}_{ent} C_P T_{amb} + (1 - \lambda_r)\dot{Q} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.2b)}$$

The first term on the right side of Equation B.4.2b is the enthalpy associated with $\dot{m}_{ent}$, and λ_r, in the second term in Equation B.4.2b, is the effective fraction of $\dot{Q}$ assumed to be radiated isotropically from the fire's combustion zone.

It is assumed that the smoke layer is relatively transparent and that it does not participate in any significant radiation heat transfer exchanges. In particular, all of the $\lambda_r Q$ radiation is assumed to be incident on the bounding surfaces of the compartment. Therefore, the last term of Equation B.4.2b is the net amount of enthalpy added to the upper layer from the combustion zone and its buoyancy-driven plume. Flaming fires exhibit values for λ_r of $0 < \lambda_r < 0.6$ (e.g., smallest values for small methane fires and highest values for large polystyrene fires). However, for a hazardous fire involving a wide range of common groupings of combustibles, it is reasonable to approximate flame radiation by choosing $\lambda \propto 0.35$ [7].

A specific plume entrainment model is necessary to complete Equations B.4.1e and B.4.2a for $\dot{m}_{plume}$ and $\dot{q}_{plume}$. The following estimate for $\dot{m}_{ent}$ [8, 9] is adopted as follows:

$$\dot{m}_{ent} = \begin{cases} 0; \quad \text{if } y - y_{fire} \le 0; \\ 0.0054\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]\dfrac{y - y_{fire}}{L_{flame}}; \text{ if } 0 < \dfrac{y - y_{fire}}{L_{flame}} < 1 \\ 0.071\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{1/3} \\ \times\left\{(y - y_{fire} - L_{flame}) + 0.166\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{2/5}\right\}^{5/3} \\ \times\left[1 + \dfrac{\in}{\left\{(y - y_{fire} - L_{flame}) + 0.166\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{2/5}\right\}^{5/3}}\right]; \\ \text{if } \dfrac{y - y_{fire}}{L_{flame}} \ge 1 \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.2c)}$$

where $\dot{m}_{ent}$ is in kg/s, $\dot{Q}$ is in kW, and y, y_{fire}, L_{flame} are in m and where

$$\frac{L_{flame}}{D_{fire}} = \begin{cases} 0; \quad \text{if } \dfrac{0.249\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{2/5}}{D_{fire}} - 1.02 < 0 \\ \dfrac{0.249\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{2/5}}{D_{fire}} - 1.02; \\ \text{if } \dfrac{0.249\left[(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\right]^{2/5}}{D_{fire}} - 1.02 \ge 0 \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.2d)}$$

where $\dot{Q}$ is in kW, D_{fire} is in m, and

$$\in = \left(\frac{0.0054}{0.071}\right) - (0.166)^{5/3} = 0.02591682\ldots \approx 0.026 \qquad \textbf{(B.4.2e)}$$

In Equations B.4.2c through B.4.2e,

L_{flame} is the fire's flame length.

D_{fire} is the effective diameter of the fire source ($\pi D^2_{fire}/4$ = area of the fire source).

$\in$ is chosen so that, analytically, the value of $\dot{m}_{ent}$ is exactly continuous at the elevation $y = y_{fire} + L_{flame}$.

B.4.3 Flow to the Layer from Below the Curtains. If the upper layer interface, y, drops below the elevation of the bottom of the curtains, y_{curt}, mass and enthalpy flows occur from the upper layer of the curtained area where the fire is located to adjacent curtained areas of the overall building compartment. The mass flow rate is the result of hydrostatic cross-curtain pressure differentials. Provided adjacent curtained areas are not yet filled with smoke, this pressure difference increases linearly from zero at the layer interface to Δp_{curt} at $y = y_{curt}$.

From hydrostatics,

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta\rho_{curt} &= \rho_U(y = y_{curt}) - \rho_{amb}(y = y_{curt}) \\ &= (\rho_{amb} - \rho_U) g (y_{curt} - y)\end{aligned} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.3a)}$$

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Using Equation B.4.3a together with well-known vent flow relations (e.g., Equation 32 of reference [4]), $\dot{m}_{curt}$ and $\dot{q}_{curt}$ can be estimated from the following:

$$\dot{m}_{curt} = \begin{cases} 0; & \text{if } y \geq y_{curt} \\ -\frac{L_{curt}}{3}\left[8(y_{curt}-y)^3 \rho_U (\rho_{amb}-\rho_U) g\right]^{1/2}; & \text{if } y \leq y_{curt} \end{cases} \quad \textbf{(B.4.3b)}$$

$$\dot{q}_{curt} = \dot{m}_{curt} C_P T_U \quad \textbf{(B.4.3c)}$$

where L_{curt} is that length of the perimeter of the curtained areas of the fire origin that is connected to other curtained areas of the overall building compartment. For example, if the curtained area is in one corner of the building compartment, then the length of its two sides coincident with the walls of the compartment are not included in L_{curt}. Because the generic vent flow configuration under consideration in this case is long and deep, a flow coefficient for the vent flow incorporated into Equation B.4.3b is taken to be 1.

B.4.4 Heat Transfer to the Upper Layer. As discussed in B.4.3, where the fire is below the layer interface, the buoyant fire plume rises toward the ceiling, and all of its mass and enthalpy flow, $\dot{m}_{plume}$ and $\dot{q}_{plume}$, are assumed to be deposited into the upper layer. Having penetrated the interface, the plume continues to rise toward the ceiling of the curtained compartment. As it impinges on the ceiling surface, the plume flow turns and forms a relatively high-temperature, high-velocity, turbulent ceiling jet that flows radially outward along the ceiling and transfers heat to the relatively cool ceiling surface. The ceiling jet is cooled by convection, and the ceiling material is heated by conduction. The convective heat transfer rate is a strong function of the radial distance from the point of plume–ceiling impingement and reduces rapidly with increasing radius. It is dependent also on the characteristics of the plume immediately upstream of ceiling impingement.

The ceiling jet is blocked eventually by the curtains, wall surfaces, or both. It then turns downward and forms vertical surface flows. In the case of wall surfaces and very deep curtains, the descent of these flows is stopped eventually by upward buoyant forces, and they finally mix with the upper layer. In this case, it is assumed that the plume–ceiling impingement point is relatively far from the closest curtain or wall surface (e.g., greater than a few fire-to-ceiling lengths). Under such circumstances, the ceiling jet–wall flow interactions are relatively weak, and compared to the net rate of heat transfer from the ceiling and near the plume–ceiling impingement point, the heat transfer to the upper layer from all vertical surfaces is relatively small.

Define λ_{conv} as the fraction of $\dot{Q}$ that is transferred by convection from the upper-layer gas ceiling jet to the ceiling and to the vertical wall and curtain surfaces as follows:

$$\dot{q}_{HT} = -\lambda_{conv}\dot{Q} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4)}$$

Once the values of $\lambda_{conv}\dot{Q}$ and $\dot{q}_{HT}$ are determined from a time-dependent solution to the coupled, ceiling jet–ceiling material, convection-conduction problem, the task of determining an estimate for each component of $\dot{q}_U$ and $\dot{m}_U$ in Equations B.3f and B.3g, respectively, is complete.

B.4.4.1 Properties of the Plume in the Upper Layer When $y_{fire} < y$. Those instances of the fire elevation being below the interface (i.e., when $y_{fire} < y$) are considered here.

As the plume flow moves to the center of the upper layer, the forces of buoyancy that act to drive the plume toward the ceiling (i.e., as a result of relatively high-temperature, low-density plume gases being submerged in a relatively cool, high-density ambient environment) are reduced immediately because of the temperature increase of the upper-layer environment over that of the lower ambient. As a result, the continued ascent of the plume gases is less vigorous (i.e., ascent is at reduced velocity) and of higher temperature than it would be in the absence of the layer. Indeed, some of the penetrating plume flow will be at a lower temperature than T_U. The upper-layer buoyant forces on this latter portion of the flow actually retard and can possibly stop its subsequent rise to the ceiling.

A simple point-source plume model [10] is used to simulate the plume flow, first immediately below or upstream of the interface and then throughout the depth of the upper layer itself.

A plume above a point source of buoyancy [10], where the source is below the interface, will be considered to be equivalent to the plume of a fire (in the sense of having identical mass and enthalpy flow rates at the interface) if the point-source strength is $(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}$ and the elevation of the equivalent source, y_{eq}, satisfies the following:

$$\dot{m}_{plume} = 0.21 \rho_{amb} g^{1/2} \left(y - y_{eq}\right)^{5/2} \dot{Q}_{eq}^{*1/3} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1a)}$$

In Equation B.4.4.1a, $\dot{Q}_{eq}^*$, a dimensionless measure of the strength of the fire plume at the interface, is defined as follows:

$$\dot{Q}_{eq}^* = \frac{(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}}{\rho_{amb} C_P T_{amb} g^{1/2} \left(y - y_{eq}\right)^{5/2}} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1b)}$$

It should be noted that at an arbitrary moment of time on the simulation of a fire scenario, $\dot{m}_{plume}$ in Equation B.4.4.1a, is a known value that is determined previously from Equations B.4.2a and B.4.2c.

Using Equations B.4.4.1a and B.4.4.1b to solve for y_{eq} and $\dot{Q}_{eq}^*$,

$$y_{eq} = y - \left[\frac{(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}}{\dot{Q}_{eq}^* \rho_{amb} C_P T_{amb} g^{1/2}}\right]^{2/5} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1c)}$$

$$\dot{Q}_{eq}^* = \left[\frac{0.21(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}}{C_P T_{amb} \dot{m}_{plume}}\right]^{3/2} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1d)}$$

As the plume crosses the interface, the fraction, $\dot{m}^*$, of $\dot{m}_{plume}$, that is still buoyant relative to the upper-layer environment and presumably continues to rise to the ceiling, entraining upper-layer gases along the way, is predicted [11] to be as follows:

$$\dot{m}^* = \begin{cases} 0; & \text{if } -1 < \sigma \leq 0 \\ \dfrac{1.04599\sigma + 0.360391\sigma^2}{1.0 + 1.37748\sigma + 0.360391\sigma^2}; & \text{if } \sigma > 0 \end{cases} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1e)}$$

where the dimensionless parameter, σ, is defined as follows:

$$\sigma = \frac{1 - \alpha + C_T Q_{eq}^{*2/3}}{\alpha - 1} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1f)}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{T_U}{T_{amb}} \quad \textbf{(B.4.4.1g)}$$

where C_T = 9.115 and where $\dot{Q}_{eq}^*$ is the value computed in Equation B.4.4.1d.

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The parameters necessary to describe plume flow continuation in the upper layer (i.e., between y and y_{ceil}) are further identified [11] according to a point-source plume [10]. It has been determined that this plume can be modeled as being driven by a nonradiating buoyant source of strength, $\dot{Q}'$, located a distance

$$H = y_{ceil} - y'_{source} > y_{ceil} - y_{fire} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.4.1h)}$$

below the ceiling in a downward-extended upper-layer environment of temperature, T_U, and density, ρ_U. The relevant parameters predicted [11] are as follows:

$$\dot{Q}' = \frac{(1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}\sigma\dot{m}^*}{1+\sigma} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.4.1i)}$$

$$y'_{source} = y - \left(y - y_{eq}\right)\alpha^{3/5}\dot{m}^{*2/5}\left(\frac{1+\sigma}{\sigma}\right)^{1/5} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.4.1j)}$$

The fire and the equivalent source in the lower layer and the continuation source in the upper layer are depicted in Figure B.4.4.1, parts (a) through (c). Those times during a fire simulation when Equation B.4.4.1f predicts $\sigma > 1$ are related to states of the fire environment in which the temperature distribution above T_{amb} of the plume flow, at the elevation of interface penetration, is predicted to be mostly much larger than $T_U - T_{amb}$. Under such circumstances, the penetrating plume flow is still very strongly buoyant as it enters the upper layer. The plume continues to rise to the ceiling and to drive ceiling jet convective heat transfer at rates that differ only slightly (due to the elevated temperature upper-layer environment) from the heat transfer rates that could occur in the absence of an upper layer.

Conditions where Equation B.4.4.1f predicts $\sigma < 0$ are related to times during a fire scenario when the temperature of the plume at the elevation of interface penetration is predicted to be uniformly less than T_U. Under such circumstances, the penetration plume flow is not positively (i.e., upward) buoyant at any point as it enters the upper layer. Therefore, while all of this flow is assumed to enter and mix with the upper layer, it is predicted that none of it rises to the ceiling in a coherent plume (i.e., $\dot{Q}' = 0$). For this reason, where $\sigma < 0$, the existence of any significant ceiling jet flow is precluded, along with significant convective heat transfer to the ceiling surface or to near-ceiling–deployed fusible links.

The preceding analysis assumes that $y_{fire} < y$. However, at the onset of the fire scenario, $y_{fire} < y = y_{ceil}$ and α, σ, and $\dot{m}^*$ of Equation B.4.4.1e through Equation B.4.4.1h, which depend on the indeterminate initial value of T_U, are themselves undefined. The situation at $t = 0$ is properly taken into account if $Q = (1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}$ and

$$y'_{source} = y_{eq} \quad \text{at } t = 0$$

.

B.4.4.2 General Properties of the Plume in the Upper Layer. When the fire is below the interface, the results of Equations B.4.4.1i and B.4.4.1j allow the fire-driven plume dynamics in the upper layer to be described according to the point-source plume model [10]. If the fire is at or above the interface (i.e., $y_{fire} \geq y$), then $\dot{m}_{plume} = 0$, $\dot{q}_{plume} = (1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}$, and the point-source model is used once again to simulate the upper-layer plume flow. All cases can be treated using the following modified versions of original Equations B.4.4.1i and B.4.4.1j:

$$\dot{Q}' = \begin{cases} \dfrac{(1-\lambda_r)Q\sigma\dot{m}^*}{(1+\sigma)}; & \text{if } y_{fire} < y < y_{ceil} \\ (1-\lambda_r)\dot{Q}; & \text{if } y_{fire} \geq y \quad \text{or} \quad \text{if } y = y_{ceil} \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.4.2a)}$$

$$y'_{source} = \begin{cases} y_{fire;} & \text{if } y \leq y_{fire} < y_{ceil} \\ y - \left(y - y_{eq}\right)\alpha^{3/5}\dot{m}^{*2/5}\left(\dfrac{1+\sigma}{\sigma}\right)^{1/5}; & \text{if } y_{fire} < y < y_{ceil} \\ y_{eq}; & \text{if } y = y_{ceil} \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.4.2b)}$$

where y_{eq}, $\dot{m}^*$, σ, and α are calculated from Equations B.4.4.1c through B.4.4.1g.

B.4.5 Computing $\dot{q}HT$ and the Thermal Response of the Ceiling. Where the fire is below the interface and the interface is below the ceiling, the method used for calculating the heat transfer from the plume-driven ceiling jet to the ceiling and the thermal response of the ceiling is from reference [12]. This method was developed to treat generic, confined-ceiling, room fire scenarios. As outlined in this method [12], the confined ceiling problem is solved by applying the unconfined ceiling heat transfer solution [13–15] to the problem of an upper-layer source in an extended upper-layer environment equivalent to Equations B.4.4.2a and B.4.4.2b. When the fire is about the interface, the unconfined ceiling methodology applies directly.

To use the methods in references [12–15], an arbitrary moment of time during the course of the fire development is considered. It is assumed that the temperature distribution of

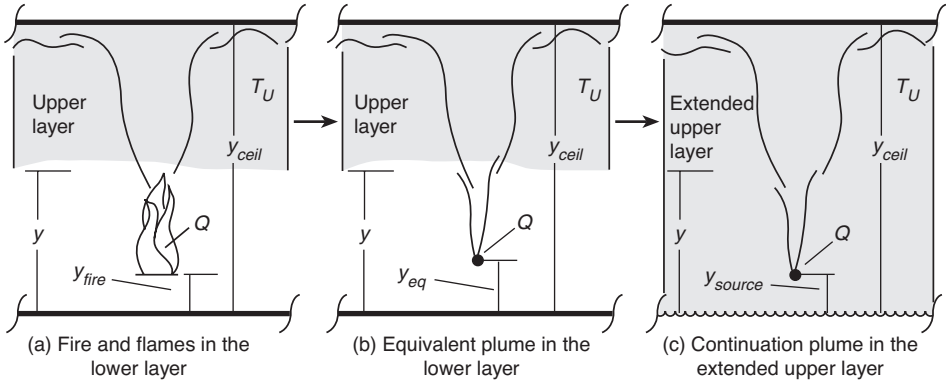


FIGURE B.4.4.1 Fire and Equivalent Source.

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the ceiling material, T, has been computed up to this moment and is known as a function of distance, Z, measured upward from the bottom surface of the ceiling, and radial distance, r, measured from the constant point of plume–ceiling impingement. The equivalent, extended upper-layer, unconfined ceiling flow and heat transfer problem is depicted in Figure B.4.4.1(c). It involves the equivalent $\dot{Q}'$ heat source from Equation B.4.4.2a located a distance, H, below the ceiling surface in an extended ambient environment of density, ρ_U, and absolute temperature, T_U, where H is determined from Equations B.4.4.1h and B.4.4.1j.

The objective is to estimate the instantaneous convective heat transfer flux from the upper-layer gas to the lower-ceiling surface, $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)$, and the net heat transfer fluxes to the upper and lower ceiling surface of the ceiling, $\dot{q}''_u(r,t)$ and $\dot{q}''_L(r,t)$, respectively. With this information, the time-dependent solution for the in-depth thermal response of the ceiling material can be advanced to subsequent times. Also, $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ can be integrated over the lower-ceiling surface to obtain the desired instantaneous value for $\dot{q}_{HT}$.

In view of the assumptions of the relatively large distance of the fire from walls or curtains and on the relatively small contribution of heat transfer to these vertical surfaces, it is reasonable to carry out a somewhat simplified calculation for $\dot{q}_{HT}$. Therefore, $\dot{q}_{HT}$ is approximated by the integral of $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ over an effective circular ceiling area, A_{eff}, with a diameter, D_{eff}, centered at the point of impingement as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{q}_{HT} &= \lambda_{conv}\dot{Q}(t)\\ &= -\int_A \dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)\,dA\\ &\approx -2\pi\int_0^{D_{eff}/2}\dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)\,r\,dr\end{aligned} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5a)}$$

The value $A_{eff} = \pi D^2_{eff}/4$ is taken to be the actual area of the curtained space, A, plus the portion of the vertical curtain and wall surfaces estimated to be covered by ceiling jet–driven wall flows. An estimate for this extended, effective ceiling surface area is obtained [16], where it is concluded with some generality that ceiling jet–driven wall flows penetrate for a distance of approximately $0.8H$ from the ceiling in a downward direction. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}A_{eff} &= \frac{\pi D^2_{eff}}{4}\\ &= A + 0.8H(P - L_{curt}) + L_{curt}\min\left[0.8H,(y_{ceil}-y_{curt})\right]\end{aligned} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5b)}$$

where P = the total length of the perimeter of the curtained area.

B.4.5.1 Net Heat Transfer Flux to the Ceiling's Lower Surface. The net heat transfer flux to the ceiling's lower surface, $\dot{q}''_L$, is made by means of up to three components — incident radiation, $\dot{q}''_{rad_fire}$; convection, $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$; and reradiation, $\dot{q}''_{rerad,L}$ — as follows:

$$\dot{q}''_L = \dot{q}''_{rad-fire} + \dot{q}''_{conv,L} + \dot{q}''_{rerad,L} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1a)}$$

As discussed in B.4.4, the radiant energy from the fire, $\lambda_r\dot{Q}$, is assumed to be radiated isotropically from the fire with negligible radiation absorption and emission from the compartment gases.

$$\dot{q}''_{rad-fire} = \left[\frac{\lambda_r\dot{Q}}{4\pi\left(y_{ceil}-y_{fire}\right)^2}\right]\left[1+\left(\frac{r}{y_{ceil}-y_{fire}}\right)^2\right]^{-3/2} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1b)}$$

The convective heat transfer flux from the upper-layer gas to the ceiling's lower surface can be calculated [13, 14] as follows:

$$\dot{q}''_{conv,L} = h_L\left(T_{AD} - T_{S,L}\right) \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1c)}$$

where:

$\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ = convective heat transfer flux from the upper-layer gas to the ceiling's lower surface
h_L = a heat transfer coefficient
T_{AD} = the temperature that is measured adjacent to an adiabatic lower-ceiling surface
$T_{S,L}$ = the absolute temperature of the ceiling's lower surface

Equations B.4.5.1d and B.4.5.1e determine h_L and T_{AD} as follows:

$$\frac{h_L}{\tilde{h}} = \begin{cases} 8.82Re_H^{-1/2}Pr^{-2/3}\left[1-\left(5.0-0.284Re_H^{0.2}\right)\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)\right]; & \text{if } 0 \le \dfrac{r}{H} < 0.2\\ 0.283Re_H^{-0.3}Pr^{-2/3}\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{-1/2}\left(\dfrac{\dfrac{r}{H}-0.0771}{\dfrac{r}{H}+0.279}\right); & \text{if } 0.2 \le \dfrac{r}{H}\end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1d)}$$

$$\frac{T_{AD}-T_U}{T_U\dot{Q}_H^{*2/3}} = \begin{cases} 10.22 - \dfrac{14.9r}{H}; & \text{if } 0 \le \dfrac{r}{H} < 0.2\\ 8.39f\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right); & \text{if } 0.2 \le \dfrac{r}{H}\end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1e)}$$

where:

$$f\left(\frac{r}{H}\right) = \frac{1-1.10\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{0.8}+0.808\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{1.6}}{1-1.10\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{0.8}+2.20\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{1.6}+0.690\left(\dfrac{r}{H}\right)^{2.4}} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1f)}$$

$$\tilde{h} = \rho_U C_p g^{1/2}H^{1/2}\dot{Q}_H^{*1/3}$$

$$Re_H = \frac{g^{1/2}H^{3/2}\dot{Q}_H^{*1/3}}{\nu_U} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1g)}$$

$$\dot{Q}_H^* = \frac{\dot{Q}'}{\rho_U C_p T_U\left(gH\right)^{1/2}H^2}$$

In Equation B.4.5.1d, Pr is the Prandtl number (taken to be 0.7), and in Equation B.4.5.1g, ν_U is the kinematic viscosity of the upper-layer gas, which is assumed to have the properties of air. Also, $\dot{Q}_H^*$, a dimensionless number, is a measure of the strength of the plume, and Re_H is a characteristic Reynolds number of the plume at the elevation of the ceiling.

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The following estimate for ν_U [17] is used when computing Re_H from Equation B.4.5.1g:

$$\nu_U = \frac{0.04128\left(10^{-7}\right)T_U^{5/2}}{T_U + 110.4} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1h)}$$

where ν_U is in m^2/s and T_U is in K.

Equations B.4.5.1c through B.4.5.1h use a value for T_U. At $t = 0$, where it is undefined, T_U should be set equal to T_{amb}. This yields the correct limiting result for the convective heat transfer to the ceiling, specifically, convective heat transfer to the initially ambient temperature ceiling from an unconfined ceiling jet in an ambient environment.

As the fire simulation proceeds, the ceiling's lower surface temperature, $T_{S,L}$, initially at T_{amb}, begins to increase. At all times, the lower-ceiling surface is assumed to radiate diffusely to the initially ambient temperature floor surface and to exposed surfaces of the building contents. In response to this radiation and to the direct radiation from the fire's combustion zone, the temperatures of these surfaces also increase with time. However, for times of interest here, it is assumed that their effective temperature increases are relatively small compared to the characteristic increases of $T_{S,L}$. Accordingly, at a given radial position of the ceiling's lower surface, the net radiation exchange between the ceiling and floor-contents surfaces can be approximated by the following:

$$\dot{q}''_{rerad,L} = \frac{\sigma\left(T_{amb}^4 - T_{S,L}^4\right)}{\frac{1}{\epsilon_L} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_{floor}} - 1} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.1i)}$$

where σ is the Stefan–Boltzmann constant and ϵ_L and ϵ_{floor} are the effective emittance-absorptance of the ceiling's lower surface and the floor and contents surfaces (assumed to be gray), respectively, both of which are taken to be 1.

B.4.5.2 Net Heat Transfer Flux to Ceiling's Upper Surface. It is assumed that the ceiling's upper surface is exposed to a relatively constant-temperature far-field environment at T_{amb}. Therefore, the net heat transfer flux to this surface, $\dot{q}_U$, is made up of two components, convection, $\dot{q}''_{conv,U}$, and reradiation, $\dot{q}''_{rerad,U}$, as follows:

$$q''_U = \dot{q}''_{conv,U} + \dot{q}''_{rerad,U} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.2a)}$$

These can be estimated from the following:

$$\dot{q}''_{conv,U} = h_U\left(T_{amb} - T_{S,U}\right) \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.2b)}$$

$$\dot{q}''_{rerad,U} = \frac{\sigma\left(T_{amb}^4 - T_{S,U}^4\right)}{\frac{1}{\epsilon_U} + \frac{1}{\epsilon_{far}} - 1} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.2c)}$$

where $T_{S,U}$ is the absolute temperature of the upper surface of the ceiling, h_U is a heat transfer coefficient, and ϵ_{far} and ϵ_U are the effective emittance-absorptance of the far-field and ceiling's upper surface (assumed to be gray), respectively, both of which are taken to be 1.

The value for h_U to be used [18] is as follows:

$$h_U = 1.65\left(T_{amb} - T_{S,U}\right)^{1/3} \qquad \textbf{(B.4.5.2d)}$$

where h_U is in W/m^2, and T_{amb} and $T_{S,U}$ are in K.

B.4.5.3 Solving for the Thermal Response of the Ceiling for $\dot{q}_{HT}$. The temperature of the ceiling material is assumed to be governed by the Fourier heat conduction equation. By way of the lower-ceiling-surface boundary condition, the boundary value problem is coupled to, and is to be solved together with, the system of Equations B.3b and B.3h.

Initially, the ceiling is taken to be of uniform temperature, T_{amb}. The upper- and lower-ceiling surfaces are then exposed to the radial- and time-dependent rates of heat transfer, $\dot{q}''_U$ and $\dot{q}''_L$, determined from Equations B.4.5.2a and B.4.5.1a, respectively. For times of interest here, radial gradients of $\dot{q}''_U$ and $\dot{q}''_L$ are assumed to be small enough so that conduction in the ceiling is quasi-one-dimensional in space [i.e., $T = T(Z, t, r)$]. Therefore, the two-dimensional thermal response for the ceiling can be obtained from the solution to a set of one-dimensional conduction problems for the following:

$$T_n(Z,t) = T(Z,t;r=r_n); \quad n = 1 \text{ to } N_{rad}$$

where N_{rad} is the number of discrete radial positions necessary to obtain a sufficiently smooth representation of the overall ceiling temperature distribution. The r_n radial positions are depicted in Figure B.4.5.3.

Characteristic changes in ceiling temperature will occur over changes in r/H of the order of 1 [15]. Therefore, it is reasonable to expect accurate results for the Equation B.4.5a

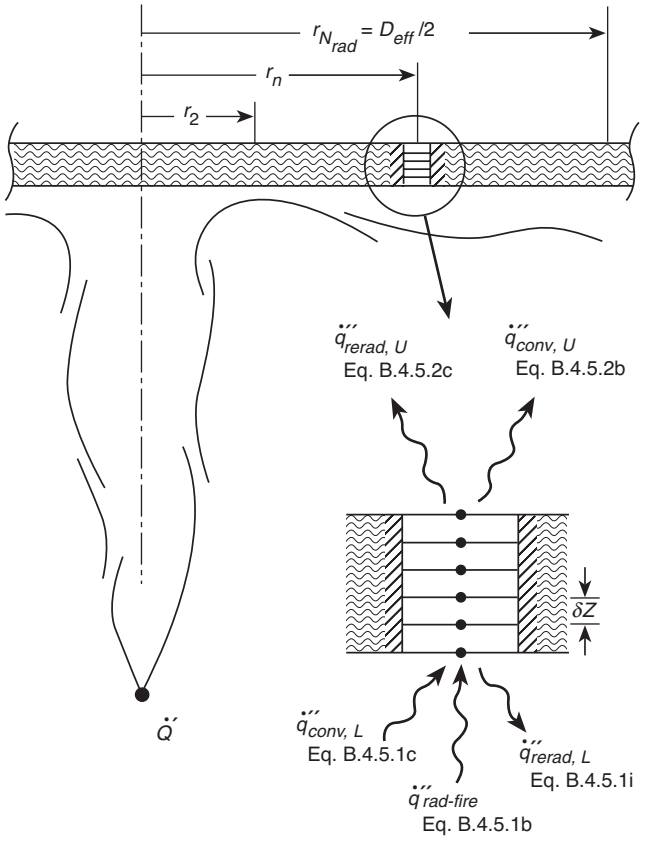


FIGURE B.4.5.3 Illustration of the Geometry for the Boundary Value Problems of the Temperature Distributions, T_n, Through the Ceiling at Radial Positions r_n.

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integral $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ by interpolating between values of $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ calculated at radial positions separated by r/H intervals of 0.1 to 0.2.

Using the preceding ideas, the following procedure for finding the thermal response of the ceiling and solving for $\dot{q}''_{HT}$ is implemented:

(1) Because $y_{ceil} - y_{fire}$ is a measure of H in the current problem and $D_{eff}/2$ is a measure of the maximum value of r, N_{rad} is chosen as several multiples of the following:

$$\frac{D_{eff}/2}{y_{ceil} - y_{fire}}$$

In this case, N_{rad} is chosen as the first integer equal to or greater than the following:

$$\frac{5\left(D_{eff}/2\right)}{y_{ceil} - y_{fire}} + 2$$

(2) One temperature calculation point is placed at $r = 0$ and the remaining N_{rad} calculation points are distributed with uniform separation at and between $r = 0.2(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})$ and $r = D_{eff}/2$, the latter value being the upper limit of the integral of Equation B.4.5a; that is,

$$r_1 = 0$$

$$r_2 = 0.2\left(y_{ceil} - y_{fire}\right)$$

$$r_{N_{rad}} = \frac{D_{eff}}{2}$$

$$r_n = r_{n-1} + \Delta r \quad \text{if } 2 < n < N_{rad}$$

where

$$\Delta r = \left(r_{N_{rad}} - r_2\right)\Big/\left(N_{rad} - 3\right)$$

(3) The boundary value problems are solved for the N_{rad} temperature distributions, T_n. At arbitrary radius, r_n, these are indicated in the inset portion of Figure B.4.5.3.

(4) For any moment of time during the calculation, the lower surface values of the T_n are used to compute the corresponding discrete values of $\dot{q}''_{conv,L,n}(t) = \dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r = r_n, t)$ from Equation B.4.5.1c.

(5) The $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}$ distribution in r is approximated by interpolating linearly between the $\dot{q}''_{conv,L,n}$. The integration indicated in Equation B.4.5a is carried out.

The procedure for solving for the T_n is the same as that used in reference [15]. It requires the thickness, thermal conductivity, and thermal diffusivity of the ceiling material. The solution to the one-dimensional heat conduction equation involves an explicit finite difference scheme that uses an algorithm taken from references [19, 20]. For a given set of calculations, $N \leq 20$ equal-spaced nodes are positioned at the surfaces and through the thickness of the ceiling at every radius position, r_n. The spacing, δZ *(see Figure B.4.5.3)*, of these is selected to be large enough (based on a maximum time step) to ensure stability of the calculation.

B.5 Actuation of Vents and Sprinklers. It is an objective of this standard to simulate conditions in building spaces where ceiling vents and sprinkler links can be actuated by the responses of near-ceiling–deployed fusible links. The concept is that, during the course of a compartment fire, a deployed link is engulfed by the near-ceiling convective flow of the elevated-temperature products of combustion and entrained air of the fire-generated plume. As the fire continues, convective heating of the link leads to an increase in its temperature. If and when its fuse temperature is reached, any devices being operated by the link are actuated.

The near-ceiling flow engulfing the link is the plume-driven ceiling jet referred to previously, which transfers heat to the lower-ceiling surface and is cooled as it traverses under the ceiling from the point of plume–ceiling impingement. In the case of relatively smooth ceiling configurations, assumed to be representative of the facilities studied in this standard, the ceiling jet flows outward radially from the point of impingement, and its gas velocity and temperature distributions, V_{CJ} and T_{CJ}, respectively, are a function of radius from the impingement point, r, distance below the ceiling, z, and time, t.

Vents actuated by alternate means, such as thermoplastic drop-out panels with equivalent performance characteristics, can also be modeled using LAVENT. Refer to A.9.1.

B.5.1 Predicting the Thermal Response of the Fusible Links. The thermal response of deployed fusible links is calculated up to their fuse temperature, T_F, by the convective heating flow model of reference [21]. It is assumed that the specific link is positioned at a specified radius from the impingement point, $r = r_L$, and distance below the lower-ceiling surface, $z = z_L$. T_L is defined as the link's assumed, nearly uniform temperature. Instantaneous changes in T_L are determined by the following:

$$\frac{dT_L}{dt} = \frac{\left(T_{CJ,L} - T_L\right)V_{CJ,L}^{1/2}}{RTI} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.1)}$$

where $T_{CJ,L}$ and $V_{CJ,L}$ are the values of V_{CJ} and T_{CJ}, respectively, evaluated near the link position, and where *RTI* (response time index), a property of the link and relative flow orientation, can be measured in the "plunge test" [21, 22]. The *RTI* for ordinary sprinkler links ranges from low values of 22 $(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$ for quick-operating residential sprinklers, to 375 $(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$ for slower standard sprinklers [23]. The utility of Equation B.5.1, which has been shown in reference [24] to be valid typically through the link-fusing processes, is discussed further in reference [23], where it was used to predict link response in a parametric study involving two-layer compartment fire scenarios. Also, in the latter work, the link response prediction methodology was shown to demonstrate favorable comparisons between predicted and measured link responses in a full-scale, one-room, open-doorway compartment fire experiment.

Computing T_L from Equation B.5.1 for a different link location necessitates estimates of $V_{CJ,L}$ and $T_{CJ,L}$ for arbitrary link positions, r_L and z_L.

B.5.2 The Velocity Distributions of the Ceiling Jet. Outside of the plume–ceiling impingement stagnation zone, defined approximately by $r/H \leq 0.2$, and at a given r, V_{CJ} rises rapidly from zero at the ceiling's lower surface, $z = 0$, to a maximum, V_{max}, at a distance $z = 0.23\delta$, $\delta(r)$ being the distance below the ceiling where $V/V_{max} = 1/2$ [16]. In this region outside the stagnation zone, V_{CJ} can be estimated [16] as follows:

$$\text{if } \frac{r}{H} \geq 0.2;$$

$$\frac{V_{CJ}}{V_{max}} = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{8}{7}\right)\left(\frac{z}{0.23\delta}\right)^{1/7}\left[1 - \frac{z/(0.23\delta)}{8}\right]; & \text{if } 0 \leq \frac{z}{0.23\delta} \leq 1 \\ \cosh^{-2}\left\{\left(\frac{0.23}{0.77}\right)\text{arccosh}\left(2^{1/2}\right) \times \left[\frac{z}{0.23\delta} - 1\right]\right\}; & \text{if } 1 \leq \frac{z}{0.23\delta} \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.2a)}$$

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$$\frac{V_{max}}{V} = 0.85\left(\frac{r}{H}\right)^{-1.1}$$
$$\frac{\delta}{H} = 0.10\left(\frac{r}{H}\right)^{0.9} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.2b)}$$
$$V = g^{1/2}H^{1/2}\dot{Q}_H^{*1/3}$$

where $\dot{Q}_H^*$ is defined in Equation B.4.5.1g. V_{CJ}/V_{max} per Equation B.5.2a is plotted in Figure B.5.2.

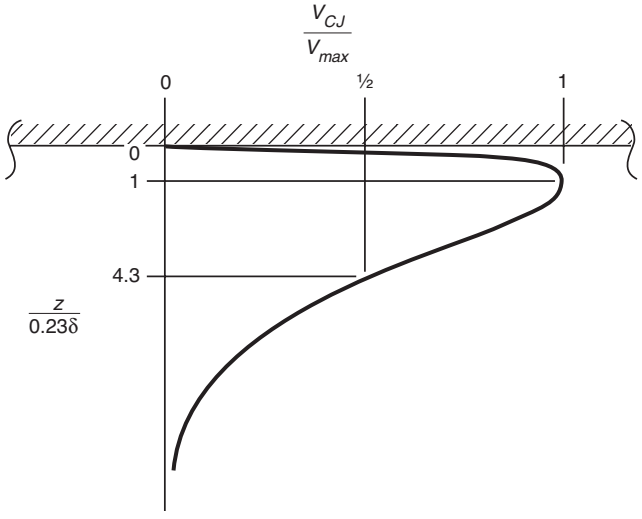


FIGURE B.5.2 A Plot of Dimensionless Ceiling Jet Velocity Distribution, V_{CJ}/V_{max}, as a Function of $z/0.23\delta$ per Equation B.5.2a.

In the vicinity of near-ceiling–deployed links located inside the stagnation zone, the fire-driven flow is changing directions from an upward-directed plume flow to an outward-directed ceiling jet–type flow. There the flow velocity local to the link, the velocity that drives the link's connective heat transfer, involves generally a significant vertical as well as radial component of velocity. Nevertheless, at such link locations, it is reasonable to continue to approximate the link response using Equation B.5.1 with V_{CJ} estimated using Equations B.5.2a and B.5.2b and with r/H set equal to 0.2; that is,

$$V_{CJ} = V_{CJ}\left(\frac{r}{H} = 0.2\right); \quad \text{if } 0 \le \frac{r}{H} < 0.2 \qquad \textbf{(B.5.2c)}$$

B.5.3 The Temperature Distribution of the Ceiling Jet. Outside of the plume–ceiling impingement stagnation zone (i.e., where $r/H \ge 0.2$) and at a given value of r, T_{CJ} rises very rapidly from the temperature of the ceiling's lower surface, $T_{S,L}$, at $z = 0$, to a maximum, T_{max}, somewhat below the ceiling surface. It is assumed that this maximum value of T_{CJ} occurs at the identical distance below the ceiling as does the maximum of V_{CJ} (i.e., at $z = 0.23\delta$). Below this elevation, T_{CJ} drops with increasing distance from the ceiling until it reaches the upper-layer temperature, T_U. In this latter, outer region of the ceiling jet, the shape of the normalized T_{CJ} distribution, $(T_{CJ} - T_U)/(T_{max} - T_U)$, has the same characteristics as that of V_{CJ}/V_{max}. Also, because the boundary flow is turbulent, it is reasonable to estimate the characteristic thicknesses of the outer region of both the velocity and temperature distributions as being identical, both dictated by the distribution of the turbulent eddies there.

For these reasons, the dimensionless velocity and temperature distribution are approximated as being identical in the outer region of the ceiling jet flow, $0.23\delta \le z$. In the inner region of the flow, between $z = 0$ and 0.23δ, the normalized temperature distribution is approximated by a quadratic function of $z/(0.23\delta)$, with $T_{CJ} = T_{S,L}$ at $z = 0$ and $T_{CJ} = T_{max}$, $dT_{CJ}/dz = 0$ at $z = 0.23\delta$. Therefore, where $r/H \ge 0.2$,

$$\Theta \equiv \frac{T_{CJ} - T_U}{T_{max} - T_U} = \begin{cases} \Theta_S + 2\left[(1-\Theta_S)\left(\frac{z}{0.23\delta}\right)\right] - \left[(1-\Theta_S)\left(\frac{z}{0.23\delta}\right)^2\right]; \\ \quad \text{if } 0 \le \frac{z}{0.23\delta} \le 1 \\ \frac{V_{CJ}}{V_{max}}; \quad \text{if } 1 \le \frac{z}{0.23\delta} \end{cases} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3a)}$$

$$\Theta_S \equiv \Theta\left(T_{CJ} = T_{S,L}\right) = \frac{T_{S,L} - T_U}{T_{max} - T_U} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3b)}$$

It should be noted that Θ_S is negative when the ceiling surface temperature is less than the upper-layer temperature (e.g., relatively early in a fire, when the original ambient-temperature ceiling surface has not yet reached the average temperature of the growing upper layer). Also, Θ_S is greater than 1 when the ceiling surface temperature is greater than T_{max}. This is possible, for example, during times of reduced fire size when the fire's near-ceiling plume temperature is reduced significantly, perhaps temporarily, from previous values, but the ceiling surface, heated previously to relatively high temperatures, has not cooled substantially. Plots of Θ per Equation B.5.3a are shown in Figure B.5.3 for cases where Θ is < 0, between 0 and 1, and > 0.

In a manner similar to the treatment of V_{CJ}/V_{max}, for the purpose of calculating T_L, from Equation B.5.1, Θ_S is approximated

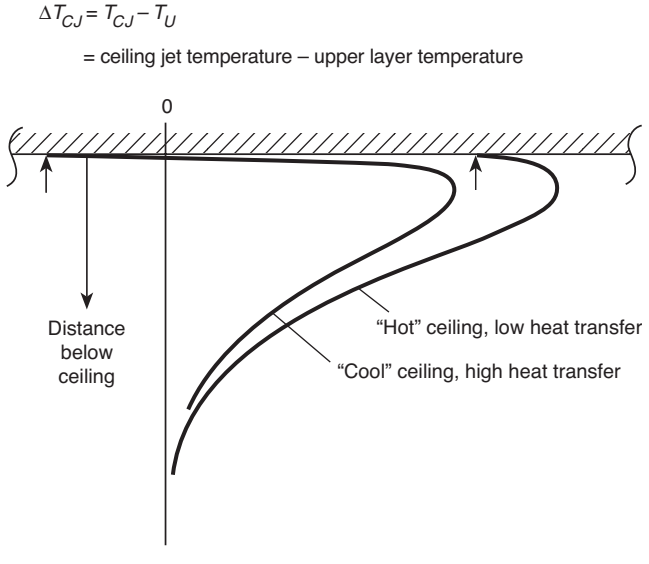


FIGURE B.5.3 Plots of Dimensionless Ceiling Jet Temperature Distribution, Θ, as a Function of $z/0.23\delta$ per Equation B.5.3a for Cases Where Θ_S is <0, Between 0 and 1, and >0.

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inside the stagnation zone by the description of Equations B.5.3a and B.5.3b, with r/H set equal to 0.2 as follows:

$$\Theta_S = \Theta_S\left(\frac{r}{H} = 0.2\right); \quad \text{if } 0 \le \frac{r}{H} \le 0.2 \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3c)}$$

With the radial distribution for $T_{S,L}$ and T_U already calculated up to a specific time, only T_{max} is needed to complete the derived estimate from Equations B.5.3a through B.5.3c for the ceiling jet temperature distribution. This estimate is obtained by invoking conservation of energy. Therefore, at an arbitrary r outside the stagnation zone, the total rate of radial outflow of enthalpy (relative to the upper-layer temperature) of the ceiling jet is equal to the uniform rate of enthalpy flow in the upper-layer portion of the plume, $\dot{Q}'$, less the integral (from the plume–ceiling impingement prior to r) of the flux of convective heat transfer from the ceiling jet to the ceiling surface as follows:

$$2\pi\int_0^{\infty} \rho_U C_P \left(T_{CJ} - T_U\right) V_{CJ} r\, dz = \dot{Q}' - 2\pi\int_0^{r} \dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)\, r\, dr \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3d)}$$

$$\equiv \left(1 - \lambda'_{conv}\right)\dot{Q}'; \quad \text{if } 0.2 \le \frac{r}{H}$$

λ'_{conv} is the fraction of $\dot{Q}'$ transferred by convection to the ceiling from the point of ceiling impingement to r as follows:

$$\lambda'_{conv}(r) = \frac{2\pi\int_0^{r} \dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)\, r\ dr}{\dot{Q}'} \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3e)}$$

In Equations B.5.3d and B.5.3e, $\dot{Q}'$ has been calculated previously in Equation B.4.4.2a. Also, the integral on the right-hand sides of Equations B.5.3d and B.5.3e can be calculated by approximating $\dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r,t)$, as shown in Equation B.5.3e, as a linear function of r between previously calculated values of $\dot{q}_{conv,L}\left(r = r_n, t\right)$.

The integral on the left-hand side of Equation B.5.3d is calculated using V_{CJ} of Equations B.5.2a and B.5.3b and T_{CJ} of Equations B.5.3a and B.5.3b. From this, the desired distribution for T_{max} is determined as follows:

$$\left(T_{max} - T_U\right) = 2.6\left(1 - \lambda'_{conv}\right)\left(\frac{r}{H}\right)^{-0.8} \dot{Q}_H^{*2/3} T_U - 0.090\left(T_{S,L} - T_U\right); \qquad \textbf{(B.5.3f)}$$

$$\text{if } 0.2 \le \frac{r}{H}$$

The result of Equation B.5.3f, together with Equations B.5.3a and B.5.3b, represents the desired estimate for T_{CJ}. This and the estimate derived from Equations B.5.2a through B.5.2c for T_{CJ} are used to calculate T_L from Equation B.5.1.

B.5.4 Dependence of Open Vent Area on Fusible-Link–Actuated Vents. As discussed, the influence of ceiling vent action on the fire-generated equipment is dependent on the active area of the open ceiling vents, A_V. A variety of basic vent opening design strategies is possible, and a major application of the current model equations is to evaluate these strategies within the context of the developing fire environment. For example, one of the simplest strategies [9] assumes that all vents deployed in the specified curtained area are opened by whatever means at the onset of the fire. In general, A_V will be time-dependent. To the extent that a strategy of vent opening is dependent directly on the fusing of any one or several deployed fusible links, the location of these links and their characteristics (i.e., likely spacings from plume–ceiling impingement, distance below the ceiling, and the RTI) and the functional relationship between link fusing and A_V need to be specified. These matters can be examined in the context of different solutions to the overall problem by exercising parametrically the LAVENT computer program [2], which implements all the model equations provided in this annex.

B.5.5 Concluding Remarks — A Summary of Guidelines, Assumptions, and Limitations. The theory presented here is the basis of LAVENT, a user-friendly computer program [2] that is supported by a user guide [3] and that can be used to study parametrically a wide range of relevant fire scenarios.

The assumptions made in the development of the set of model equations limit fire scenarios or aspects of fire scenarios that can be simulated and studied with confidence. A summary of guidelines and assumptions that characterize what are perhaps the most critical of these limitations follows. These are the result of explicit or implicit assumptions necessary for valid application of the variety of submodels introduced throughout this work.

L and W are the length and width, respectively, of the plan area of the curtained space. Simulated configurations should be limited to those with aspect ratios, L/W, that are not much different from 1 (e.g., $0.5 \le L/W < 2$). Also, in such configurations, the fire should not be too close to or too far from the walls [e.g., the fire should be no closer to a wall than $(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})/2$ and no farther than $3(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})$].

The curtain boards should be deep enough to satisfy $(y_{ceil} - y_{curt}) \ge 0.2\ (y_{ceil} - y_{fire})$, unless the equations and the standard are used to simulate an unconfined ceiling scenario where $(y_{ceil} - y_{curt}) = 0$.

The ceiling of the curtained space should be relatively smooth, with protuberances having depths significantly less than $0.1(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})$. Except at the locations of the curtain boards, below-ceiling–mounted barriers to flow, such as solid beams, should be avoided. Ceiling surface protuberances near to and upstream of fusible links (i.e., between the links and the fire) should be significantly smaller than link-to-ceiling distances.

W_V is the width, that is, the smaller dimension of a single ceiling vent (or vent cluster). If vents are open, the prediction of smoke layer thickness, $y_{ceil} - y$, is reliable only after the time that $(y_{ceil} - y)/W_V$ is greater than 1. (For smaller layer depths, "plugholing" flow through the vents could occur, leading to possible significant inaccuracies in vent flow estimates.) Note that this places an additional limitation on the minimum depth of the curtain boards [i.e., $(y_{ceil} - y_{curt})/W_V$ should exceed 1].

At all times during a simulated fire scenario, the overall building space should be vented to the outside (e.g., through open doorways).

In this regard, compared to the open ceiling vents in the curtained compartment, the area of the outside vents must be large enough such that the pressure drop across the outside vents is small compared to the pressure drop across ceiling vents. For example, under near-steady-state conditions, when the rate of mass flow into the outside vents is approximately equal to the rate of mass outflow from the ceiling vents, the outside vent area must satisfy $(A_{Vout}/A_V)^2 (T_U/T_{amb})^2 >> 1$, or, more conservatively and independent of T_U, $(A_{Vout}/A_V)^2 >> 1$. The latter criterion will always be reasonably satisfied if $A_{Vout}/A_V > 2$. Under flashover-level conditions — say, when $T_U / T_{amb} = 3$ — the former criterion will be satisfied if $(3A_{Vout}/A_V)^2 >> 1$ — say, if $A_{Vout} = A_V$, or even if A_{Vout} is somewhat smaller than A_V.

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The simulation assumes a relatively quiescent outside environment (i.e., without any wind) and a relatively quiescent inside environment (i.e., remote from vent flows, undercurtain flows, ceiling jets, and the fire plume). In real fire scenarios, such an assumption should be valid where the characteristic velocities of actual flows in these quiescent environments are much less than the velocity of the fire plume near its ceiling impingement point (i.e., where the characteristic velocities are much less than V_{max} of Equation B.5.2b). It should be noted that, for a given fire strength, Q, this latter assumption places a restriction on the maximum size of $(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})$, which is a measure of H, since V_{max} is approximately proportional to $(y_{ceil} - y_{fire})^{-1/3}$.

In configurations where smoke flows below curtain partitions to adjacent curtained spaces, the simulation is valid only up to the time that it takes for any one of the adjacent spaces to fill with smoke to the level of the bottom of the curtain. While it is beyond the scope of this standard to provide any general guidelines for this limiting time, the following rule can be useful where all curtained spaces of a building are similar and where the fire is not growing too rapidly: The time to fill an adjacent space is of the order of the time to fill the original space.

The reliability of the simulation begins to degrade subsequent to the time that the top of the flame penetrates the layer elevation, and especially if Equation B.4.3a predicts a flame height that reaches the ceiling.

It is assumed that the smoke is relatively transparent and that the rate of radiation absorbed by or emitted from the smoke layer is small compared to the rate of radiation transfer from the fire's combustion zone. The assumption is typically true, and a simulation is valid at least up to those times that the physical features of the ceiling can be discerned visually from the floor elevation.

It should be emphasized that the preceding limitations are intended only as guidelines. Therefore, even when the characteristics of a particular fire scenario satisfy these limitations, the results should be regarded with caution until solutions to the overall model equations have been validated by a substantial body of experimental data. Also, where a fire scenario does not satisfy the preceding limitations but is close to doing so, it is possible that the model equations can still provide useful quantitative descriptions of the simulated phenomena.

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B.7 Nomenclature for Annex B. A = plan area of single curtain space

A_{eff} = effective area for heat transfer to the extended lower-ceiling surface, $\pi D_{eff}^2 / 4$

A_V = total area of open ceiling vents in curtained space

A_{Vout} = total area of open vents to outside exclusive of A_V

C = vent flow coefficient (0.68)

C_P = specific heat at constant pressure

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C_T = 9.115, dimensionless constant in plume model
C_V = specific heat at constant volume
D_{eff} = effective diameter of A_{eff}
D_{fire} = effective diameter of fire source ($\pi D_{fire}^2/4$ = area of fire source)
g = acceleration of gravity
H = distance below ceiling of equivalent source
$\tilde{h}$ = characteristic heat transfer coefficient
h_L, h_U = lower-, upper-ceiling surface heat transfer coefficient
L = characteristic length of the plan area of curtained space
L_{curt} = length of the perimeter of A connected to other curtained areas of the building
L_{flame} = flame length
$\dot{m}_{curt}$ = mass flow rate from below curtain to upper layer
$\dot{m}_{ent}$ = rate of plume mass entrainment between the fire and the layer interface
$\dot{m}_{plume}$ = mass flow rate of plume at interface
m_U = total mass of the upper layer
$\dot{m}_U$ = net mass flow rate to upper layer
$\dot{m}_{vent}$ = mass flow rate through ceiling vents to upper layer
N = number of equal-spaced nodes through the ceiling
N_{rad} = number of values of r_n
P = length of perimeter of single curtained area
Pr = Prandtl number, taken to be 0.7
p = pressure
p_U, p_{amb} = pressure in upper-layer, outside ambient
$\dot{Q}$ = energy release rate of fire
$\tilde{Q}'$ = strength of continuation source in extended upper layer
$\dot{Q}_H^*$ = dimensionless strength of plume at ceiling
$\dot{Q}_{fl}^*$ = dimensionless strength of plume at interface
$\tilde{q}''_{conv,L}$, $\dot{q}''_{conv,U}$ = convective heat transfer flux to lower-, upper-ceiling surface
$\dot{q}''_{conv,L,_N} = \dot{q}''_{conv,L}(r = r_n, t)$
$\dot{q}_{curt}$ = enthalpy flow rate from below curtain to upper layer
$\dot{q}_{HT}$ = heat transfer rate to upper layer
$\dot{q}_{plume}$ = enthalpy flow rate of plume at interface
$\dot{q}_{rad\text{-}fire}$ = radiation flux incident on lower surface of ceiling
$\dot{q}''_{rerad,L}$, $\dot{q}''_{rerad,U}$ = reradiation flux to lower, upper surface of ceiling
$\dot{q}_U$ = net enthalpy flow rate plus heat transfer rate to upper layer
$\dot{q}'_L$, $\dot{q}''_U$ = net heat transfer fluxes to upper-, lower-ceiling surface
$\dot{q}_{vent}$ = enthalpy flow rate through ceiling vent to upper layer
R = gas constant, $C_P - C_V$
Re_H = Reynolds number of plume at ceiling elevation
RTI = response time index
r = radial distance from plume–ceiling impingement
r_L = r at link
r_n = discrete values of r
T = absolute temperature of ceiling material
T_{AD} = adiabatic lower-ceiling surface temperature
T_{CJ} = temperature distribution of ceiling jet gas
$T_{CJ,L}$ = T_{CJ} at link
$T_{max}(t) = T_{S,L}(r = 0, t) = T(Z = 0, t, r = 0)$
$T_{S,L}$, $T_{S,U}$ = absolute temperature of lower-, upper-ceiling surface
$T_{S,L,n}(t) = T_{S,L}(r = r_n, t) = T_n(Z = 0, t, r = r_n)$
T_U, T_{amb} = absolute temperature of upper-layer, outside ambient
$T_n = T(Z, t\ r = r_n)$
t = time
V = average flow velocity through all open vents
V = characteristic value of V_{CJ}
V_{CJ} = velocity distribution of ceiling jet gas
$V_{CJ,L}$ = V_{CJ} at link
V_{max} = maximum value of V_{CJ} at a given r
W = characteristic width of plan area of curtained space
W_V = width of a single ceiling vent (or vent cluster)
y, y_{ceil}, y_{curt}, y_{eq}, y_{fire} = elevation of smoke layer interface, ceiling, bottom of curtain, equivalent source fire above floor
y'_{source} = elevation of plume continuation point source in extended upper layer above floor
Z = distance into the ceiling, measured from bottom surface
z, z_L = distance below lower-ceiling surface, z, at link
$\alpha = T_U/T_{amb}$
τ = ratio of specific heat, C_P/C_V
Δp_{ceil} = cross-vent pressure difference
Δp_{curt} = cross-curtain pressure difference
δ = value of z where $V_{CJ} = V_{max}/2$
δZ = distance between nodes through the ceiling thickness
$\in$ = constant, Equations B.4.2c and B.4.2e
$\in_L$, $\in_U$, $\in_{floor}$, $\in_{far}$ = emittance-absorptance of lower, upper, floor, and far-field gray surfaces, all taken to be 1
Θ = normalized, dimensionless ceiling jet temperature distribution, $(T_{CJ} - T_U)/(T_{max} - T_U)$
Θ_S = Θ at lower-ceiling surface, $(T_{S,L} - T_U)/(T_{max} - T_U)$
λ_r = fraction of $\dot{Q}$ radiated from combustion zone
λ_{conv} = fraction of $\dot{Q}$ transferred by convection from upper layer
λ'_{conv} = fraction of $\dot{Q}'$ transferred to the ceiling in a circle of radius, r, and centered at $r = 0$, Equation B.5.3e
ν_U = kinematic viscosity of upper-layer gas
ρ_U, ρ_{amb} = density of upper-layer, outside ambient
σ = dimensionless variable, Equation B.4.4.1e

Annex C User Guide for the LAVENT Computer Code

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

C.1 Overview. This annex is a user guide for the LAVENT computer code (Link-Actuated VENTs), Version 1.1, and an associated graphics code called GRAPH. As discussed in Section 9.3 and in Annex B, LAVENT has been developed to simulate the environment and the response of sprinkler links in compartment fires with curtain boards and fusible-link–actuated ceiling vents. Vents actuated by alternative means such as thermoplastic drop-out panels with equivalent performance characteristics can also be modeled using LAVENT. Refer to A.1.1.1.

A fire scenario simulated by LAVENT is defined by the following input parameters:

(1) Area and height of the curtained space
(2) Separation distance from the floor to the bottom of the curtain
(3) Length of the curtain (A portion of the perimeter of the curtained space can include floor-to-ceiling walls.)

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(4) Thickness and properties of the ceiling material (density, thermal conductivity, and heat capacity)
(5) Constants that define a specified time-dependent energy release rate of the fire
(6) Fire elevation
(7) Area or characteristic energy release rate per unit area of the fire
(8) Total area of ceiling vents whose openings are actuated by a single fusible link (Multiple vent area/link system combinations may be permitted in any particular simulation.)
(9) Identifying numbers of fusible links used to actuate single sprinkler heads or groups of sprinkler heads (Multiple sprinkler links are permitted in any particular simulation.)

The characteristics of the simulated fusible links are defined by the following input parameters:

(1) Radial distance of the link from the fire–ceiling impingement point
(2) Ceiling–link separation distance
(3) Link fuse temperature
(4) The response time index (RTI) of the link

For any particular run of LAVENT, the code outputs a summary of the input information and simulation results of the calculation, in tabular form, at uniform simulation time intervals requested by the user. The output results include the following:

(1) Temperature of the upper smoke layer
(2) Height of the smoke layer interface
(3) Total mass in the layer
(4) Fire energy release rate
(5) Radial distributions of the lower-ceiling surface temperature
(6) Radial distribution of heat transfer rates to the lower- and upper-ceiling surfaces
(7) The temperature for each link and the local velocity and temperature of the ceiling jet

This annex explains LAVENT using a series of exercises in which the reader reviews and modifies a default input data file that describes vent and sprinkler actuation during fire growth in an array of wood pallets located in a warehouse-type occupancy. Results of the default simulation are discussed.

LAVENT is written in Fortran 77. The executable code operates on IBM PC-compatible computers and needs a minimum of 300 kilobytes of memory.

C.2 Introduction — The Phenomena Simulated by LAVENT. Figure C.2 depicts the generic fire scenario simulated by LAVENT. This scenario involves a fire in a building space with ceiling-mounted curtain boards and near-ceiling, fusible-link–actuated ceiling vents and sprinklers. The curtained area can be considered as one of several such spaces in a single large building compartment. By specifying that the curtains be deep enough, they can be thought of as simulating the walls of a single uncurtained compartment that is well-ventilated near the floor.

The fire generates a mixture of gaseous and solid-soot combustion products. Because of high temperature, buoyancy forces drive the products upward toward the ceiling, forming a plume of upward-moving hot gases and particulates. Cool gases are laterally entrained and mixed with the plume flow, reducing its temperature as it continues its ascent to the ceiling.

When the hot plume flow impinges on the ceiling, it spreads under it, forming a relatively thin, high-temperature ceiling jet. Near-ceiling–deployed fusible links engulfed by the ceiling jet are depicted in Figure C.2. There is reciprocal convective cooling

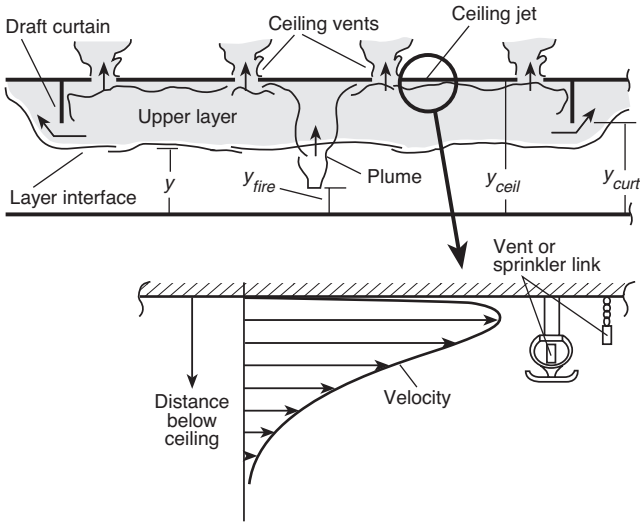


FIGURE C.2 Fire in a Building Space with Curtain Boards, Ceiling Vents, and Fusible Links.

and heating of the ceiling jet and of the cooler lower-ceiling surface, respectively. The lower-ceiling surface is also heated due to radiative transfer from the combustion zone and cooled due to reradiation to the floor of the compartment. The compartment floor is assumed to be at ambient temperature. The upper-ceiling surface is cooled as a result of convection and radiation to a far-field, ambient temperature environment.

When the ceiling jet reaches a bounding vertical curtain board or wall surface, its flow is redistributed across the entire curtained area and begins to form a relatively quiescent smoke layer (now somewhat reduced in temperature) that submerges the continuing ceiling jet flow activity. The upper smoke layer grows in thickness. Away from bounding surfaces, the time-dependent layer temperature is assumed to be relatively uniform throughout its thickness. It should be noted that the thickness and temperature of the smoke layer affect the upper-plume characteristics, the ceiling jet characteristics, and the heat-transfer exchanges to the ceiling.

If the height of the bottom of the smoke layer drops to the bottom of the curtain board and continues downward, the smoke begins to flow below the curtain into the adjacent curtained spaces. The growth of the upper layer is retarded.

Fusible links that are designed to actuate the opening of ceiling vents and the onset of waterflow through sprinklers are deployed at specified distances below the ceiling and at specified radial distances from the plume–ceiling impingement point. These links are submerged within the relatively high-temperature, high-velocity ceiling jet flow. Because the velocity and temperature of the ceiling jet vary with location and time, the heat transfer to, and time of fusing of, any particular link design also vary.

The fusing of a ceiling vent link leads to the opening of all vents "ganged" to that link. Once a ceiling vent is open, smoke flows out of the curtained space. Again, as when smoke flows below the curtains, growth of the upper-layer thickness is retarded.

The fusing of a sprinkler link initiates the flow of water through the sprinkler. All of the described phenomena, up to the time that waterflow through a sprinkler is initiated, are

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simulated by LAVENT. Results cannot be used after water begins to flow through a sprinkler.

C.3 The Default Simulation. The use of LAVENT is discussed and is illustrated in the following paragraphs where exercises in reviewing and modifying the LAVENT default-simulation input file are provided. To appreciate the process more fully, a brief description of the default simulation is presented at the outset.

Note that, as explained in Section C.4, Getting Started, the user can choose to run LAVENT using either English or metric units. The default simulation uses U.S. customary units. The example in Annex D uses metric units.

The default scenario involves an 84 ft × 84 ft (25.6 m × 25.6 m) curtained compartment [7056 ft^2 (655 m^2) in area] with the ceiling located 30 ft (9.1 m) above the floor. A curtain board 15 ft (4.6 m) in depth completely surrounds and defines the compartment, which is one of several such compartments in a larger building space. The ceiling is constructed of a relatively thin sheet-steel lower surface that is well insulated from above. *[See Figure C.3(a).]*

The curtained compartment has four uniformly spaced 48 ft^2 (4.5 m^2) ceiling vents with a total area of 192 ft^2 (18 m^2), or 2.7 percent of the compartment area. Opening of the ceiling vents is actuated by quick-response fusible links with RTIs of 50 (ft·sec)$^{1/2}$ and fuse temperatures of 165°F (74°C). The links are located at the centers of the vents and 0.3 ft (0.09 m) below the ceiling surface.

Fusible-link–actuated sprinklers are deployed on a square grid with 12 ft (3.7 m) spacing between sprinklers. The links have RTIs of 400 (ft·s)$^{1/2}$ and fuse temperatures of 165°F (74°C). The sprinklers and links are mounted 1 ft (30.1 cm) below the ceiling surface.

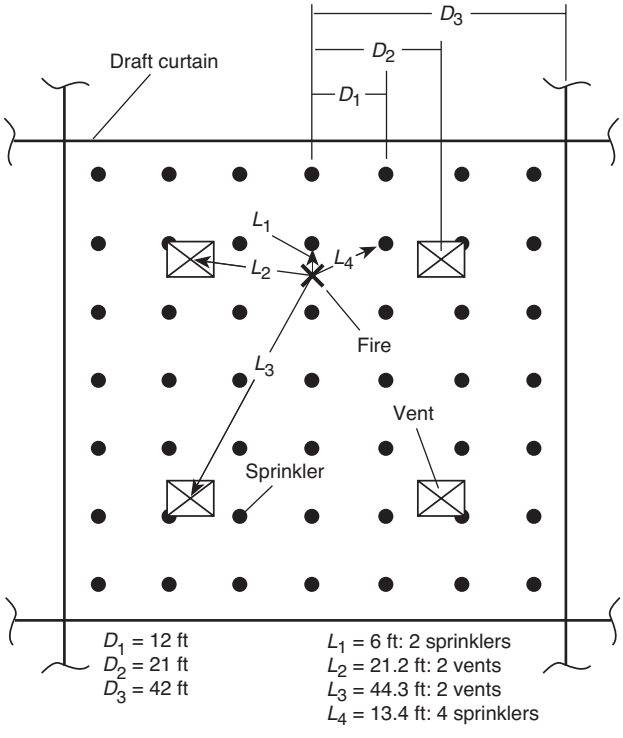


FIGURE C.3(a) Vent and Sprinkler Spacing and Fire Location for the Default Simulation.

The simulation fire involves four abutting 5 ft (1.5 m) high stacks of 5 ft × 5 ft (1.5 m × 1.5 m) wood pallets. The combined grouping of pallets makes up a combustible array 10 ft × 10 ft (3.1 m × 3.1 m) [100 ft^2 (9.3 m^2) in area] on the floor and 5 ft (1.5 m) in height. It is assumed that other combustibles in the curtained compartment are far enough away from this array that they cannot be ignited in the time interval to be simulated.

The total energy release rate of the simulation fire, $\dot{Q}$, assumed to grow from ignition, at time $t = 0$, in proportion to t^2. According to the guidance in Table F.1(a), in the growth phase of the fire, $\dot{Q}$ is taken specifically as follows:

$$\dot{Q} = 1000\left(\frac{t}{130\ \text{sec}}\right)^2\ \text{Btu/sec}$$

The fire grows according to the preceding estimate until the combustibles are fully involved. It is then assumed that $\dot{Q}$ levels off to a relatively constant value. Following the guidance of Table 4.1 of reference [1] and Table A.8.2.6, it is estimated that, at the fully developed stage of the fire, the total energy release rate for the 5 ft (1.5 m) high stack of wood pallets will be 330 Btu/s · ft^2, or 33,000 Btu/sec for the entire 100 ft^2 array. The preceding equation leads to the result that the fully developed stage of the fire will be initiated at t_{fd} = 747 seconds.

A plot of the fire growth according to the preceding description is shown in Figure C.3(b). In the actual calculation, the fire's instantaneous energy release rate is estimated by interpolating linearly between a series of N input data points at times t_n, $n = 1$ to N, on the fire-growth curve. These points are defined by user-specified values of $\left[t_n, \dot{Q}(t_n)\right]$. For times larger than t_N, the fire's energy release rate is assumed to stay constant at $\dot{Q}(t_N)$. The calculation fire-growth curve involves six input data points (i.e., $N = 6$). These points are plotted in Figure C.3(b).

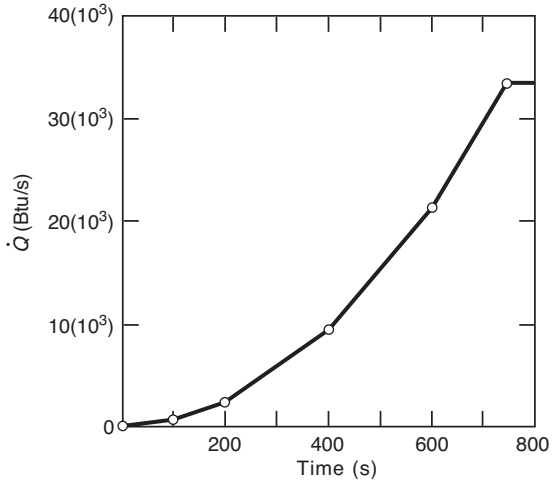


FIGURE C.3(b) Energy Release Rate vs. Time for the Fire of the Default Simulation.

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The position of the fire's center is identified in Figure C.3(a). In terms of this plan view, the fire is assumed to be located at the midpoint of a 12 ft (3.7 m) line between two sprinkler links, at a distance of 21.2 ft (6.5 m) from each of the two closest equidistant vents [a total area of 96 ft^2 (8.9 m^2)] and at a distance of 44.3 ft (13.5 m) from the remaining two equidistant vents [a total area of 96 ft^2) (8.9 m^2)]. Of the sprinklers and associated links, two are closest and equidistant to the fire–plume axis at radial distances of 6 ft (1.8 m). Figure C.3(a) shows that the second and third closest groups of sprinklers and links are at radial distances of 13.4 ft (4.1 m) (four sprinklers and links) and 18 ft (5.5 m) (two sprinklers and links). In the default calculation, the opening of each of the four vents occurs, and the flow out of the vents is initiated at the simulated time of fusing of their associated links. Also simulated in the default calculation is the thermal response, including time of fusing, of the pair of sprinkler links closest to the fire.

As a final specification of the fire, it is assumed that the characteristic elevation of the fire remains at a fixed value, 2.5 ft (0.8 m) above the floor, at the initial mid-elevation of the array of combustibles. For the purpose of the default calculation, the simulation is carried out to $t = 400$ seconds, with data output every 30 seconds.

Having described the default simulation, the procedure for getting started and using LAVENT follows.

C.4 Getting Started. The executable code, LAVENT.EXE, is found on the floppy disk. Before using it, backup copies should be made. If the user has a hard drive, a separate directory should be created and the executable code should be copied into that directory. The code operates on an IBM PC or compatible computer containing a math coprocessor. It is written in Fortran 77 and needs a minimum of 300 kilobytes of memory.

To execute LAVENT, change to the proper directory or insert a floppy disk containing a copy of the executable code and enter LAVENT <ret>. In this case, <ret> refers to the ENTER or RETURN key. The first prompt provides an option for English or metric units:

1 FOR ENGLISH UNITS
2 FOR METRIC UNITS

The program has a unit conversion function and transforms files that are in one set of units to another set. The code executes in SI units; therefore, conversion is done only on input and output in order to avoid rounding errors.

For the purposes of getting started, choose Option 1, ENGLISH UNITS. Enter 1 <ret>. The following menu will be displayed on the screen:

1 READ AND RUN A DATA FILE
2 READ AND MODIFY A DATA FILE
3 MODIFY THE DEFAULT CASE TO CREATE A NEW FILE
4 RUN THE DEFAULT CASE

If Option 1 or 2 is chosen, the program will ask for the name of the data file to be used. If the chosen file resides on the hard disk, this question should be answered by typing the path of the file name, for example, C:\subdirectory\filename. If the file is on a floppy disk, type A:filename or B:filename, depending on whether the A or B drive is being used. It is recommended that all data files use a common extender such as ".dat" to facilitate identification of these files.

A first-time user should select Option 4, RUN THE DEFAULT CASE, by entering 4 <ret>. This selection will ensure that the code has been transferred intact. The default-case output is provided in Figure C.4 and is discussed in Section C.8. As a point of information, the times needed to carry out the default simulation on IBM PC-compatible 486/33 MHZ and Pentium/90 MHZ computers were 40 seconds and 8 seconds, respectively.

Now restart the code and, at this point, choose Option 3, MODIFY THE DEFAULT CASE, to review and modify the default input data. Enter 3 <ret>.

C.5 The Base Menu.

C.5.1 Modifying the Default Case — General. When Option 3, MODIFY THE DEFAULT CASE, is chosen, the following menu is displayed:

1 ROOM PROPERTIES
2 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES
3 OUTPUT PARAMETERS
4 FUSIBLE LINK PROPERTIES
5 FIRE PROPERTIES
6 SOLVER PARAMETERS
0 NO CHANGES

This menu will be referred to as the *base menu.*

Entering the appropriate option number of the base menu and then <ret> will always transfer the user to the indicated item on the menu. Entering a zero will transfer the user to the file status portion of the input section discussed in Section C.6.

The next subsections discuss data entry under Options 1 through 6 of the base menu.

Now choose Option 1, ROOM PROPERTIES, of the base menu to review and modify the default room-property input data. Enter 1 <ret>.

C.5.2 Room Properties. When Option 1, ROOM PROPERTIES, of the base menu is chosen, the following room properties menu is displayed:

1	30.00000	CEILING HEIGHT (FT)
2	84.00000	ROOM LENGTH (FT)
3	84.00000	ROOM WIDTH (FT)
4	2	NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC.
5	336.00000	CURTAIN LENGTH (FT)
6	15.00000	HEIGHT TO BOTTOM OF CURTAIN (FT)
0		TO CHANGE NOTHING

All input values are expressed in either S.I. or U.S. customary units, and the units are prompted on the input menus.

Note that the default number of vents is 2, not 4, because the symmetry of the default scenario, as indicated in Figure C.3(a), leads to "ganged" operation of each of two pairs of the four vents involved.

To change an input value in the preceding room properties menu — for example, to change the ceiling height from 30 ft to 20 ft — the user would enter 1 <ret> and 20. <ret>. The screen would show revisions using the new value of 20 ft for the ceiling height. This value or other values on this screen can be changed by repeating the process.

WARNING: *The user is warned that it is critical to end each entry number with a decimal point when a noninteger number is indicated (i.e., when the screen display shows a decimal point for that entry). The user is warned further that the code will attempt to run with any specified input file and that it will not distinguish between realistic and unrealistic input values.*

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```
CEILING HEIGHT =            30.0 FT
ROOM LENGTH =               84.0 FT
ROOM WIDTH =                84.0 FT
CURTAIN LENGTH =            336.0 FT
CURTAIN HEIGHT =            15.0 FT
MATERIAL =                  INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE)
CEILING CONDUCTIVITY =      .240E-04 BTU/FT F S
CEILING DENSITY =           .655E+02 LB/FT3
CEILING HEAT CAPACITY =     .277E+00 BTU/LB F
CEILING THICKNESS =         .500E+00 FT
FIRE HEIGHT =               2.5 FT
FIRE POWER/AREA =           0.3300E+03 BTU/S FT2

LINK NO =  1 RADIUS =     6.0 FT    DIST CEILING =    1.00 FT
         RTI=  400.00 SQRT FUSION TEMPERATURE FOR LINK =   165.00 K
LINK NO =  2 RADIUS =    21.2 FT    DIST CEILING =    0.30 FT
         RTI=   50.00 SQRT FUSION TEMPERATURE FOR LINK =   165.00 K
LINK NO =  3 RADIUS =    44.3 FT    DIST CEILING =    0.30 FT
         RTI=   50.00 SQRT FUSION TEMPERATURE FOR LINK =   165.00 K
VENT =   1   VENT AREA =     96.0 FT2           LINK CONTROLLING VENT =   2
VENT =   2   VENT AREA =     96.0 FT2           LINK CONTROLLING VENT =   3

TIME (S)=    0.000 LYR TEMP (F)=    80.0 LYR HT (FT)=   30.00 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.000E+00
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.0000E+00 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   80.00 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     0.000 JET TEMP (F) =     80.0
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=   80.00 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     0.000 JET TEMP (F) =     80.0
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=   80.00 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     0.000 JET TEMP (F) =     80.0
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    80.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.000E+00

TIME (S)=   30.000 LYR TEMP (F)=    89.6 LYR HT (FT)=   28.90 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.562E+03
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.1776E+03 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   80.78 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     1.866 JET TEMP (F) =     94.9
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=   85.37 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.077 JET TEMP (F) =     95.3
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=   81.83 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     0.873 JET TEMP (F) =     87.4
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=    84.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.312E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=    81.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.122E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    80.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.570E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    80.4 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.325E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    80.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.212E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    80.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.152E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=   60.000 LYR TEMP (F)=    96.5 LYR HT (FT)=   27.34 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.134E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.3552E+03 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   82.80 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.395 JET TEMP (F) =    105.0
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=   95.13 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.657 JET TEMP (F) =    105.8
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=   85.76 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     1.117 JET TEMP (F) =     92.9
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=    92.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.517E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=    85.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.223E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    82.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.107E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    81.4 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.619E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    80.9 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.405E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    80.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.292E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=   90.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   103.2 LYR HT (FT)=   25.65 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.216E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.5328E+03 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   85.90 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.809 JET TEMP (F) =    114.5
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  105.74 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.104 JET TEMP (F) =    115.8
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=   90.66 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     1.305 JET TEMP (F) =     98.2
```

FIGURE C.4 Printout of the Default-Case Output.

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```
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   102.4 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.687E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=    89.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.317E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    84.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.156E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    82.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.908E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    81.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.598E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    81.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.987E-03 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  120.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   111.5 LYR HT (FT)=   23.85 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.301E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.9470E+03 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   90.30 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.614 JET TEMP (F) =    129.3
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  118.43 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.966 JET TEMP (F) =    132.1
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=   96.66 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     1.667 JET TEMP (F) =    106.2
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   115.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.113E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=    96.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.543E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    87.9 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.266E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    84.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.154E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    83.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.101E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    82.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.728E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  150.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   124.4 LYR HT (FT)=   21.85 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.390E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.1479E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=   97.16 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     4.364 JET TEMP (F) =    149.2
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  137.37 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     4.754 JET TEMP (F) =    153.4
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  105.49 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     1.998 JET TEMP (F) =    117.4
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   136.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.158E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   107.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.810E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=    93.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.405E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    87.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.236E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    85.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.155E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    83.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.112E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  180.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   140.2 LYR HT (FT)=   19.77 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.477E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.2012E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=      0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  106.66 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     5.008 JET TEMP (F) =    171.4
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  159.68 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     5.414 JET TEMP (F) =    176.5
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  116.69 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.275 JET TEMP (F) =    130.2
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   160.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.195E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   120.4 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.106E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   100.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.545E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    91.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.322E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    87.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.213E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    85.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.332E-02 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  210.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   158.7 LYR HT (FT)=   19.59 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.471E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.2722E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=     96.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  118.85 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     5.605 JET TEMP (F) =    196.8
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  184.03 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     6.021 JET TEMP (F) =    202.7
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  129.71 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.530 JET TEMP (F) =    144.9
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   185.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.239E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   135.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.137E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   108.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.718E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=    96.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.427E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    91.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.285E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    87.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.210E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

 TIME (S)=  240.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   184.9 LYR HT (FT)=   19.77 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.444E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.3787E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=     96.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  134.89 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     6.327 JET TEMP (F) =    231.8
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  215.69 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     6.741 JET TEMP (F) =    238.2
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  146.44 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     2.832 JET TEMP (F) =    165.1
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
```

FIGURE C.4 *Continued*

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R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   218.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.299E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   156.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.180E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   119.9 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.971E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   103.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.582E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=    95.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.389E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    90.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.288E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  270.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   217.5 LYR HT (FT)=   20.17 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.407E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.4852E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  155.49 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     6.854 JET TEMP (F) =    271.3
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  253.19 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.244 JET TEMP (F) =    277.0
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  167.24 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.043 JET TEMP (F) =    188.5
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   254.4 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.339E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   181.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.217E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   133.9 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.121E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   112.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.735E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   101.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.494E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    93.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.371E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  300.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   253.4 LYR HT (FT)=   22.84 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.281E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.5918E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  179.59 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     6.901 JET TEMP (F) =    308.7
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  289.67 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.195 JET TEMP (F) =    311.3
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  189.77 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.023 JET TEMP (F) =    211.4
TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS     282.8710 (S)
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   287.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.352E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   205.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.238E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   148.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.138E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   121.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.851E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   107.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.574E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=    98.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.428E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  330.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   284.4 LYR HT (FT)=   24.25 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.216E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.6983E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  206.05 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.109 JET TEMP (F) =    342.3
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  322.58 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.227 JET TEMP (F) =    341.6
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  211.77 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.036 JET TEMP (F) =    231.8
TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS     282.8710 (S)
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   316.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.366E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   229.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.257E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   163.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.153E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   130.9 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.952E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   114.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.644E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=   103.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.481E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

 TIME (S)=  360.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   307.3 LYR HT (FT)=   24.77 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.191E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.8048E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  233.80 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.559 JET TEMP (F) =    370.4
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  351.11 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.461 JET TEMP (F) =    367.4
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  231.51 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.134 JET TEMP (F) =    248.9
TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS     282.8710 (S)
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   344.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.380E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   252.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.275E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   178.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.167E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
```

FIGURE C.4 ***Continued***

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R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   140.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.105E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   120.8 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.709E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=   107.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.530E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  390.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   327.0 LYR HT (FT)=   24.81 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.185E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.9113E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  262.32 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     8.168 JET TEMP (F) =    397.0
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  376.92 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.811 JET TEMP (F) =    392.0
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  249.19 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.281 JET TEMP (F) =    264.9
TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS     282.8710 (S)
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   372.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.398E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   275.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.294E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   194.1 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.181E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   150.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.114E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   127.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.773E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=   113.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.574E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18

TIME (S)=  400.000 LYR TEMP (F)=   333.5 LYR HT (FT)=   24.77 LYR MASS (LB)= 0.185E+04
FIRE OUTPUT (BTU/S)=  0.9468E+04 VENT AREA (FT2)=    192.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (F)=  271.98 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     8.387 JET TEMP (F) =    406.0
LINK =  2 LINK TEMP (F)=  385.32 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     7.936 JET TEMP (F) =    400.2
LINK =  3 LINK TEMP (F)=  254.85 JET VELOCITY (FT/S)=     3.333 JET TEMP (F) =    270.2
TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS     282.8710 (S)
TIME LINK    2  OPENS EQUALS     186.7478 (S)
TIME LINK    3  OPENS EQUALS     266.9820 (S)
R (FT)=    0.00 TSL (F)=   381.3 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.403E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   12.41 TSL (F)=   283.5 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.300E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   24.82 TSL (F)=   199.2 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.186E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   37.23 TSL (F)=   153.6 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.117E+00 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   49.64 TSL (F)=   129.7 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.794E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
R (FT)=   62.05 TSL (F)=   115.0 QB (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.589E-01 QT (BTU/FT2 S)= 0.847E-18
```

FIGURE C.4 ***Continued***

Option 6, HEIGHT TO BOTTOM OF CURTAIN, of the room properties menu is used to define the height above the floor of the bottom of the curtain. As can be seen, in the default data, this is 15 ft. Where this height is chosen to be identical to the ceiling height, the user should always define the very special idealized simulation associated with an extensive, unconfined ceiling fire scenario (i.e., by whatever means, it is assumed that the flow of the ceiling jet is extracted from the compartment at the extremities of the ceiling). Under such a simulation, an upper layer never develops in the compartment. The lower-ceiling surface and fusible links are submerged in and respond to an unconfined ceiling jet environment, which is unaffected by layer growth. This idealized fire scenario, involving the unconfined ceiling, is used, for example, in reference [1] to simulate ceiling response and in references [2] and [3] to simulate sprinkler response.

The choice of some options on a menu, such as Option 4, NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC., of the room properties menu, leads to a subsequent display/requirement of additional associated input data. Menu options that necessitate multiple entries are indicated by the use of "ETC." In the case of Option 4, NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC., three values are involved for each vent or group of vents actuated by a fusible link. As indicated under Option 4, NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC., the default data describe a scenario with two vents or groups of vents.

Now choose Option 4, NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC., to review and modify the default input data associated with these two vents or groups of vents. Enter 4 <ret>. The following is displayed on the screen:

VENT NO. = 1 FUSIBLE LINK = 2 VENT AREA = 96.00000 FT2

VENT NO. = 2 FUSIBLE LINK = 3 VENT AREA = 96.00000 FT2

ENTER 6 TO REMOVE A VENT

ENTER VENT NO., LINK NO., AND VENT AREA (FT2) TO ADD OR MODIFY A VENT

MAXIMUM NO. OF VENTS IS 5

ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO THE MENU

This display indicates that the two simulated vents or groups of vents are numbered 1 (VENT NO. = 1) and 2 (VENT NO. = 2), that they are actuated by fusible links numbered 2 (FUSIBLE LINK = 2) and 3 (FUSIBLE LINK = 3), respectively, and that each of the two vents or groups of vents has a total area of 96 ft^2 (VENT AREA = 96.00000 FT2).

In the default fire scenario, it would be of interest to study the effect of "ganging" the operation of all four vents (total area of 192 ft^2) to fusing of the closest vent link. To do so, it would be necessary to first remove vent number 2, as identified in the preceding menu, and then to modify the area of vent number 1.

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To remove vent number 2, enter 6 <ret>. The following is now displayed on the screen:

ENTER NUMBER OF VENT TO BE ELIMINATED
ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO MENU

Now enter 2 <ret>. This completes removal of vent 2, with the following revision displayed on the screen:

VENT NO. = 1 FUSIBLE LINK = 2 VENT AREA = 96.00000 FT2
ENTER 6 TO REMOVE A VENT
ENTER VENT NO., LINK NO., AND VENT AREA (FT2) TO ADD OR MODIFY A VENT
MAXIMUM NO. OF VENTS IS 5
ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO THE MENU

Now modify the characteristics of vent number 1. To do so, enter 1 <ret>, 2 <ret>, 192. <ret>. The screen will now display the following:

VENT NO. = 1 FUSIBLE LINK = 2 VENT AREA = 192.00000 FT2
ENTER 6 TO REMOVE A VENT
ENTER VENT NO., LINK NO., AND VENT AREA (FT2) TO ADD OR MODIFY A VENT
MAXIMUM NO. OF VENTS IS 5
ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO THE MENU

To add or reimplement vent number 2, actuated by link number 3 and of area 96 ft^2, enter 2 <ret>, 3 <ret>, 96. <ret>. Now return to the original default scenario by bringing the area of vent number 1 back to its original 96 ft^2 value; enter 1<ret>, 2 <ret>, and 96. <ret>.

The user can now continue to modify or add additional ceiling vents or return to the room properties menu by entering 0 <ret>. If the user tries to associate a vent with a link not yet entered in the program, the code will warn the user, give the maximum number of links available in the present data set, and request a new link value. If the user deletes a link that is assigned to a vent, the code will assign the link with the next smallest number to that vent. The best method for assigning vents to links is to first use Option 4, FUSIBLE LINK PROPERTIES, of the base menu (to be discussed in C.5.5) to assign the link parameters and then to use Option 1, ROOM PROPERTIES, followed by the option NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC. to assign vent properties.

Now return to the room properties menu by entering 0 <ret>, then to the base menu by entering 0 <ret> again.

With the base menu back on the screen, choose Option 2, PHYSICAL PROPERTIES, to review and/or modify the default room property input data. Enter 2 <ret>.

C.5.3 Physical Properties. When Option 2, PHYSICAL PROPERTIES, of the base menu is chosen, the following physical properties menu is displayed:

MATERIAL = INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE)
HEAT CONDUCTIVITY = 2.400E-05 (BTU/S LB F)
HEAT CAPACITY = 2.770E-01 (BTU/LB F)
DENSITY = 6.550E+01 (LB/FT3)

1	80.00000	AMBIENT TEMPERATURE (F)
2	0.50000	MATERIAL THICKNESS (FT)
3	MATERIAL =	INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE)
0		CHANGE NOTHING

The values in Options 1 and 2 are modified by entering the option number and then the new value.

Now choose Option 3 by coding 3 <ret>. The following menu is displayed:

1 CONCRETE
2 BARE METAL DECK
3 INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE)
4 WOOD
5 OTHER

By choosing one of Options 1 through 4 of this menu, the user specifies the material properties of the ceiling according to the table of standard material properties in reference [4]. When the option number of one of these materials is chosen, the material name, thermal conductivity, heat capacity, and density are displayed on the screen as part of an updated physical properties menu.

Now choose Option 5, OTHER, by entering 5 <ret>. The following screen is displayed:

ENTER MATERIAL NAME
THERMAL CONDUCTIVITY (BTU/S FT F)
HEAT CAPACITY (BTU/LB F)
DENSITY (LB/FT3)

The four indicated inputs are required. After they are entered, the screen returns to an updated physical properties menu.

Now return to the default material, INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE). To do so, enter any arbitrary material name with any three property values (enter MATERIAL<ret>, 1. <ret>, 1. <ret>, 1. <ret>); then choose Option 3, MATERIAL, from the menu displayed (enter 3 <ret>); and, from the final menu displayed, choose Option 3, INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE) by entering 3 <ret>.

Now return to the base menu. Enter 0 <ret>. Choose Option 3, OUTPUT PARAMETERS, of the base menu to review or modify the default output-parameter data. Enter 3 <ret>.

C.5.4 Output Parameters. When Option 3, OUTPUT PARAMETERS, of the base menu is chosen, the following output-parameters menu is displayed:

1	400.000000	FINAL TIME (S)
2	30.000000	OUTPUT INTERVAL (S)
0		CHANGE NOTHING

FINAL TIME represents the ending time of the calculation. OUTPUT INTERVAL controls the time interval between successive outputs of the calculation results. All times are in seconds. For example, assume that it is desired to run a fire scenario for 500 seconds with an output of results every 10 seconds. First choose Option 1 with a value of 500 (enter 1 <ret>, 500. <ret>), then Option 2 with a value of 10 (enter 2 <ret>, 10. <ret>). The following revised output-parameters menu is displayed:

1	500.000000	FINAL TIME (S)
2	10.000000	OUTPUT INTERVAL (S)
0		CHANGE NOTHING

Return to the original default output parameters menu by entering 1 <ret>, 400. <ret>, followed by 2 <ret>, 30. <ret>.

Now return to the base menu from the output parameters menu by entering 0 <ret>.

With the base menu back on the screen, choose Option 4, FUSIBLE LINK PROPERTIES, to review or modify the default fusible link properties data. Enter 4 <ret>.

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C.5.5 Fusible Link Properties. When Option 4, FUSIBLE LINK PROPERTIES, of the base menu is chosen, the following fusible link properties menu is displayed:

TO ADD OR CHANGE A LINK, ENTER LINK NO., RADIUS (FT), DISTANCE BELOW CEILING (FT), RTI (SQRT[FT S]), AND FUSE TEMPERATURE (F).

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF LINKS EQUALS 10.

ENTER 11 TO REMOVE A LINK.

ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO THE MENU.

LINK #	RADIUS (FT)	DISTANCE (FT) BELOW CEILING	RTI SQRT (FT S)	FUSE TEMP (F)
1	6.000	1.000	400.000	165.000
2	21.200	0.300	50.000	165.000
3	44.300	0.300	50.000	165.000

Each fusible link must be assigned a link number (e.g., LINK # = 1), radial position from the plume–ceiling impingement point (e.g., RADIUS = 6.00 FT), ceiling-to-link separation distance (e.g., DISTANCE BELOW CEILING = 1.00 FT), response time index (e.g., RTI = 400.00 SQRT[FT S]), and fuse temperature (e.g., FUSE TEMPERATURE = 165.00 F).

Suppose that in the default fire scenario it was desired to simulate the thermal response of the group of (four) sprinkler links second closest to the fire. According to the description in Section C.3 and in Figure C.3(a), this would be done by adding a fourth link, link number 4, at a radial distance of 13.4 ft, 1 ft below the ceiling, with an RTI of 400 $(\text{ft/sec})^{1/2}$ and a fusion temperature of 165°F. To do this, enter 4 <ret>, 13.4 <ret>, 1. <ret>, 400. <ret>, 165.<ret>. Then the following screen is displayed:

TO ADD OR CHANGE A LINK, ENTER LINK NO., RADIUS (FT), DISTANCE BELOW CEILING (FT), RTI (SQRT[FT S]), AND FUSE TEMPERATURE (F).

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF LINKS EQUALS 10.

ENTER 11 TO REMOVE A LINK.

ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO THE MENU.

LINK #	RADIUS (FT)	DISTANCE (FT) BELOW CEILING	RTI SQRT (FT S)	FUSE TEMP (F)
1	6.000	1.000	400.000	165.000
2	13.400	1.000	400.000	165.000
3	21.200	0.300	50.000	165.000
4	44.300	0.300	50.000	165.000

Note that the new link, which was entered as link number 4, was sorted automatically into the list of the original three links and that all four links were renumbered according to radial distance from the fire. The original link-vent assignments are preserved in this operation. Hence, the user need not return to Option 4, NUMBER OF VENTS, ETC., unless it is desired to reassign link-vent combinations.

A maximum of 10 link responses can be simulated in any one simulation.

Now remove link number 2 to return to the original default array of links. To do so, enter 11 <ret>. The following screen is displayed:

ENTER THE NUMBER OF THE LINK TO BE REMOVED

Enter 2 <ret> to remove link 2.

Now return to the base menu from the fusible link properties menu by entering 0 <ret>.

With the base menu back on the screen, choose Option 5, FIRE PROPERTIES, to review or modify the default fire properties data. Enter 5 <ret>.

C.5.6 Fire Properties. When Option 5, FIRE PROPERTIES, from the base menu is chosen, the following fire properties menu is displayed:

1	2.5	FIRE HEIGHT (FT)
2	330.0	FIRE POWER/AREA (BTU/S FT2), ETC.
3		FIRE OUTPUT AS A FUNCTION OF TIME
0		CHANGE NOTHING

The value associated with Option 1 is the height of the base of the fire above the floor. Change this to 3 ft, for example, by entering 1 <ret> and 3. <ret>. Then return to the default data by entering 1 <ret> and 2.5 <ret>.

The value associated with Option 2 is the fire energy release rate per fire area. It is also possible to consider simulations where the fire area is fixed by specifying a fixed fire diameter. The fire energy release rate per fire area can be changed, or the fixed fire area type of specification can be made by choosing Option 2 by entering 2 <ret>. This leads to a display of the following menu:

1	WOOD PALLETS, STACK, 5 FT HIGH	330 (BTU/S FT2)
2	CARTONS, COMPARTMENTED, STACKED 15 FT HIGH	200 (BTU/S FT2)
3	PE BOTTLES IN COMPARTMENTED CARTONS 15 FT HIGH	540 (BTU/S FT2)
4	PS JARS IN COMPARTMENTED CARTONS 15 FT HIGH	1300 (BTU/S FT2)
5	GASOLINE	200 (BTU/S FT2)
6	INPUT YOUR OWN VALUE IN (BTU/S FT2)	
7	SPECIFY A CONSTANT DIAMETER FIRE IN FT	
0	CHANGE NOTHING	

Options 1 through 5 of the preceding menu are for variable area fires. The Option 1 to 5 constants displayed on the right are the fire energy release rate per unit fire area. They are taken from Table 4.1 of reference [1]. If one of these options is chosen, an appropriately updated fire properties menu is then displayed on the screen. Option 0 would lead to the return of the original fire properties menu.

Option 6 allows any other fire energy release rate per unit fire area of the user's choice. Option 7 allows the user to specify the diameter of a constant area fire instead of an energy release rate per unit area fire. Choice of Option 6 or 7 must be followed by entry of the appropriate value. Then an appropriately updated fire properties menu appears on the screen.

To try Option 7, SPECIFY A CONSTANT DIAMETER FIRE IN FEET, enter 7 <ret>. The following screen is displayed:

ENTER YOUR VALUE FOR FIRE DIAMETER IN FT

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Assume the fire diameter is fixed at 5 ft. Enter 5. <ret>. Then the following screen is displayed:

1	2.50000	FIRE HEIGHT (FT)
2	5.00000	FIRE DIAMETER (FT), ETC.
3		FIRE OUTPUT AS A FUNCTION OF TIME
0		CHANGE NOTHING

Now return to the original default fire properties menu by entering 2 <ret>. The previous menu will be displayed. In this, choose Option 1, WOOD PALLETS, STACK, 5 ft high, by entering 1 <ret>.

Option 3, FIRE OUTPUT AS A FUNCTION OF TIME, of the fire properties menu allows the user to prescribe the fire as a function of time. The prescription involves: (1) linear interpolation between adjacent pairs of user-specified points with coordinates (time in seconds, fire energy release rate in BTU/sec); and (2) continuation of the fire to an arbitrarily large time at the fire energy release rate of the last data point.

Now choose Option 3 by entering 3 <ret>. The following screen associated with the default fire output data is displayed:

1	TIME(s) = 0.00000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.00000E+0
2	TIME(s) = 100.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.59200E+03
3	TIME(s) = 200.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.23670E+04
4	TIME(s) = 400.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.94680E+04
5	TIME(s) = 600.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.21302E+05
6	TIME(s) = 747.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.33000E+05

ENTER DATA POINT NO., TIME (S), AND POWER (BTU/S)
ENTER 11 TO REMOVE A POINT
ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO MENU

As discussed in Section C.3, with use of the six preceding data points, the default simulation will estimate the fire's energy release rate according to the plot of Figure C.3(b).

Additional data points can be added to the fire growth simulation by entering the new data point number, <ret>, the time in seconds, <ret>, the energy release rate in BTU/sec, and <ret>.

The maximum number of data points permitted is 10. The points can be entered in any order. A sorting routine will order the points by time. One point must correspond to zero time.

As an example of adding an additional data point to the preceding six, assume that a closer match to the "*t*-squared" default fire growth curve was desired between 200 seconds and 400 seconds. From Section C.3 it can be verified that the fire energy release rate will be 5325 BTU/sec at $t = 300$. To add this point to the data, thereby forcing the fire growth curve to pass exactly through the "*t*-squared" curve at 300 seconds, enter 7 <ret>, 300. <ret>, and 5325. <ret>. The following revised screen will be displayed:

1	TIME(s) = 0.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.00000E+00
2	TIME(s) = 100.0000	POWER(BTU/S) =0.59200E+03
3	TIME(s) = 200.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.23670E+04
4	TIME(s) = 300.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.53250E+04
5	TIME(s) = 400.0000	POWER(BTU/S) =0.94680E+04
6	TIME(s) = 600.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.21302E+05
7	TIME(s) = 747.0000	POWER(BTU/S) = 0.33000E+05

ENTER DATA PT. NO., TIME (S), AND POWER (BTU/S)
ENTER 11 TO REMOVE A POINT
ENTER 0 TO RETURN TO MENU

Note that the revised point, which was entered as point number 7, has been resorted into the original array of data points and that all points have been renumbered appropriately.

Now remove the point just added (which is now point number 4). First enter 11 <ret>. Then the following screen is displayed:

ENTER THE NUMBER OF THE DATA POINT TO BE REMOVED

Now enter 4 <ret>. This brings the fire growth simulation data back to the original default set of values.

Now return to the fire properties menu. Enter 0 <ret>. Then return to the base menu by entering again 0 <ret>.

With the base menu back on the screen, it is assumed that the inputing of all data required to define the desired fire simulation is complete. Now choose Option 0, NO CHANGES, to proceed to the file status menu. Enter 0 <ret>.

C.5.7 Solver Parameters. Users of the code will generally have no need to refer to this section (i.e., especially when learning to use the LAVENT code, a user should now skip to Section C.6), since they are rarely, if ever, expected to run into a situation where the code is not able to obtain a solution for a particular application or is taking an inordinate amount of time to produce the solution. However, if this does happen, there are a number of variations of the default solver parameter inputs that can resolve the problem.

Start the input part of the program to get to the base menu. Then choose Option 6, SOLVER PARAMETERS, by entering 6 <ret>. The following input options menu will be displayed:

1	0.6500E+00	GAUSS-SEIDEL RELAXATION
2	0.1000E-04	DIFF EQ SOLVER TOLERANCE
3	0.1000E-04	GAUSS-SEIDEL TOLERANCE
4	2.000000	FLUX UPDATE INTERVAL (S)
5	6	NUMBER OF CEILING GRID POINTS, MIN=2, MAX=50
6	0.1000E-07	SMALLEST MEANINGFUL VALUE
7		CHANGE NOTHING

The solvers used in this code consist of a differential equation solver DDRIVE2, used to solve the set of differential equations associated with the layer and the fusible links, and a Gauss–Seidel/tridiagonal solver using the Crank–Nicolson formalism to solve the set of partial differential equations associated with the heat conduction calculation for the ceiling. Because two different solvers are being used in the code, there is potential for the solvers to become incompatible with each other, particularly if the upper layer has nearly reached a steady-state temperature but the ceiling is still increasing its temperature. When this occurs, the differential equation solver will try to take time steps that are

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too large for the Gauss–Seidel solver to handle, and a growing oscillation in the ceiling temperature variable might occur. By reducing the FLUX UPDATE INTERVAL, the growing oscillation can be suppressed. The smaller the FLUX UPDATE INTERVAL, the slower the code will run.

The GAUSS–SEIDEL RELAXATION coefficient can be changed to produce a faster running code or to handle a case that will not run with a different coefficient. Typical values of this coefficient should range between 0.2 and 1.0.

The DIFF EQ SOLVER TOLERANCE and the GAUSS–SEIDEL TOLERANCE can also be changed. Decreasing or increasing these values can provide a faster running code for a given case, and by decreasing the value of the tolerances, the accuracy of the calculations can be increased. If the tolerance values are made too small, the code will either run very slowly or not run at all. Suggested tolerances would be in the range of 0.00001 to 0.000001.

Consistent with the model assumptions, accuracy in the radial ceiling temperature distribution around the plume–ceiling impingement point is dependent on the NUMBER OF CEILING GRID POINTS. Relatively greater or lesser accuracy is achieved by using relatively more or fewer grid points. This leads, in turn, to a relatively slower or faster computer run.

C.6 File Status — Running the Code. When Option 0, NO CHANGES, of the base menu is chosen, the following file status menu is displayed:

1 SAVE THE FILE AND RUN THE CODE
2 SAVE THE FILE BUT DON'T RUN THE CODE
3 DON'T SAVE THE FILE BUT RUN THE CODE
4 ABORT THE CALCULATION

If one of the save options is selected, the user will be asked to supply a file name to designate the file where the newly generated input data are to be saved. The program will automatically create the new file. File names may be as long as eight characters and should have a common extender such as .DAT (for example MYFILE.DAT). The maximum length that can be used for the total length of input or output files is 25 characters. For example, C:\SUBDIRECT\FILENAME.DAT would allow a file named FILENAME.DAT to be read from the subdirectory SUBDIRECT on the C drive. To read a file from a floppy disk in the A drive, use A:FILENAME.DAT. If Option 4 is chosen, the program will end without any file being saved.

A request for an output file name can appear on the screen. File names can be as long as eight characters and should have an extender such as ".OUT" so that the output files can easily be recognized. To output a file to a floppy disk in the A drive, name the file A:FILENAME.OUT. To output a file to a subdirectory other than the one that is resident to the program, use C:\SUBDIRECT\FILENAME.OUT for the subdirectory SUBDIRECT.

Once the output file has been designated, the program will begin to execute. The statement PROGRAM RUNNING will appear on the screen. Each time the program writes to the output file, a statement such as T = 3.0000E01 S will appear on the screen to provide the user with the present output time.

C.7 The Output Variables and the Output Options. The program generates two separate output files. An example of the first output file is appended at the end of this document. This file is named by the user and consists of a listing of the input data plus all the relevant output variables in a format where the output units are specified and the meanings of all but three of the output variables are clearly specified. These latter variables are *TSL*, *QB*, and *QT*, the temperature of the ceiling inside the enclosure, the net heat transfer flux to the bottom surface of the ceiling, and the net heat transfer flux to the top surface of the ceiling, respectively. The variables are output as a function of radius, with $R = 0$ being the center of the fire plume projected on the ceiling. Other abbreviations include LYR TEMP, LYR HT, LYR MASS, JET VELOCITY, and JET TEMP — the upper-layer (layer adjacent to the ceiling) temperature, height of the upper-layer interface above the floor, mass of gas in the layer, ceiling jet velocity, and ceiling jet temperature at the position of each fusible link, respectively. The VENT AREA is the total area of roof vents open at the time of output.

The second output file, GRAPH.OUT, is used by the graphics program GRAPH. GRAPH is a Fortran program that makes use of a graphics software package to produce graphical output of selected output variables [5, 6]. To use the graphics program, the file GRAPH.OUT must be in the same directory as the program GRAPH. GRAPH is a menu-driven program that provides the user with the ability to plot two sets of variables on the PC screen. An option exists that permits the user to print the plots from the screen to a printer. If using an attached EPSON-compatible printer, enter <ret> to produce a plot using the printer. To generate a PostScript file for use on a laser printer, enter <ret> and provide a file name when the file name prompt appears in the upper left hand corner of the graph. To exit to screen mode from the graphics mode, enter <ret>. The file GRAPH.OUT will be destroyed each time the code LAVENT is run. If the user wishes to save the graphics file, it must be copied using the DOS copy command into another file with a different file name.

To demonstrate the use of GRAPH, start the program by entering graph <ret>. GRAPH will read in the graphics output file GRAPH.OUT, and the following screen will be displayed:

ENTER 0 TO PLOT POINTS, ENTER 1 TO PLOT AND CONNECT POINTS

The graphics presented in Figure C.7(a) through Figure C.7(e) were done with GRAPH using option 0. Enter 0 <ret> and the following graphics menu is displayed:

ENTER THE X AND Y VARIABLES FOR THE DESIRED TWO GRAPHS

1 TIME
2 LAYER TEMPERATURE
3 LAYER HEIGHT
4 LAYER MASS
5 FIRE OUTPUT
6 CEILING VENT AREA
7 PLUME FLOW
8 LINK TEMPERATURE
9 JET VELOCITY AT LINK
10 JET TEMPERATURE AT LINK

Two plots can be studied on a single screen. For example, from the default simulation, assume that displays of the plots of Figure C.7(a) and Figure C.7(b), LAYER HEIGHT vs. TIME and LAYER TEMPERATURE vs. TIME, respectively, are desired. Then enter 1 <ret>, 3 <ret>, 1 <ret>, and 2 <ret>. The program will respond with the following prompt:

ENTER THE TITLES FOR THE TWO GRAPHS, 16 CHARACTERS MAX.

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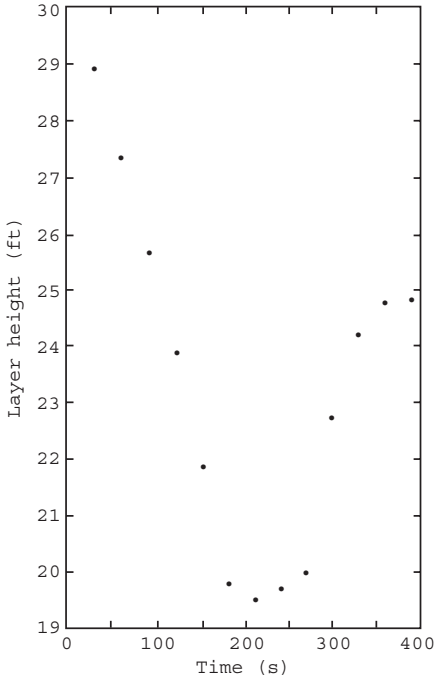


FIGURE C.7(a) Plot of the Height of the Smoke Layer Interface vs. Time for the Default Simulation.

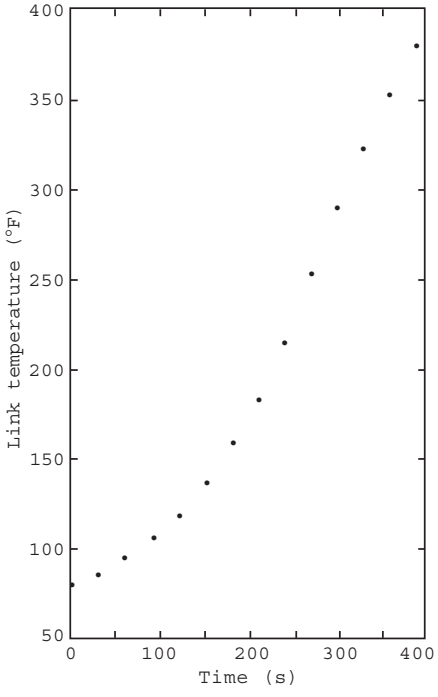


FIGURE C.7(c) Plot of the Closest (R = 21.2 ft) Vent-Link Temperature vs. Time for the Default Simulation.

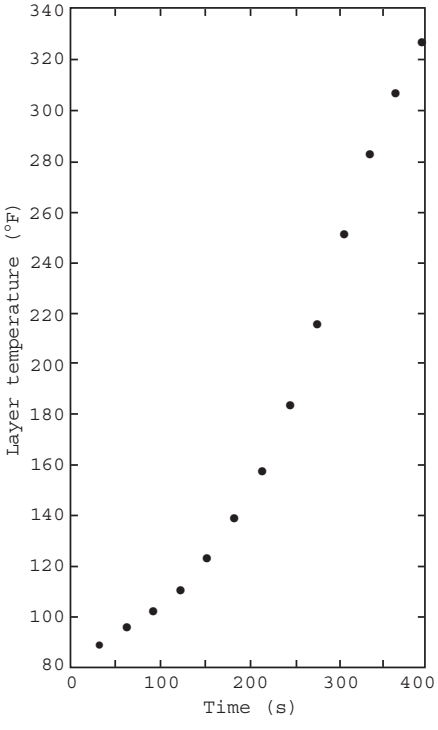


FIGURE C.7(b) Plot of the Temperature of the Smoke Layer vs. Time for the Default Simulation.

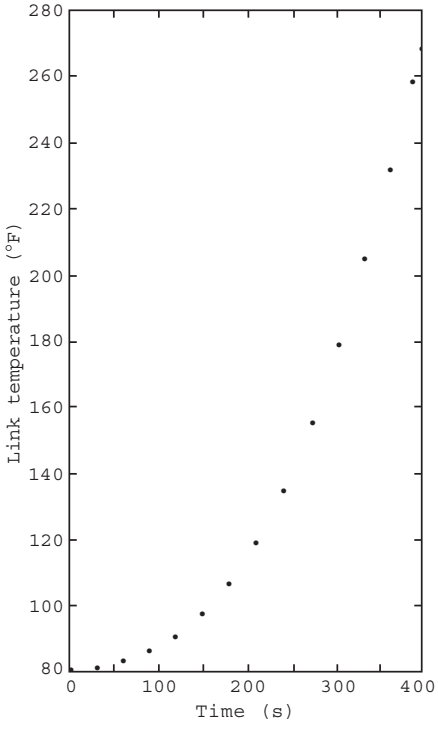


FIGURE C.7(d) Plot of the Far (R = 44.3 ft) Pair of Vent-Link Temperatures vs. Time for the Default Simulation.

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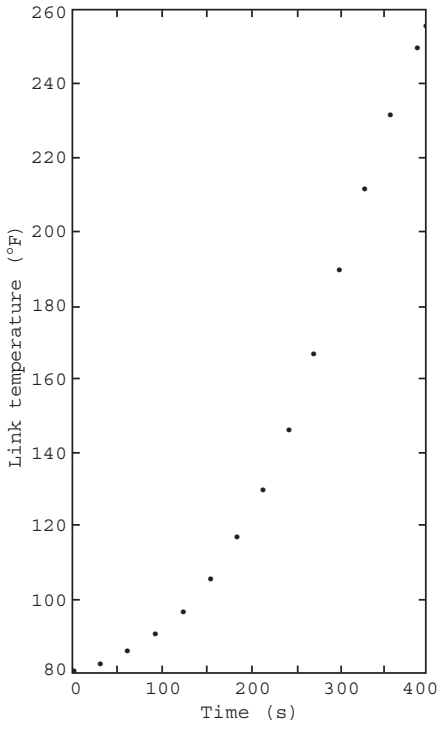


FIGURE C.7(e) Plot of the Closest (R = 6 ft) Sprinkler-Link Temperatures vs. Time for the Default Simulation.

The user might choose titles that would identify particular cases such as LYHT RUN 100 <ret> and LYTEMP RUN 100 <ret>. If a title longer than 16 characters is chosen, it will be truncated to 16 characters. After the titles have been entered, the program will respond with the following prompt:

ENTER 1 FOR DEFAULT SCALING, 2 FOR USER SCALING.

If the user chooses option 1, the desired plots will appear on the screen with an internal scaling for the *x*- and *y*-axis of each graph. If the user chooses option 2, the program will respond with the following prompt:

ENTER THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM VALUES FOR THE X AND Y AXIS OF EACH GRAPH.

ENTER 0 FOR THE MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM VALUES OF EACH AXIS WHERE DEFAULT SCALING IS DESIRED. FOR EXAMPLE, VALUES SHOULD BE ENTERED AS 0.,100.,0.,200.,10.,50.,20.,100.<ret> FOR X1(0-100), Y1(0-200), X2(10-50), Y2(20-100).

Use of this option allows a number of different cases to be compared using similar values for the *x*- and *y*-axis of each graph. All eight numbers must be entered and separated with commas before entering <ret>. Once the entry is made, the plots will appear on the screen. Note that this option permits a mixture of default scaling and user-specified scaling.

Once a pair of plots are displayed on the screen, the user would have the choice of entering <ret> to obtain a hard-copy plot of the graphs or of entering <ret> to exit the graphics mode.

To plot a second pair of graphs, the user would exit the graphics mode by entering <ret> and then repeat the preceding process by entering graph <ret>, and so forth.

If the user selects plots that involve variables defined by Option 8, 9, or 10, then, following the entry 8 <ret>, 9 <ret>, or 10 <ret>, the following prompt for identifying the desired link number (in the default simulation with three simulated links) will be displayed immediately:

ENTER LINK NUMBER, MAXIMUM NUMBER = 3

The user would then enter the desired link number followed by <ret> and continue entering the remaining input data that define the desired plots.

As an example of generating link-related plots, consider displaying the pair of plots LINK TEMPERATURE vs. TIME and JET VELOCITY AT LINK vs. TIME for link number 3 in the default simulation. First enter 1 <ret> (for TIME on the *x*-axis) and 8 <ret> (for LINK TEMPERATURE on the *y*-axis). At this point, "ENTER LINK NUMBER . . ." would be displayed on the screen. Continue by entering 3 <ret> (for link number 3). This would complete the data entry for the first of the two plots. For the second plot, enter 1 <ret> (for TIME on the *x*-axis) and 9 <ret> (for LINK TEMPERATURE on the *y*-axis). At this point, "ENTER LINK NUMBER . . ." would be displayed a second time. Then conclude data input for the pair of plots by entering 3 <ret> (for link number 3). At this point the desired pair of plots would be displayed on the screen.

C.8 An Example Simulation — The Default Case. This section presents and reviews briefly the simulation of the default case.

The tabular output of the default simulation is presented in Figure C.4. Plots of the layer-interface height and of the layer temperature as functions of time are plotted in Figure C.7(a) and Figure C.7(b), respectively. Plots of the thermal response of the two pairs of vent links and the pair of sprinkler links closest to the fire are presented in Figure C.7(c) through Figure C.7(e), respectively.

From Figure C.4 and Figure C.7(c) through Figure C.7(e), it is seen that the sequence of link fusing (at 165°F) is predicted to be the near pair of vents at 187 seconds, the far pair of vents at 267 seconds, and the pair of closest sprinklers at 283 seconds. Although the sprinkler links are closer to the fire than any of the vent links, and although all links have the same fuse temperatures, the simulation predicts that the sprinkler links fuse after all of the vent links. There are two reasons for this. First, the RTIs of the sprinkler links are larger than those of the vent links and, therefore, slower to respond thermally. Second, the two sprinkler links simulated are far enough from the ceiling as to be below the peak temperature of the ceiling jet, which is relatively thin at the 6 ft radial position (see the lower sketch of Figure C.2).

The effect on layer growth of fusing of the two pairs of vent links and opening of their corresponding vents at 187 seconds and 267 seconds can be noted in Figure C.7(a). Note that the opening of the first pair of vents effectively stops the rate-of-increase of layer thickness and the opening of the second pair of vents leads to a relatively rapid rate-of-decrease in the layer thickness. All of this is of course occurring at times when the energy release rate of the fire is growing rapidly.

As can be seen in Figure C.7(a), up until the 400 seconds of simulation time, the smoke is still contained in the original curtained compartment and has not "spilled over" to adjacent spaces. From this figure it appears that with no venting, the layer would have dropped below the bottom of the curtain boards prior to fusing of the first sprinkler links. This could be confirmed with a second simulation run of LAVENT, where all vent action was removed from the default data.

C.9 References for Annex C. 1. Cooper, L. Y., and D. W. Stroup. "Thermal Response of Unconfined Ceilings Above Growing Fires

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and the Importance of Convective Heat Transfer," *Journal of Heat Transfer* 109:172–178, 1987.

2. Evans, D. D. "Calculating Sprinkler Activation Time in Compartments," *Fire Safety Journal* 9:147–155, 1985.

3. Stroup, D. W., and D. D. Evans. "Use of Computer Fire Models for Analyzing Thermal Detector Spacing," *Fire Safety Journal* 14:33–45, 1988.

4. Gross, D. "Data Sources for Parameters Used in Predictive Modeling of Fire Growth and Smoke Spread," NBSIR 85–3223, National Bureau of Standards, Gaithersburg MD, September 1985.

5. Kahaner, D., C. Moher, and S. Nash. *Numerical Methods and Software,* Prentice Hall, New York, NY, 1989.

6. Kahaner, D., National Institute of Standards and Technology, private communication.

Annex D Sample Problem Using Engineering Equations (Hand Calculations) and LAVENT

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

D.1 Abstract. The following example problem illustrates the use of the information, engineering equations, hand calculations, and computer model described in this document. The impact of a fire on a nonsprinklered retail storage building and its occupants is assessed. The effects of an anticipated fire on the subject building are predicted, and the impact of smoke and heat vents is illustrated.

Design goals and objectives were developed, and a high-challenge fire, likely to occur in the subject building, was identified. The fire impact was assessed using three different methods:

(1) Hand calculations assuming a quasi-steady fire
(2) Hand calculations assuming a continuous-growth (t-squared) fire
(3) The computer model LAVENT

Hand calculations are useful for generating quick estimates of the impact of vents on fire effects. However, hand calculations are not able to assess time-varying events. A number of simplifying assumptions have been used to facilitate problem solving via algebraic equations. Hand-calculated results are considered valid, but they produce slightly different estimates of fire effects such as upper-layer temperature. A computer model such as LAVENT generally provides a more complete analysis of the fire-produced effects and, in some instances, is preferable over hand calculations.

D.2 Introduction. The following example problem illustrates the use of engineering equations and a computer model to assess the impact of a fire in a nonsprinklered retail storage building. The problem illustrates the impact of vents and predicts the effect of the anticipated fire on the building.

D.2.1 Goal. Develop a vent design for the subject building that will maintain a tenable environment for a period of time at least equal to the time required to evacuate the building and equal to the time required to maintain the hot upper layer a minimum of 3 m above floor level until the local fire department enters the building.

D.2.2 Objective. Determine the vent area required to maintain the smoke layer at least 3 m above floor level for 300 seconds following detection of the fire by an automatic detection system. Also, limit the heat flux at floor level to a maximum of 2.5 kW/m^2, the threshold irradiance that causes severe pain to exposed skin [1], during the time required for evacuation of the building occupants.

D.2.3 Building Details. The building is 73 m wide, 73 m long, and 9.1 m high. It is not subdivided, nor is it provided with a sprinkler system. The roof is an insulated deck (solid polystyrene). A complete fire alarm system is to be installed using heat detectors spaced 15.2 m on center and 6.1 m from walls. Detectors will have an activation temperature of 74°C and an RTI of 55 $(m \cdot s)^{1/2}$ and are to be located 0.3 m below the roof. Sixteen vents are proposed, spaced 18.3 m on center. Vents will be located 9.05 m from walls. The vents will be activated by fusible links with an activation temperature of 74°C and an RTI of 28 $(m \cdot s)^{1/2}$ and are to be located 0.3 m below the roof. Inlet air openings will be equal to 1.5 the total vent area. *(See Figure D.2.3.)*

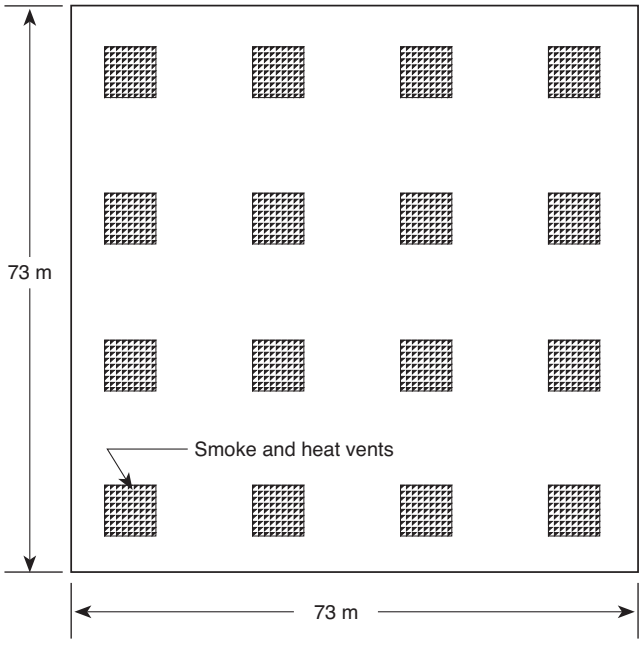


FIGURE D.2.3 Vent Plan View.

D.2.4 Occupancy Details. The building is to be occupied for retail storage. This analysis deals with a fire in rack storage of sofas in the center of the building. The sofas are to be stored in two racks, each 9.75 m long and 1.2 m wide and separated from each other by 2.4 m. Each rack will have four tiers of storage, four sofas per tier, and a total storage height of 7.6 m. Distance to combustibles surrounding the racks will be sufficient to prevent fire spread to those combustibles during the time period covered by this analysis. The sofas are identified as specimen F32 contained within Table E.5.3(d). Data for the same sofas are contained within a database of Hazard I [2], where the sofas are identified as specimen UPS001. Each sofa will contain 51.5 kg of combustible mass and be wrapped in polyethylene.

D.2.5 Ignition. An ignition is assumed to occur in a sofa on the first tier of one of the racks. Ignition of a sofa on the first tier is a probable worst-case scenario and, as a practical matter, is a location where ignition could be expected. Also, placing the fire near floor level results in near-maximum smoke production (entrainment).

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D.3 Fire Growth. First, an estimate of the anticipated fire growth must be developed. A *t*-squared fire will be assumed *(see 8.3.1 and A.8.3.1)*. In a *t*-squared fire,

$$Q = \alpha_g t^2$$

where:
Q = total heat release rate (kW)
α_g = fire growth coefficient
t = time (seconds)

The data base within Hazard I [2] contains data from furniture calorimeter tests of sofas. A sofa (UPS001) was tested and demonstrated a growth time (t_g) to 1 MW of approximately 200 seconds. The fire in the sofa in this example is assumed to have a growth time of 150 seconds to 1 MW as a reasonable, conservative approximation of the anticipated fire in the sofas stored in the example building. If a more precise estimate of the burning characteristics of an individual sofa is necessary, the exact sofa to be stored in the building could be tested in a calorimeter. A fire growth time of 150 seconds results in an α_g for the individual sofa of 0.044 kW/s^2 *(see Equation 8.3.2)*. That is,

$$\alpha_g = \frac{1000}{t_g^2} = \frac{1000}{150^2} = 0.044 \text{ kW/s}^2$$

Accordingly, fire growth in the first sofa ignited can be approximated by a fast (α_g = 0.044 kW/sec^2) *t*-squared fire. Further, according to 8.3.1, α_g is directly proportional to the storage height. Therefore, the fire growth constant (α_g) for sofas stacked four high is 4 times 0.044 kW/s^2, or α_g equals 0.18 kW/s^2, and initial fire growth is approximated as

$$Q = \alpha_g t^2$$

where α_g = 0.18 kW/s^2.

Fire growth in the first rack of sofas results in radiant heat transfer to a second rack of sofas separated from the first rack by 2.4 m. It must be determined when the second rack of sofas ignite. The fire size, when ignition of the second rack of sofas occurs, is determined using Equation 8.2.3 with its terms rearranged:

$$Q = \frac{W}{0.042^2}$$

where:
Q = fire output (kW)
W = aisle width (m)

Next, the time of ignition of the second rack is computed:

$$t = \left(\frac{Q}{\alpha_g}\right)^{1/2} = \left(\frac{3250}{0.18}\right)^{1/2} = 134 \text{ s}$$

where $Q = \alpha_g t^2$.

When the second rack of sofas is ignited at 134 seconds, the fire growth coefficient, α_g, for the two racks burning together is assumed to double the value for the first rack burning alone (α_g = 0.36 kW/s^2). At that time, the fire appears to have originated at effective ignition time, t_{0g}. For t >134 seconds,

$$Q = 0.36\left(t - t_{0g}\right)^2 \text{ kW}$$

Determine t_{0g} as follows:

$$3250 = 0.36\left(134 - t_{0g}\right)^2$$

where t_{0g} = 39 seconds. Then, for t > 134 seconds,

$$Q = 0.36\left(t - 39\right)^2$$

The maximum fire size is now estimated. Sofa UPS001 from the Hazard I database [2] [specimen F32 in Table E.5.3(d)] has a peak burning rate of 3120 kW. Maximum fire size, Q_{max}, is based on the assumption that all 32 sofas are burning at their individual peak rates, 3120 kW:

$$Q_{max} = 32\left(3120\right) \cong 100 \text{ MW}$$

The time, t_{max}, to reach 100 MW must be determined using the following:

$$Q_{max} = 0.36\left(t - 39\right)^2$$

When Q = 100,000 kW,

$$100{,}000 = 0.36\left(t_{max} - 39\right)^2$$

$$t_{max} = \frac{\left(100{,}000\right)^{1/2}}{0.36} + 39 = 566 \text{ s}$$

An estimate of fire duration, t_{end}, is now made using data from the Hazard I [2] database for sofa UPS001, where individual sofa combustible mass = 51.5 kg, sofa effective heat of combustion = 18,900 kJ/kg, and maximum fire size = 100,000 kW.

The mass consumed from t = 0 to t = 134 seconds is determined from the total heat release as follows:

$$\int_0^{134} Q\,dt = \frac{0.18}{3} t^3 \Big|_0^{134} = \frac{0.18}{3}(134)^3 = 144{,}366 \text{ kJ}$$

Since $Q = \dot{m} h_c$ (see Equation E.3a), mass loss, Δm, for t = 134 seconds, is determined as follows:

$$\Delta m = \frac{144{,}366 \text{ kJ}}{18{,}900 \text{ kJ/kg}} = 7.6 \text{ kg} \quad \text{or} \cong 8 \text{ kg}$$

The mass consumed from t = 134 seconds to t_{max}, the time the maximum fire size is reached, is similarly determined from the total heat release rate after 134 seconds, as follows:

$$\int_{134}^{t_{max}} Q\,dt = \int_{134}^{566} 0.36\left(t - 39\right)^2 dt = \int_{134-39}^{566-39} 0.36\beta^2 d\beta = \frac{0.36}{3}(t)^3 \Big|_{95}^{527}$$

Total heat release from t = 134 to t = 566 is then = 0.12[(527)^3 – (95)^3] = 17,460,697 kJ, and the mass lost, Δm, is Δm = 17,460,697 kJ/18,900 kJ/kg = 923.8 ≅ 924 kg.

Approximately (924 + 8) kg = 932 kg is consumed during the 566 second time interval required to reach Q_{max}. The total combustible mass is 51.5 kg × 32 = 1648 kg. Therefore, around (1648 – 932) kg = 716 kg is available to burn at $Q = Q_{max}$ = 100 MW, after t = 566 seconds, from which the fire duration can be calculated as follows:

$$Q_{max}\left(t_{end} - 566\right) = 100{,}000\left(t_{end} - 566\right) = 716(18{,}900)$$

$$t_{end} = 566 + \frac{716(18{,}900)}{100{,}000} = 701.3 \text{ seconds} \cong 700 \text{ s}$$

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The combustible mass of the sofas alone is able to support the anticipated fire for approximately 700 seconds. In reality, the fire in the sofas would reach a maximum of 100 MW at 550–600 seconds and burn briefly at the 100 MW peak until the combustible mass available began to be consumed, at which time the fire's rate of heat release would begin to decline. Using a t_{end} of 700 seconds is conservative.

In summary, the analysis to this point leads to the following estimate for the anticipated fire:

$$Q = 0.18t^2 \quad \text{for } 0 < t \le 134 \text{ s}$$
$$Q = 0.36(t-39)^2 \quad \text{for } 134 < t \le 566 \text{ s}$$
$$Q = 100{,}000 \text{ kW} \quad \text{for } t > 566 \text{ s}$$

(See Figure D.3.)

D.4 Fire Detection. The time of fire detection is now calculated given the fire and building as described. The time of detection will be estimated based on the actual composite fire already described. Detection time can be calculated using Equation 9.2.5.4.3. DETACT-QS *(see A.9.2.5.4.4.2)* is a readily available computational tool that performs this calculation.

A complete fire alarm system is to be installed using heat detectors that are spaced 15.2 m on center (6.1 m from walls), have an activation temperature of 74°C, and have an RTI of 55 $(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$. Assuming the anticipated fire is as described, the maximum distance from a detector to the fire axis is the diagonal $[2(15.2/2)^2]^{1/2} = 10.7$ m, the ambient temperature is 21°C, and the fire is 0.5 m above floor level, DETACT-QS predicts the activation of a heat detector at 230 seconds. In the event quicker detection is judged to be necessary, smoke detector activation can be predicted by DETACT-QS using the guidance provided in A.9.2.5.4.4.1. Detection time for smoke detectors is based on the gas temperature rise at the detector site. Smoke detector activation can be approximated using DETACT-QS, assuming the smoke detector will respond like a heat detector, which has a small RTI [e.g., $1(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$] and a certain activation temperature above ambient *(see A.9.2.5.4.4.1)*. Tests involving burning of the sofa upholstery with the actual detector to be installed have determined that 10°C above ambient is a representative activation condition. Assuming smoke detectors are spaced 9.1 m on center (located a maximum of 6.5 m from the axis of the fire), smoke detector activation is predicted by DETACT-QS at 48 seconds.

Using DETACT-QS, vent operation is predicted using fusible links having an activation temperature of 74°C and an RTI of 28 $(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$. Assuming the anticipated fire is located in the center of the building, the ambient temperature is 21°C, and assuming the fire is 0.5 m above floor level, activation of the first vents (equidistant from the fire) separated $[2(18.3/2)^2]^{1/2} = 12.9$ m from the fire is predicted by DETACT-QS at 228 seconds. The next set of vents (equidistant from the fire at 28.9 m) are predicted to open at 317 seconds. Similarly, the third set of four vents, 38.8 m from the fire axis, open at 356 seconds. All 16 vents are open at 356 seconds. Alternatively, if fusible links having the same RTI as the heat detectors [55 $(\text{m}\cdot\text{s})^{1/2}$] are used, all vents are predicted to be open at 384 seconds.

D.5 Vent Design. Of main concern in this example is the temperature of the smoke layer, which governs the heat flux radiated to the floor. Assuming an emissivity of 1 and a configuration factor of 1, the radiant heat flux at the floor is calculated as follows:

$$Flux_{fl} = k\varepsilon\Phi\pi T^4$$

where:

$Flux_{fl}$ = $(5.67 \times 10^{-11})\text{T}^4\text{kW/m}^2$
k = Stefan–Boltzmann constant = 5.67×10^{-11} kW/m^2 K^4
ε = emissivity = 1
Φ = configuration factor = 1
T = temperature of the layer (K)

For a flux limit of 2.5 kW/m^2, as stated in the objective, the temperature of the smoke layer is calculated as 458 K, or 164 K above the ambient temperature of 294 K.

D.6 Steady Fire — Smoke Layer Temperature. First, conditions following attainment of the maximum heat release rate of 100 MW can be examined (i.e., at times greater than 566 seconds) assuming a smoke layer at the lowest acceptable height, 3 m above the floor. (The heat detector installation contemplated was calculated to provide alarm at 230 seconds; 300 seconds following detection places the time of interest at 530 seconds, close to the attainment of the maximum heat release rate.)

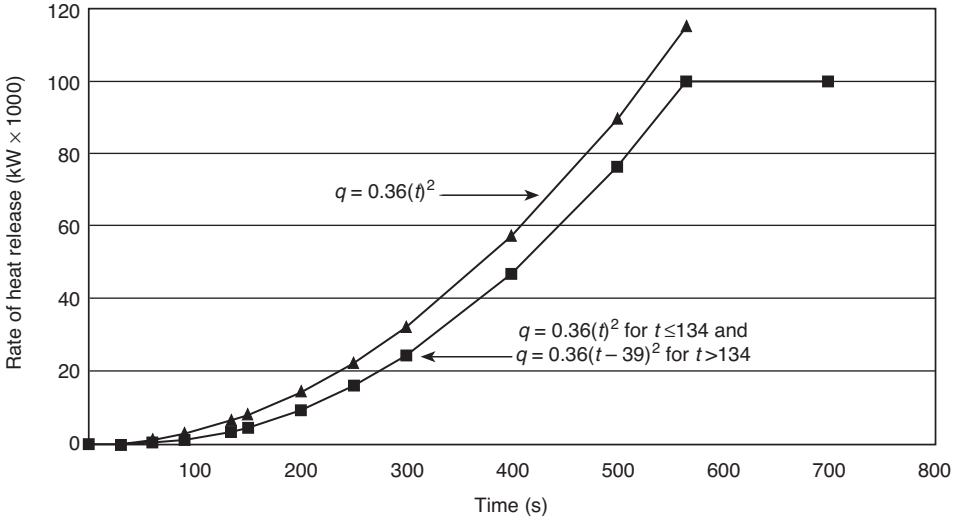


FIGURE D.3 Fire Output.

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The effective diameter of the fire is required for the calculations. This diameter can be determined with the aid of Equation 8.3.7, setting Q = 100,000 kW and selecting an appropriate value for the heat release rate per unit floor area, Q''. The two racks facing each other across the 2.4 m wide aisle are 9.75 m long and 1.2 m wide *(see Figure D.6)*. The heat release rate per unit area is taken as the fully involved heat release rate, 100,000 kW, divided by the combined area of the two racks plus the aisle, or (9.75)(1.2)(2.2) + (9.75)(2.4) = 46.8 m^2. Accordingly, the heat release rate per unit area is

$$Q'' = \frac{100{,}000}{46.8} = 2136 \text{ kW/m}^2$$

This value can be assumed to be representative of most of the fire history, except for the initial stage. The effective diameter of the fire at 100,000 kW is then, using Equation 8.3.7,

$$D = \left[\frac{4(100{,}000)}{\pi(2136)}\right]^{1/2} = 7.72 \text{ m}$$

Equation 9.2.4.3 is used to estimate the smoke layer temperature rise. The mass flow rate in the plume as it enters the smoke layer, $\dot{m}_p$, is calculated from Equation 9.2.3.6 or 9.2.3.7, depending on whether the flame height is smaller or larger than the height of the smoke layer above the base of the fire, 3–0.5 = 2.5 m. The flame height is calculated from Equation 9.2.3, as follows:

$$L = \left[-1.02(7.72)\right] + \left[0.235(100{,}000)^{2/5}\right] = 15.6 \text{ m}$$

which is greater than the height of the smoke layer. (It is even greater than the ceiling height so that the flames will impinge on the ceiling and flow radially outward.) Therefore, the mass flow rate in the plume as it enters the smoke layer is calculated from Equation 9.2.3.7, as follows (assuming $Q_c = 0.7Q$):

$$\dot{m}_p = 0.0056(0.7 \times 100{,}000)\frac{2.5}{15.6} = 62.8 \text{ kg/s}$$

Now the temperature rise in the smoke layer can be estimated using Equation 9.2.4.3, with C_p = 1.00 kJ/kg·K and the value of K = 0.5 recommended in 9.2.4.4.

$$\Delta T = \frac{0.5(70{,}000)}{1.00(62.8)} = 557 \text{ K}$$

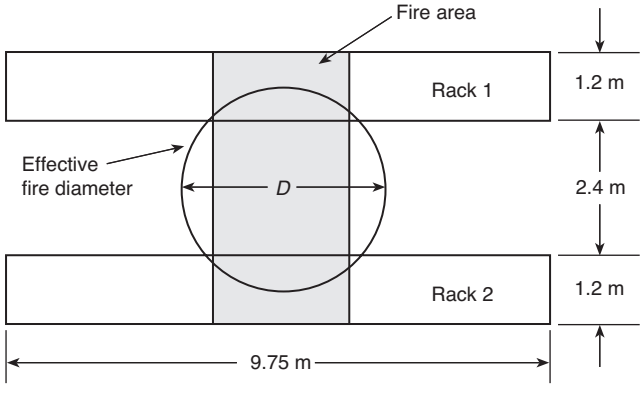


FIGURE D.6 Effective Fire Diameter.

This value is considerably above 164 K; therefore, the floor radiant heat flux can be expected to be much higher than the limit 2.5 kW/m^2. Using the equation for radiant heat flux to the floor presented previously, the value 29.7 kW/m^2 is calculated for a smoke layer temperature of 557 + 294 = 851 K.

Not only is the smoke layer temperature, 557 + 21 = 578°C, so high that it produces unacceptable levels of radiant flux at the floor, but it is also close to the level, 600°C, where fire can flash over all the combustibles under the smoke layer. Furthermore, it exceeds the value, 540°C, where unprotected steel begins losing strength. Directly over the fire the temperatures might locally reach 1135°C (from Equation 9.2.4.3, with K = 1), far in excess of the threshold for steel damage.

D.7 Sizing of Vents. This building arrangement will not meet design objectives. However, it might be instructive to investigate the venting requirements in order to illustrate general procedures that might be used to develop alternative designs.

All 16 vents are predicted to be open prior to 566 seconds — the time of interest.

The aerodynamic vent area, A_{va}, is determined with the aid of Equation 9.2.4.1:

$$\dot{m}_v = \left(2\rho_o^2 g\right)^{1/2}\left(\frac{T_o \Delta T}{T^2}\right)^{1/2} A_{va} d^{1/2}$$

At equilibrium, the mass flow through the vents is equal to the smoke production rate, $\dot{m}_p$. Substituting $\dot{m}_p = 62.6$ kg/s for $\dot{m}_v$ in Equation 9.2.4.1, together with

ρ_o = 1.2 kg/m^3
g = 9.81 m/s^2
T_o = 294 K
ΔT = 559 K
T = 294 + 559 = 853 K
d = 9.1–3 = 6.1 m

the equation can be solved for the aerodynamic vent area. The result is

$$A_{va} = 10.04 \text{ m}^2$$

The vents are assumed to have a discharge coefficient of 0.61; therefore, the corresponding actual vent area is *(see A.9.2.4.2)*

$$A_v = \frac{10.04}{0.61} = 16.46 \text{ m}^2 \text{ (geometric vent area)} \cong 16.5 \text{ m}^2$$

The building design contemplates that inlet air openings will be 1.5 times the vent area. Equation F.2 is used to calculate a correction, M, for the limited inlet air openings.

$$M = \left[1 + \left(\frac{A_v}{A_i^2}\right)\left(\frac{T_o}{T}\right)\right]^{1/2}$$

$$M = \left[1 + \left(\frac{1}{1.5^2}\right)\left(\frac{294}{853}\right)\right]^{1/2} = 1.07$$

The corrected actual vent area is

$$(1.07)(16.5) = 17.66 \text{ m}^2$$

Distributed among the 16 vent locations, the actual area per vent is

$$\frac{17.66}{16} = 1.10 \text{ m}^2$$

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The nearest commercial vent size equal to or larger than this unit vent area would be selected.

The following equation is used to check for $Q_{feasible}$:

$$Q_{feasible} = 23{,}200(H-d)^{5/2}$$
$$Q_{feasible} = 229{,}265 \text{ kW} \cong 230 \text{ MW}$$

where:

$Q_{feasible}$ = feasible fire heat release rate (kW)
H = 9.1 – 0.5 = 8.6 m
d = 6.1 m

This value is higher than the projected heat release rate, 100 MW, and by itself is not of direct concern.

D.8 Increased Height of Smoke Interface. Inspection of Equation 9.2.3.7 indicates that the larger the height of the smoke interface above the base of the fire, the larger the value of mass entrained in the plume, $\dot{m}_p$, and Equation 9.2.4.3 indicates that the temperature rise in the smoke layer will be reduced. The calculations just completed for a smoke layer height of 3 m above the floor can be repeated for other smoke layer heights in search of acceptable alternative designs. The two additional smoke layer heights of 6 m and 7.3 m have been investigated, the latter near the maximum associated with the minimum recommended curtain depth for the 9.1 m high building *(see Section 7.3)*. The final results of these additional calculations indicate values of temperature rise in the smoke layer of 253 K for the 6 m high level and 205 K for the 7.3 m high level. Although these values for smoke layer temperature rise are still a little high compared to the target of 164 K, they represent a major improvement. Furthermore, the temperatures are low enough so as not to represent a flashover hazard or endanger structural steel.

The calculations for the three smoke layer heights at the maximum heat release rate are summarized in Table D.8, entered as cases 1–3. In the table, H_c represents the height of the ceiling above the floor, $H_c - d$ is the height of the smoke interface above the floor, and $H - d$ is the height of the smoke interface above the base of the fire. In cases 1–3, the radiant heat flux at floor level, $flux_{fl}$, is seen to decrease to 5.1 kW/m^2 and 3.5 kW/m^2 as the smoke interface is raised but still remains above 2.5 kW/m^2. The total required vent area (corrected A_v) increases sharply as the smoke layer interface is raised. For the largest interface height, the total vent area of 89.2 m^2 corresponds to an area per vent of 89.2/16 = 5.57 m^2, which is still smaller than the maximum vent area discussed in 5.4.1 [(i.e., $2d^2 = 2(1.8)^2 = 6.48$ m^2].

D.9 Growing Fire. Cases 4–6 in Table D.8 correspond to the growing fire with detection at 230 seconds using heat detectors. The state of the fire is represented at a time 300 seconds following detection with heat detectors (i.e., at 230 + 300 = 530 seconds). It is assumed that all 16 vents are operated together at the alarm of the first heat detector; alternatively, the vents are actuated individually with fusible links of the same RTI and activation temperature as the heat detectors, for which it might be confirmed with DETACT-QS that all vents open prior to 530 seconds. The calculations are parallel to cases 1–3, except that the fire is slightly smaller, as determined from the following:

$$Q = 0.36(t-39)^2 = 0.36(530-39)^2 = 86{,}800 \text{ kW}$$

In cases 4–6, the smoke layer temperatures (ΔT) and radiant fluxes to the floor are only slightly reduced from the corresponding steady fire situations, cases 1–3. Also, there is little change in the required vent areas.

Cases 7–9 in Table D.8 correspond to the growing fire, with detection at 48 seconds using smoke detectors. Again, the state of the fire is represented at a time 300 seconds from detection (i.e., at 348 seconds). It is assumed that the 16 vents are operated together at the alarm of the first smoke detector. The calculations are executed at a state of fire development as follows:

$$Q = 0.36(t-39)^2 = 0.36(348-39)^2 = 34{,}400 \text{ kW}$$

It is seen that case 9 meets the design objective of heat fluxes to the floor that are calculated as being lower than 2.5 kW/m^2, and case 8 nearly does so. The required vent areas are 28.3 m^2 and 47.8 m^2 for cases 8 and 9, respectively, corresponding to unit vent areas (16 vents) of 1.8 m^2 and 3.0 m^2, both of which are well below their respective maxima, $2d^2$, based on 5.4.1.

It will be noted that the case 8 solution using "hand calculations" provides an approximation close to the LAVENT predictions, which are summarized next.

Table D.8 Results of Calculations for Vent Design

Case	Time (s)	Q (MW)	D (m)	L (m)	$H_c - d$ (m)	$H - d$ (m)	d (m)	ΔT (K)	$flux_{fl}$ (kW/m^2)	m_p (kg/s)	M	*corr.* A_v (m^2)
1	≥566	100.0	7.7	15.6	3.0	2.5	6.1	557	29.7	62.8	1.07	17.6
2	≥566	100.0	7.7	15.6	6.0	5.5	3.1	253	5.1	137.8	1.11	53.8
3	≥566	100.0	7.7	15.6	7.3	6.8	1.8	205	3.5	170.4	1.12	89.2
4	530	86.8	7.2	14.9	3.0	2.5	6.1	531	26.4	57.2	1.08	16.1
5	530	86.8	7.2	14.9	6.0	5.5	3.1	241	4.7	125.9	1.12	49.7
6	530	86.8	7.2	14.9	7.3	6.8	1.8	195	3.3	155.7	1.13	82.6
7	348	34.4	4.5	10.7	3.0	2.5	6.1	383	11.8	31.4	1.09	8.6
8	348	34.4	4.5	10.7	6.0	5.5	3.1	174	2.7	69.0	1.13	28.3
9	348	34.4	4.5	10.7	7.3	6.8	1.8	141	2.0	85.3	1.14	47.8

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D.10 LAVENT Analysis. The case 8 vent design in Table D.8 will now be analyzed using the computer program LAVENT [3]. LAVENT is able to assess the time-varying events associated with the predicted fire. The fire has been previously determined as follows:

$$Q = 0.18t^2 \text{ for } 0 < t \le 134 \text{ s}$$

$$Q = 0.36(t - 39)^2 \text{ for } 134 < t \le 566 \text{ s}$$

$$Q = 100{,}000 \text{ kW for } t > 566 \text{ s}$$

The values for this fire will be used as input for LAVENT. The fire is assumed to start in the center of the building.

A complete smoke detection system is to be installed with detectors spaced 9.1 m on center. Detectors are located a maximum of 6.5 m from the fire axis (i.e., one-half the diagonal distance between detectors). As noted in A.9.2.5.4.4.1, detectors have an activation temperature of 31°C (10°C above ambient) and are located 0.1 m below the ceiling.

The vent design will use sixteen 1.76 m^2 vents located 18.3 m on center. All vents automatically open on activation of the first smoke detector.

LAVENT predicts that the upper-layer temperature will be 377°C and that the upper "hot" layer will be 4.6 m above floor level at 600 seconds. A 3 m clear layer is maintained throughout the 600 second time interval. However, heat flux at floor level is projected to be approximately 10 kW/m^2 at 600 seconds, and the design objective of limiting heat flux to 2.5 kW/m^2 at floor level is exceeded. At 342 seconds, the time of detection plus 300 seconds, however, the design objectives are met. At 360 seconds, LAVENT predicts the upper-layer temperature as 444 K (171°C), with the layer being 7.3 m above the floor. The predicted 150 K temperature rise is limited to less than the target value of 164 K, and heat flux at floor level is predicted to be 2.2 kW/m^2. Therefore, the design objectives are satisfied for a time interval greater than the time of detection plus 300 seconds.

Inlet air is 1.5 times the vent area. To maintain the vent flow predicted by LAVENT, inlet air net free area should be maintained at a minimum of twice the open vent area. Although the net free inlet air area is less than required, the inlet area is sufficiently large that LAVENT predictions can be assumed to be reasonably valid. However, consideration should be given to increasing the vent area to account for the restrictions in inlet air.

See Figure D.10(a) through Figure D.10(h) for results of the program, and Figure D.10(i) for a computer printout of the LAVENT output.

D.11 References for Annex D. 1. Purser, D. A. "Toxicity Assessment of Combustion Products," Section 2/Chapter 8, in *The SFPE Handbook of Fire Protection Engineering,* 2nd edition, Society of Fire Protection Engineers and National Fire Protection Association, Quincy, MA, 1995.

2. Peacock, R. D., et al. *Software User's Guide for the Hazard I Fire Hazard Assessment Method, Version 1.1,* NIST Handbook 146, Volume I, United States Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, 1991.

3. Cooper, L. Y., and W. D. Davis. *Estimating the Environment and the Response of Sprinkler Links in Compartment Fires with Draft Curtains and Fusible Link-Actuated Ceiling Vents — Part II: User Guide for the Computer Code Lavent,* NISTIR 89-4122, United States Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, July 1989.

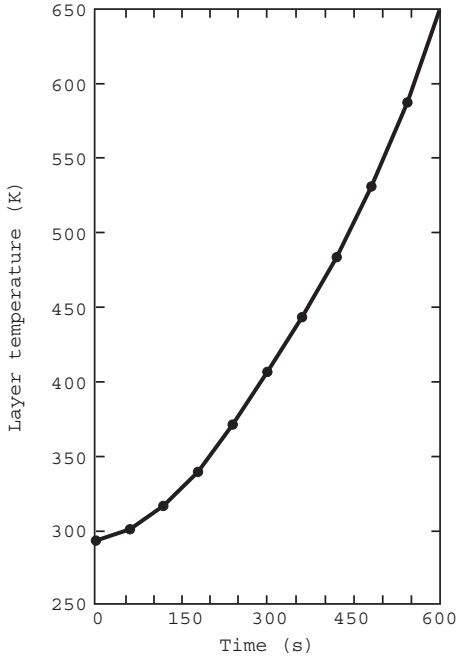


FIGURE D.10(a) Layer Temperature.

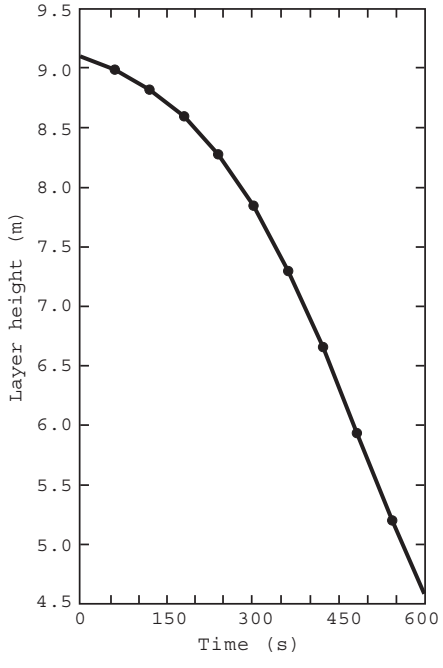


FIGURE D.10(b) Layer Height.

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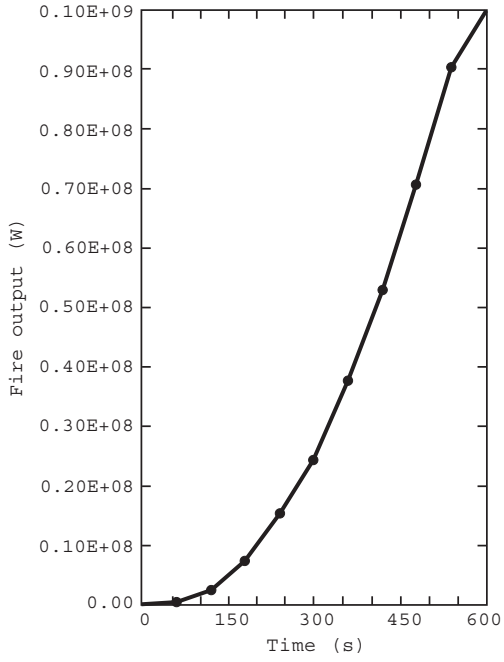


FIGURE D.10(c) Fire Output.

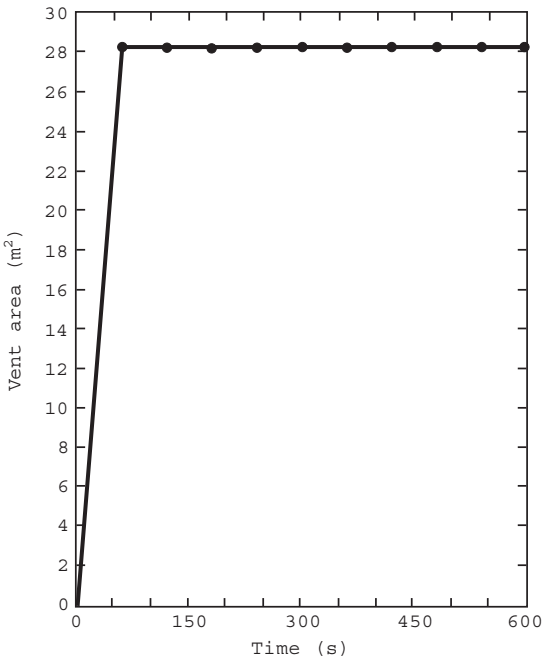


FIGURE D.10(d) Vent Area.

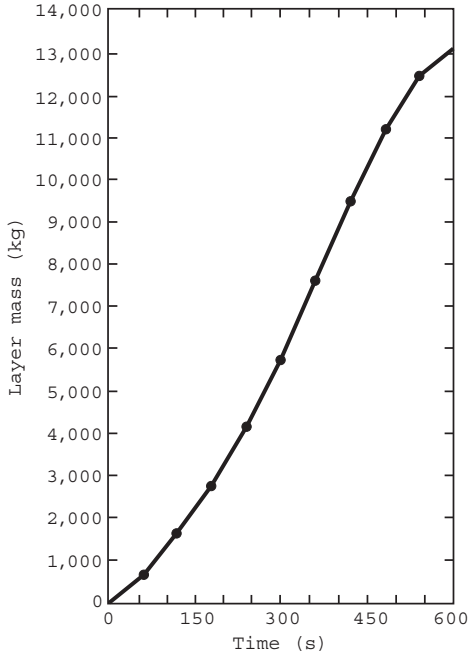


FIGURE D.10(e) Layer Mass.

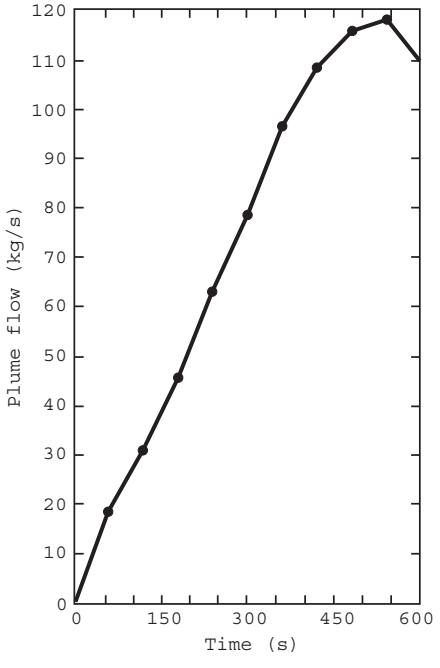


FIGURE D.10(f) Plume Flow.

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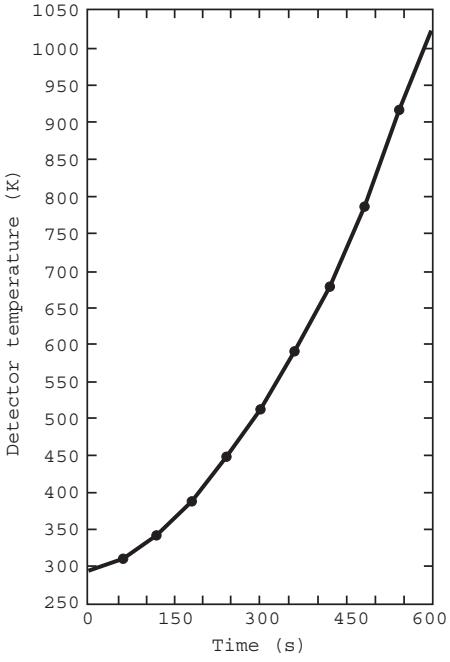


FIGURE D.10(g) Detector Temperature.

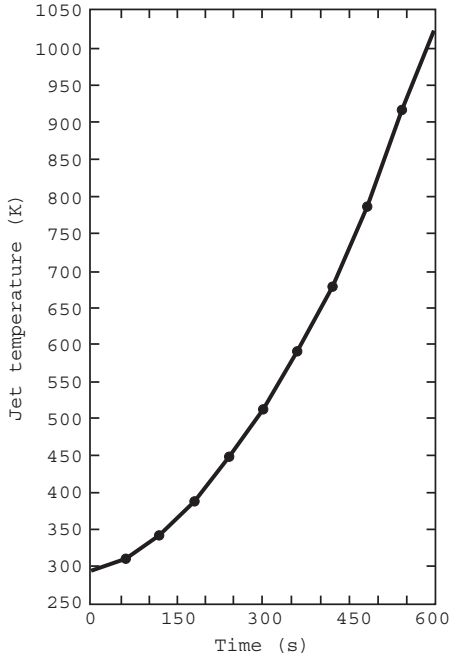


FIGURE D.10(h) Jet Temperature.

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```
CEILING HEIGHT =                    9.1 M
ROOM LENGTH =                      73.0 M
ROOM WIDTH =                       73.0 M
CURTAIN LENGTH =                  292.0 M
CURTAIN HEIGHT =                    0.0 M
MATERIAL =                        INSULATED DECK (SOLID POLYSTYRENE)
CEILING CONDUCTIVITY =       .149E+00 W/M K
CEILING DENSITY =            .116E+04 KG/M3
CEILING HEAT CAPACITY  =     .105E+04 J/M K
CEILING THICKNESS =          .152E+00 M
FIRE HEIGHT =                       0.5 M
FIRE POWER/AREA =           0.2136E+07 W/M2

LINK NO =  1       RADIUS =     6.5 M  DIST CEILING =     0.1 M
RTI =    1.00 SQRT(MS)      FUSION TEMPERATURE FOR LINK =   304.00  VENT =   1
VENT AREA =     28.2 M2             LINK CONTROLLING VENT =   1

TIME (S)=    0.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   294.0 LYR HT (M) =    9.10
LYR MASS (KG)=0. 000E+00  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.0000E+00 VENT AREA (M2) =  0.00
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   294.00 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =  0.000 JET TEMP (K) = 294.0
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.000E+00 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00

TIME (S)=   60.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   301.4 LYR HT (M) =    8.99
LYR MASS (KG)=0.657E+03  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.6480E+06 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   309.95 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      1.104
JET TEMP (K) =   310.2  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  302.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.834E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  299.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.587E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  297.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.417E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  296.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.287E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  295.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.205E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  295.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.153E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  295.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.117E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  294.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.925E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  294.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.748E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
```

FIGURE D.10(i) LAVENT Analysis Output.

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```
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  294.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.619E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  294.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.522E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  294.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.448E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  294.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.389E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  294.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.343E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  294.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.305E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.274E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.248E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.226E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.207E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.191E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.177E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.165E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.154E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.144E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.136E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.128E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.121E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.115E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.122E+01 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.110E+01 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00

TIME (S)=  120.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   317.2 LYR HT (M) =    8.83
LYR MASS (KG)=0.162E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.2743E+07 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   339.83 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      1.761
JET TEMP (K) =   340.2  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  332.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.242E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  322.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.188E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  314.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.142E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  308.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.102E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  304.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.753E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  302.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.569E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  300.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.441E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  298.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.350E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  298.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.285E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  297.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.236E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  296.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.199E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  296.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.171E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  296.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.149E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  295.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.131E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  295.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.117E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  295.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.105E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  295.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.951E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  295.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.867E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  295.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.795E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  295.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.734E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  294.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.680E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  294.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.633E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  294.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.592E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  294.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.555E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  294.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.522E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  294.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.492E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  294.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.466E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  294.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.442E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.504E+01 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.455E+01 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00

TIME (S)=  180.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   339.8 LYR HT (M) =    8.60
LYR MASS (KG)=0.276E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.7483E+07 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   385.73 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      2.493
JET TEMP (K) =   386.3  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  386.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.514E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  367.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.421E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  349.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.329E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
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FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

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```
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  334.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.244E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  324.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.183E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  316.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.140E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  311.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.109E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  308.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.864E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  305.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.702E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  303.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.582E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  301.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.491E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  300.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.420E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  299.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.365E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  299.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.321E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  298.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.286E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  298.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.256E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  297.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.232E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  297.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.211E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  297.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.193E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  296.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.178E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  296.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.165E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  296.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.154E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  296.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.143E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  296.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.134E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  296.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.126E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  295.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.119E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  295.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.113E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  295.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.107E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.136E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.123E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00

TIME (S)=  240.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   371.5 LYR HT (M) =    8.28
LYR MASS (KG)=0.414E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.1541E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   447.57 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      3.186
JET TEMP (K) =   448.2  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  469.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.816E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  439.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.700E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  408.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.570E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  380.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.439E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  359.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.335E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  343.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.259E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  332.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.203E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  324.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.162E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  319.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.132E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  314.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.109E+04 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  311.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.922E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  309.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.790E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  307.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.687E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  305.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.604E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  304.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.536E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  303.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.481E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  302.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.435E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  301.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.396E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  300.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.363E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  300.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.334E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  299.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.309E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  299.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.288E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  299.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.269E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  298.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.252E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  298.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.237E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  298.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.223E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  298.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.211E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  297.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.200E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  296.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.198E+03 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.250E+02 QT (W/M2) =  0.000E+00
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FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

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```
TIME (S)=  300.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   406.7 LYR HT (M) =    7.86
LYR MASS (KG)=0.575E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.2452E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   511.85 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      3.699
JET TEMP (K) =   512.4  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  561.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.962E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  523.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.859E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  481.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.731E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  439.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.588E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  406.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.464E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  381.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.365E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  362.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.289E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  348.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.234E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  338.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.191E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  331.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.159E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  325.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.135E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  320.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.116E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  317.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.101E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  314.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.887E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  312.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.789E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  310.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.708E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  308.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.640E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  307.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.583E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  306.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.535E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  305.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.493E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  304.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.456E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  303.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.425E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  303.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.397E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  302.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.372E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  302.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.350E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  301.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.330E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  301.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.312E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  300.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.296E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  299.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.286E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  294.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.390E+02 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11

TIME (S)=  360.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   443.6 LYR HT (M) =    7.31
LYR MASS (KG)=0.760E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.3795E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   590.31 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      4.317
JET TEMP (K) =   590.9  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  658.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.117E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  614.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.107E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  564.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.939E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  510.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.780E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  463.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.631E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  427.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.505E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  399.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.405E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  379.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.329E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  363.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.271E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  352.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.226E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  343.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.192E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  336.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.165E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  330.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.143E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  326.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.126E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  322.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.112E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  319.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.101E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  317.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.910E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  315.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.828E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  313.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.759E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  311.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.699E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  310.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.647E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  309.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.602E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  308.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.562E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  307.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.527E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  306.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.495E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
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FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

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```
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  306.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.467E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  305.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.442E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  304.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.419E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  303.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.402E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  295.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.597E+02 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11

TIME (S)=  420.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   483.7 LYR HT (M) =    6.66
LYR MASS (KG)=0.949E+04  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.5283E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   677.18 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      4.879
JET TEMP (K) =   677.9  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  747.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.129E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  701.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.120E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  646.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.108E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  583.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.920E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  526.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.764E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  479.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.625E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  443.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.510E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  414.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.419E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  393.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.347E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  377.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.292E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  364.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.249E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  354.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.214E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  346.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.187E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  340.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.165E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  335.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.147E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  331.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.132E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  327.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.119E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  324.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.108E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  322.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.994E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  319.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.916E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  317.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.849E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  316.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.790E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  314.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.737E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  313.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.691E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  312.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.650E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  311.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.613E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  310.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.580E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  309.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.549E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  308.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.525E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  296.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.820E+02 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11

TIME (S)=  480.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   530.8 LYR HT (M) =    5.94
LYR MASS (KG)=0.112E+05  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.7059E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   784.41 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      5.462
JET TEMP (K) =   785.2  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  837.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.137E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  789.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.128E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  729.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.117E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  659.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.103E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  593.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.876E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  537.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.736E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  492.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.613E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  456.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.511E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  428.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.429E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  407.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.363E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  390.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.311E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  377.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.270E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  366.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.236E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  357.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.209E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  350.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.186E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  345.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.167E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  340.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.152E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  336.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.138E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  332.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.127E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
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FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

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```
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  329.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.117E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  327.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.109E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  324.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.101E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  322.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.944E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  320.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.886E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  319.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.833E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  317.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.786E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  316.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.743E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  315.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.705E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  313.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.673E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  297.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.108E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11

TIME (S)=  540.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   586.5 LYR HT (M) =    5.20
LYR MASS (KG)=0.125E+05  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.9073E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =   915.64 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      6.041
JET TEMP (K) =   916.6  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  921.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.146E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  870.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.137E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  806.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.126E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  731.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.112E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  660.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.972E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  597.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.834E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  544.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.709E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  501.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.601E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  467.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.511E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  440.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.437E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  419.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.377E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  402.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.329E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  389.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.290E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  378.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.257E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  368.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.230E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  361.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.207E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  355.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.188E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  349.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.172E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  345.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.158E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  341.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.146E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  337.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.136E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  334.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.126E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  332.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.118E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  329.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.111E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  327.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.104E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  325.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.986E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  323.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.933E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  322.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.885E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  320.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.844E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  298.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.138E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11

TIME (S)=  600.0000 LYR TEMP (K)=   649.9 LYR HT (M) =    4.57
LYR MASS (KG)=0.131E+05  FIRE OUTPUT (W) =   0.9999E+08 VENT AREA (M2) =  28.20
LINK =  1 LINK TEMP (K) =  1029.11 JET VELOCITY (M/S) =      6.247
JET TEMP (K) =  1029.6  TIME LINK    1  OPENS EQUALS      41.7098 (S)
R (M) =     0.00 TSL (K) =  976.8 QB (W/M2) = 0.123E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     1.74 TSL (K) =  923.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.115E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     3.48 TSL (K) =  859.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.107E+05 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     5.22 TSL (K) =  783.3 QB (W/M2) = 0.965E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     6.95 TSL (K) =  710.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.861E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =     8.69 TSL (K) =  644.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.761E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    10.43 TSL (K) =  588.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.667E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    12.17 TSL (K) =  541.7 QB (W/M2) = 0.582E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    13.91 TSL (K) =  503.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.506E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    15.65 TSL (K) =  472.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.442E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    17.39 TSL (K) =  448.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.387E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    19.12 TSL (K) =  428.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.342E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    20.86 TSL (K) =  411.9 QB (W/M2) = 0.304E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
```

FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

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```
R (M) =    22.60 TSL (K) =  398.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.272E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    24.34 TSL (K) =  387.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.245E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    26.08 TSL (K) =  378.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.223E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    27.82 TSL (K) =  370.6 QB (W/M2) = 0.203E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    29.56 TSL (K) =  364.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.187E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    31.29 TSL (K) =  358.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.172E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    33.03 TSL (K) =  353.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.160E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    34.77 TSL (K) =  349.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.149E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    36.51 TSL (K) =  345.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.139E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    38.25 TSL (K) =  342.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.130E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    39.99 TSL (K) =  339.2 QB (W/M2) = 0.123E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    41.73 TSL (K) =  336.5 QB (W/M2) = 0.116E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    43.46 TSL (K) =  334.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.109E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    45.20 TSL (K) =  332.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.104E+04 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    46.94 TSL (K) =  330.1 QB (W/M2) = 0.986E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    48.68 TSL (K) =  328.0 QB (W/M2) = 0.941E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
R (M) =    50.42 TSL (K) =  299.4 QB (W/M2) = 0.147E+03 QT (W/M2) = -0.297E-11
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FIGURE D.10(i) ***Continued***

Annex E Predicting the Rate of Heat Release of Fires

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

E.1 Introduction. Annex E presents techniques for estimating the heat release rate of various fuel arrays likely to be present in buildings where smoke and heat venting is a potential fire safety provision. This annex primarily addresses the estimation of fuel concentrations found in storage and manufacturing locations. NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, addresses the types of fuel arrays more common to the types of building situations covered by that document.

This standard is applicable to situations in which the hot layer does not enhance the burning rate. The methods provided in this annex for estimating the rate of heat release, therefore, are based on free burning conditions in which no ceiling or hot gas layer effects are involved. It is assumed, therefore, that the burning rate is relatively unaffected by the hot layer.

E.2 Sources of Data. The following sources of data appear in their approximate order of priority, given equal quality of data acquisition:

(1) Actual tests of the array involved
(2) Actual tests of similar arrays
(3) Algorithms derived from tests of arrays having similar fuels and dimensional characteristics
(4) Calculations based on tested properties and materials and expected flame flux
(5) Mathematical models of fire spread and development

E.3 Actual Tests of the Array Involved. Where an actual calorific test of the specific array under consideration has been conducted and the data are in a form that can be expressed as rate of heat release, the data can be used as input for the methods in this standard. Because actual test data seldom produce the steady state assumed for a limited-growth fire or the square-of-time growth assumed for a continuous-growth fire, engineering judgment is usually needed to derive the actual input necessary if either of these approaches is used. If LAVENT or another computer model capable of responding to a rate of heat release versus time curve is used, the data can be used directly. Currently there is a listing of limited information from tests of specific arrays. Some test data can be found in technical reports. Alternatively, individual tests can be conducted.

Many fire tests do not include a direct measurement of rate of heat release. In some cases, that measure can be derived, based on measurement of mass loss rate using the following equation:

$$Q = m(h_c) \qquad \textbf{(E.3a)}$$

where:
Q = total heat release rate (kW)
m = mass loss rate (kg/s)
h_c = heat of combustion (kJ/kg)

In other cases, a direct measurement can be derived based on measurement of flame height above the base of the fire as follows:

$$Q = 37(L + 1.02D)^{5/2} \qquad \textbf{(E.3b)}$$

where:
Q = total heat release rate (kW)
L = mean flame height above the base of the fire (m)
D = base diameter of the fire (m)

E.4 Actual Tests of Arrays Similar to That Involved. Where an actual calorific test of the specific array under consideration cannot be found, it might be possible to find data on one or more tests that are similar to the fuel of concern in important matters such as type of fuel, arrangement, or ignition scenario. The more the actual tests are similar to the fuel of concern, the higher is the confidence that can be placed in the derived rate of heat release. Added engineering judgment, however, might be needed to adjust the test data to that approximating the fuel of concern. If the rate of heat release has not been measured directly, it can be estimated using the methods provided in Section E.3.

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E.5 Algorithms Derived from Tests of Arrays Having Similar Fuels and Dimensional Characteristics.

E.5.1 Pool Fires. In many cases, the rate of heat release of a tested array has been divided by a common dimension, such as occupied floor area, to derive a normalized rate of heat release per unit area. The rate of heat release of pool fires is the best documented and accepted algorithm in this class.

An equation for the mass release rate from a pool fire is as follows [Babrauskas, 1995]:

$$\dot{m}'' = \dot{m}''_{\infty}\left(1 - e^{-(k_e\beta)D}\right) \qquad \textbf{(E.5.1)}$$

The variables $\dot{m}''_{\infty}$ and $(k_e\beta)^D$ for Equation E.5.1 are as shown in Table E.5.1.

The mass rates derived from Equation E.5.1 are converted to rates of heat release using Equation E.3a and the heat of combustion, h_c, from Table E.5.1. The rate of heat release per unit area times the area of the pool yields heat release data for the anticipated fire.

E.5.2 Other Normalized Data. Other data based on burning rate per unit area in tests have been developed. Table E.5.2(a) and Table E.5.2(b) list these data.

E.5.3 Other Useful Data. Examples of other data that are not normalized but that might be useful in developing the rate of heat release curve are included in Table E.5.3(a) through Table E.5.3(d).

Table E.5.1 Data for Large Pool Burning Rate Estimates

Material	Density (kg/m^3)	h_c (MJ/kg)	$\dot{m}''_{\infty}$	$k_e\beta^D$ (m^{-1})
Cryogenics[a]				
Liquid H_2	70	120.0	0.017	6.1
LNG (mostly CH_4)	415	50.0	0.078	1.1
LPG (mostly C_3H_8)	585	46.0	0.099	1.4
Alcohols				
Methanol (CH_3OH)	796	20.0	0.017	∞[b]
Ethanol (C_2H_5OH)	794	26.8	0.015	∞[b]
Simple organic fuels				
Butane (C_4H_{10})	573	45.7	0.078	2.7
Benzene (C_5H_6)	874	40.1	0.085	2.7
Hexane (C_6H_{14})	650	44.7	0.074	1.9
Heptane (C_7H_{16})	675	44.6	0.101	1.1
Xylene (C_8H_{10})	870	40.8	0.090	1.4
Acetone (C_3H_6O)	791	25.8	0.041	1.9
Dioxane ($C_4H_8O_2$)	1035	26.2	0.018[c]	5.4[c]
Diethyl ether ($C_4H_{10}O$)	714	34.2	0.085	0.7
Petroleum products				
Benzine	740	44.7	0.048	3.6
Gasoline	740	43.7	0.055	2.1
Kerosene	820	43.2	0.039	3.5
JP-4	760	43.5	0.051	3.6
JP-5	810	43.0	0.054	1.6
Transformer oil, hydrocarbon	760	46.4	0.039[c]	0.7[c]
Fuel oil, heavy	940–1000	39.7	0.035	1.7
Crude oil	830–880	42.5–42.7	0.022–0.045	2.8
Solids				
Polymethylmethacrylate $(C_5H_8O_2)_n$	1184	24.9	0.020	3.3
Polypropylene $(C_3H_6)_n$	905	43.2	0.018	
Polystyrene $(C_8H_8)_n$	1050	39.7	0.034	

[a] For pools on dry land, not over water.

[b] Value is independent of the diameter in a turbulent regimen.

[c] Estimate is uncertain, since only two data points are available.

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Table E.5.2(a) Unit Heat Release Rates for Fuels Burning in the Open

Commodity	Heat Release Rate (kW)
Wood or PMMA* (vertical)	
0.61 m height	100/m of width
1.83 m height	240/m of width
2.44 m height	620/m of width
3.66 m height	1000/m of width
Wood or PMMA	
Top of horizontal surface	720/m^2 of surface
Solid polystyrene (vertical)	
0.61 m height	220/m of width
1.83 m height	450/m of width
2.44 m height	1400/m of width
3.66 m height	2400/m of width
Solid polystyrene (horizontal)	1400/m^2 of surface
Solid polypropylene (vertical)	
0.61 m height	220/m of width
1.83 m height	350/m of width
2.44 m height	970/m of width
3.66 m height	1600/m of width
Solid polypropylene (horizontal)	800/m^2 of surface

* PMMA: polymethyl methacrylate (Plexiglas, Lucite, acrylic).

Table E.5.2(b) Unit Heat Release Rate for Commodities

Commodity	Heat Release Rate (kW per m^2 of floor area)*
Wood pallets, stacked 0.46 m high (6%–12% moisture)	1,420
Wood pallets, stacked 1.52 m high (6%–12% moisture)	4,000
Wood pallets, stacked 3.05 m high (6%–12% moisture)	6,800
Wood pallets, stacked 4.88 m high (6%–12% moisture)	10,200
Mail bags, filled, stored 1.52 m high	400
Cartons, compartmented, stacked 4.5 m high	1,700
PE letter trays, filled, stacked 1.5 m high on cart	8,500
PE trash barrels in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
PE fiberglass shower stalls in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	1,400
FRP bottles packed in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	6,200
PE bottles in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
PU insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.6 m high	1,900
FRP jars packed in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	14,200
PS tubs nested in cartons, stacked 4.2 m high	5,400
PS toy parts in cartons, stacked 4.5 m high	2,000
PS insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.2 m high	3,300
FRP bottles packed in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	3,400
FRP tubs packed in cartons, stacked 4.6 m high	4,400
PP and PE film in rolls, stacked 4.1 m high	6,200
Methyl alcohol	600
Gasoline	2,500
Kerosene	1,700
Fuel oil, no. 2	1,700

PE: polyethylene. PP: polypropylene. PS: polystyrene. PU: polyurethane. FRP: fiberglass-reinforced polyester.
*Heat release rate per unit floor area of fully involved combustibles, based on negligible radiative feedback from the surroundings and 100 percent combustion efficiency.

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Table E.5.3(a) Characteristics of Ignition Sources

Fuel	Typical Heat Output (W)	Burn Time[a] (s)	Maximum Flame Height (mm)	Flame Width (mm)	Maximum Heat Flux (kW/m^2)
Cigarette 1.1 g (not puffed, laid on solid surface)					
Bone dry	5	1,200	—	—	42
Conditioned to 50% relative humidity	5	1,200	—	—	35
Methenamine pill, 0.15 g	45	90	—	—	4
Match, wooden (laid on solid surface)	80	2030	30	14	18–20
Wood cribs, BS 5852 Part 2					
No. 4 crib, 8.5 g	1,000	190			15[b]
No. 5 crib, 17 g	1,900	200			17[b]
No. 6 crib, 60 g	2,600	190			20[b]
No. 7 crib, 126 g	6,400	350			25[b]
Crumpled brown lunch bag, 6 g	1,200	80			
Crumpled wax paper, 4.5 g (tight)	1,800	25			
Crumpled wax paper, 4.5 g (loose)	5,300	20			
Folded double-sheet newspaper, 22 g (bottom ignition)	4,000	100			
Crumpled double-sheet newspaper, 22 g (top ignition)	7,400	40			
Crumpled double-sheet newspaper, 22 g (bottom ignition)	17,000	20			
Polyethylene wastebasket, 285 g, filled with 12 milk cartons (390 g)	50,000	200[c]	550	200	35[d]
Plastic trash bags, filled with cellulosic trash (1.2–14 kg)[e]	120,000 to 50,000	200[c]			

[a]Time duration of significant flaming.
[b]Measured from 25 mm away.
[c]Total burn time in excess of 1800 seconds.
[d]As measured on simulation burner.
[e]Results vary greatly with packing density.

Table E.5.3(b) Characteristics of Typical Furnishings as Ignition Sources

Fuel	Total Mass (kg)	Total Heat Content (MJ)	Maximum Rate of Heat Release (kW)	Maximum Thermal Radiation to Center of Floor* (kW/m^2)
Wastepaper basket	0.73–1.04	0.7–7.3	4–18	0.1
Curtains, velvet/cotton	1.9	24	160–240	1.3–3.4
Curtains, acrylic/cotton	1.4	15–16	130–150	0.9–1.2
TV set	27–33	145–150	120–290	0.3–2.6
Chair mockup	1.36	21–22	63–66	0.4–0.5
Sofa mockup	2.8	42	130	0.9
Arm chair	26	18	160	1.2
Christmas tree, dry	6.5–7.4	11–41	500–650	3.4–14

*Measured at approximately 2 m from the burning object.

Table E.5.3(c) Maximum Heat Release Rates from Fire Detection Institute Analysis

Fuel	Approximate Value (kW)
Medium wastebasket with milk cartons	100
Large barrel with milk cartons	140
Upholstered chair with polyurethane foam	350
Latex foam mattress (heat at room door)	1200
Furnished living room (heat at open door)	4000–8000

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Table E.5.3(d) Mass Loss and Heat Release Rates of Chairs

Specimen	Mass (kg)	Mass Combustible (kg)	Style	Frame	Padding	Fabric	Inter-liner	Peak, m (g/s)	Peak, Q (kW)
C12	17.9	17.0	Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton	Nylon		19.0	290[a]
F22	31.9		Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton (FR)	Cotton		25.0	370[a]
F23	31.2		Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton (FR)	Olefin		42.0	700[b]
F27	29.0		Traditional easy chair	Wood	Mixed	Cotton		58.0	920[b]
F28	29.2		Traditional easy chair	Wood	Mixed	Cotton		42.0	730[b]
CO2	13.1	12.2	Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton, PU	Olefin		13.2	800[b]
CO3	13.6	12.7	Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton, PU	Cotton		17.5	460[a]
CO1	12.6	11.7	Traditional easy chair	Wood	Cotton, PU	Cotton		17.5	260[a]
CO4	12.2	11.3	Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Nylon		75.7	1350[b]
C16	19.1	18.2	Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Nylon	Neoprene	NA	180[b]
F25	27.8		Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Olefin		80.0	1990
T66	23.0		Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU, polyester	Cotton		27.7	640
F21	28.3		Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU (FR)	Olefin		83.0	1970
F24	28.3		Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU (FR)	Cotton		46.0	700
C13	19.1	18.2	Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Nylon	Neoprene	15.0	230[a]
C14	21.8	20.9	Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Olefin	Neoprene	13.7	220[a]
C15	21.8	20.9	Traditional easy chair	Wood	PU	Olefin	Neoprene	13.1	210[b]
T49	15.7		Easy chair	Wood	PU	Cotton		14.3	210
F26	19.2		Thinner easy chair	Wood	PU (FR)	Olefin		61.0	810
F33	39.2		Traditional loveseat	Wood	Mixed	Cotton		75.0	940
F31	40.0		Traditional loveseat	Wood	PU (FR)	Olefin		130.0	2890
F32	51.5		Traditional sofa	Wood	PU (FR)	Olefin		145.0	3120
T57	54.6		Loveseat	Wood	PU, cotton	PVC		61.9	1100
T56	11.2		Office chair	Wood	Latex	PVC		3.1	80
CO9/T64	16.6	16.2	Foam block chair	Wood (part)	PU, polyester	PU		19.9	460
CO7/T48	11.4	11.2	Modern easy chair	PS foam	PU	PU		38.0	960
C10	12.1	8.6	Pedestal chair	Rigid PU foam	PU	PU		15.2	240[a]
C11	14.3	14.3	Foam block chair		PU	Nylon		NA	810[b]
F29	14.0		Traditional easy chair	PP foam	PU	Olefin		72.0	1950
F30	25.2		Traditional easy chair	Rigid PU foam	PU	Olefin		41.0	1060
CO8	16.3	15.4	Pedestal swivel chair	Molded PE	PU	PVC		112.0	830[b]
CO5	7.3	7.3	Bean bag chair		Polystyrene	PVC		22.2	370[a]
CO6	20.4	20.4	Frameless foam back chair		PU	Acrylic		151.0	2480[b]
T50	16.5		Waiting room chair	Metal	Cotton	PVC		NA	10
T53	15.5	1.9	Waiting room chair	Metal	PU	PVC		13.1	270
T54	27.3	5.8	Metal frame loveseat	Metal	PU	PVC		19.9	370
T75/F20	7.5(4)	2.6	Stacking chairs (4)	Metal	PU	PVC		7.2	160

[a]Estimated from mass loss records and assumed Wh_c.
[b]Estimated from doorway gas concentrations.

E.6 Calculated Fire Description Based on Tested Properties.

E.6.1 Background. It is possible to make general estimates of the rate of heat release of burning materials based on the fire properties of that material. The fire properties involved are determined by small-scale tests. The most important of these tests are the calorimeter tests involving both oxygen depletion calorimetry and the application of external heat flux to the sample while determining time to ignition, rate of mass release, and rate of heat release for the specific applied flux. Most prominent of the current test apparatus are the cone calorimeter (ASTM E 1354, *Standard Test Method for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter*) and the Factory Mutual Fire Propagation Apparatus [ASTM E 2058, *Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Synthetic Polymer Material Flammability Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA)*].

In addition to the directly measured properties, it is possible to derive ignition temperature, critical ignition flux, effective thermal inertia (kc), heat of combustion, and heat of gasification based on results from these calorimeters.

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Properties not derivable from these calorimeters and essential to determining flame spread in directions not concurrent with the flow of the flame can be obtained from the LIFT (lateral ignition and flame travel) apparatus (ASTM E 1321, *Standard Test Method for Determining Material Ignition and Flame Spread Properties*).

This section presents a concept of the use of fire property test data as the basis of an analytical evaluation of the rate of heat release involved in the use of a tested material. The approach outlined in this section is based on that presented by Nelson and Forssell [1994].

E.6.2 Discussion of Measured Properties. Table E.6.2(a) lists the type of fire properties obtainable from the cone calorimeter [NFPA 287, *Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Flammability of Materials in Cleanrooms Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA)*], the Factory Mutual Fire Propagation Apparatus [ASTM E 2058, *Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Synthetic Polymer Material Flammability Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA)*], and similar instruments.

Table E.6.2(a) Relation of Calorimeter-Measured Properties to Fire Analysis

Property	Ignition	Flame Spread	Fire Size (energy)
Rate of heat release*		X	X
Mass loss*			X
Time to ignition*	X	X	
Effective thermal properties†	X	X	
Heat of combustion†		X	X
Heat of gasification†			X
Critical ignition flux†	X	X	
Ignition temperature†	X	X	

*Property is a function of the externally applied incident flux.
†Derived properties from calorimeter measurements.

In Table E.6.2(a), the rate of heat release, mass loss, and time to ignition are functions of the externally applied incident radiant heat flux imposed on the tested sample. The purpose of the externally applied flux is to simulate the fire environment surrounding a burning item.

In general, it can be estimated that a free-burning fuel package (i.e., one that burns in the open and is not affected by energy feedback from a hot gas layer of a heat source other than its own flame) is impacted by a flux in the range of 25 kW/m^2 to 50 kW/m^2. If the fire is in a space and conditions are approaching flashover, the flux can increase to the range of 50 kW/m^2 to 75 kW/m^2. In a fully developed, postflashover fire, a range of 75 kW/m^2 to greater than 100 kW/m^2 can be expected. The following is a discussion of the individual properties measured or derived and the usual form used to report the property.

Rate of Heat Release. The rate of heat release is determined by oxygen depletion calorimetry. Each test is run at a user-specific incident flux, either for a predetermined period of time or until the sample is consumed. The complete results are presented in the form of a plot of heat release rate versus time, with the level of applied flux noted. In some cases, the rate of heat release for several tests of the same material at different levels of applied flux is plotted on a single curve for comparison. Figure E.6.2 is an example of such a plotting.

Often, only the peak rate of heat release at a specific flux is reported. Table E.6.2(b) is an example.

Mass Loss Rate. Mass loss rate is determined by a load cell. The method of reporting is identical to that for rate of heat release. In the typical situation in which the material has a consistent heat of combustion, the curves for mass loss rate and rate of heat release are similar in shape.

Time to Ignition. Time to ignition is reported for each individual test and applied flux level conducted.

Effective Thermal Inertia ($k\rho c$). Effective thermal inertia is a measurement of the heat rise response of the tested material to the heat flux imposed on the sample. It is derived at the time of ignition and is based on the ratio of the actual incident flux to the critical ignition flux and the time to ignition. A series of tests at different levels of applied flux is necessary to derive the effective thermal inertia. Effective thermal inertia derived in this manner can differ from, and be preferable to, handbook data for the values of k, ρ, and c that are derived without a fire.

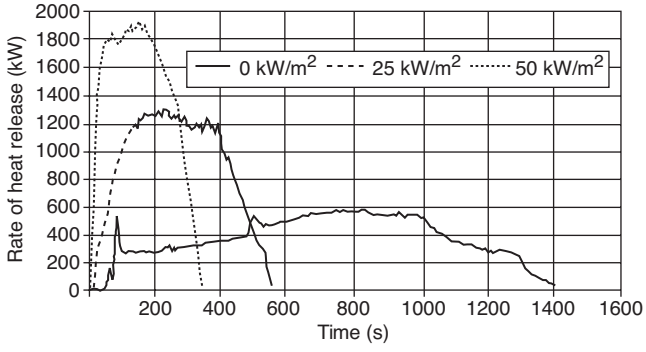


FIGURE E.6.2 Typical Graphic Output of Cone Calorimeter Test.

Table E.6.2(b) Average Maximum Heat Release Rates (kW/m^2)

Material	Orientation	25 kW/m^2 Exposing Flux	50 kW/m^2 Exposing Flux	75 kW/m^2 Exposing Flux
PMMA	Horizontal	650	900	1300
	Vertical	560	720	1300
Pine	Horizontal	140	240	265
	Vertical	130	170	240
Sample A	Horizontal	125	200	250
	Vertical	90	130	220
Sample B	Horizontal	140	175	240
	Vertical	60	200	330
Sample C	Horizontal		215	250
	Vertical		165	170
Sample D	Horizontal	70	145	145
	Vertical		125	125

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Heat of Combustion. Heat of combustion is derived by dividing the measured rate of heat release by the measured mass loss rate. It is normally reported as a single value, unless the sample is a composite material and the rates of heat release and mass loss vary significantly with time and exposure.

Heat of Gasification. Heat of gasification is the flux needed to pyrolyze a unit mass of fuel. It is derived as a heat balance and is usually reported as a single value in terms of the amount of energy per unit mass of material released (e.g., kJ/g).

Critical Ignition Flux. Critical ignition flux is the minimum level of incident flux on the sample needed to ignite the sample, given an unlimited time of application. At incident flux levels less than the critical ignition flux, ignition does not take place.

Ignition Temperature. Ignition temperature of a sample is the surface temperature at which flame occurs. This sample material value is independent of the incident flux and is derivable from the calorimeter tests, the LIFT apparatus test, and other tests. It is derived from the time to ignite in a given test, the applied flux in that test, and the effective thermal inertia of the sample. It is reported at a single temperature. If the test includes a pilot flame or spark, the reported temperature is for piloted ignition; if there is no pilot present, the temperature is for auto-ignition. Most available data are for piloted ignition.

E.6.3 Ignition. Equations for time to ignition, t_{ig}, are given for both thermally thin and thermally thick materials, defined as follows. For materials of intermediate depth, estimates for t_{ig} necessitate considerations beyond the scope of this presentation [Drysdale, 1985, Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959].

Thermally Thin Materials. Relative to ignition from a constant incident heat flux, q_i, at the exposed surface and with relatively small heat transfer losses at the unexposed surface, a thermally thin material is one whose temperature is relatively uniform throughout its entire thickness, l, at $t = t_{ig}$. For example, at $t = t_{ig}$:

$$T_{exposed} - T_{unexposed} = T_{ig} - T_{unexposed} < 0.1\left(T_{ig} - T_o\right) \quad \textbf{(E.6.3a)}$$

Equation E.6.3a can be used to show that a material is thermally thin [Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959] where:

$$l < 0.6\left(t_{ig}\alpha\right)^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(E.6.3b)}$$

For example, for sheets of maple or oak wood (where the thermal diffusivity = 1.28 10^7 m^2/s [DiNenno et al., 1995]), if t_{ig} = 35 s is measured in a piloted ignition test, then, according to Equation E.6.3b, if the sample thickness is less than approximately 0.0013 m, the unexposed surface of the sample can be expected to be relatively close to T_{ig} at the time of ignition, and the sample is considered to be thermally thin.

The time to ignition of a thermally thin material subjected to incident flux above a critical incident flux is as follows:

$$t_{ig} = \rho c l \frac{\left(T_{ig} - T_o\right)}{\dot{q}''_i} \quad \textbf{(E.6.3c)}$$

Thermally Thick Materials. Relative to the type of ignition test described for thermally thin materials, a sample of a material of a thickness, l, is considered to be thermally thick if the increase in temperature of the unexposed surface is relatively small compared to that of the exposed surface at $t = t_{ig}$. For example, at $t = t_{ig}$,

$$T_{unexposed} - T_o < 0.1\left(T_{exposed} - T_o\right) = 0.1\left(T_{ig} - T_o\right) \quad \textbf{(E.6.3d)}$$

Equation E.6.3d can be used to show that a material is thermally thick [Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959] where:

$$l > 2\left(t_{ig}\alpha\right)^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(E.6.3e)}$$

For example, according to Equation E.6.3e, in the case of an ignition test on a sheet of maple or oak wood, if t_{ig} = 35 s is measured in a piloted ignition test and if the sample thickness is greater than approximately 0.0042 m, the unexposed surface of the sample can be expected to be relatively close to T_o at the time of ignition, and the sample is considered to be thermally thick.

Time to ignition of a thermally thick material subjected to incident flux above a critical incident flux is as follows:

$$t_{ig} = \frac{\pi}{4} k\rho c \left(\frac{T_{ig} - T_o}{\dot{q}''_i}\right)^2 \quad \textbf{(E.6.3f)}$$

It should be noted that a particular material is not intrinsically thermally thin or thick (i.e., the characteristic of being thermally thin or thick is not a material characteristic or property), but rather depends on the thickness of the particular sample (i.e., a particular material can be implemented in either a thermally thick or a thermally thin configuration).

Propagation between Separate Fuel Packages. Where the concern is for propagation between individual, separated fuel packages, incident flux can be calculated using traditional radiation heat transfer procedures [Tien, et al., 1995].

The rate of radiation heat transfer from a flaming fuel package of total energy release rate, Q, to a facing surface element of an exposed fuel package can be estimated from the following equation:

$$\dot{q}''_i = \frac{\chi_r}{4\pi r^2} \quad \textbf{(E.6.3g)}$$

E.6.4 Estimating Rate of Heat Release. As discussed in E.6.2, tests have demonstrated that the energy feedback from a burning fuel package ranges from approximately 25 kW/m^2 to 50 kW/m^2. For a reasonably conservative analysis, it is recommended that test data developed with an incident flux of 50 kW/m^2 be used. For a first-order approximation, it should be assumed that all of the surfaces that can be simultaneously involved in burning are releasing energy at a rate equal to that determined by testing the material in a fire properties calorimeter with an incident flux of 50 kW/m^2 for a free-burning material and 75 kW/m^2 to 100 kW/m^2 for postflashover conditions.

In making this estimate, it is necessary to assume that all surfaces that can "see" an exposing flame (or superheated gas, in the postflashover condition) are burning and releasing energy and mass at the tested rate. If sufficient air is present, the rate of heat release estimate is then calculated as the product of the exposed area and the rate of heat release per unit area as determined in the test calorimeter. Where test data are taken at the incident flux of the exposing flame, the tested rate of heat release should be used. Where the test data are for

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a different incident flux, the burning rate should be estimated using the heat of gasification as expressed in Equation E.6.4a to calculate the mass burning rate per unit area.

$$\dot{m}'' = \frac{\dot{q}_i''}{h_g} \qquad \textbf{(E.6.4a)}$$

The resulting mass loss rate is then multiplied by the derived effective heat of combustion and the burning area exposed to the incident flux to produce the estimated rate of heat release as follows:

$$Q = \dot{m}'' h_c A \qquad \textbf{(E.6.4b)}$$

E.6.5 Flame Spread. If it is desired to predict the growth of fire as it propagates over combustible surfaces, it is necessary to estimate flame spread. The computation of flame spread rates is an emerging technology still in an embryonic stage. Predictions should be considered as order of magnitude estimates.

Flame spread is the movement of the flame front across the surface of a material that is burning (or exposed to an ignition flame), but whose exposed surface is not yet fully involved. Physically, flame spread can be treated as a succession of ignitions resulting from the heat energy produced by the burning portion of a material, its flame, and any other incident heat energy imposed on the unburned surface. Other sources of incident energy include another burning object, high-temperature gases that can accumulate in the upper portion of an enclosed space, and the radiant heat sources used in a test apparatus such as the cone calorimeter or the LIFT mechanism.

For analysis purposes, flame spread can be divided into the following two categories:

(1) Concurrent, or wind-aided, flame spread, which moves in the same direction as the flame
(2) Lateral, or opposed, flame spread, which moves in any other direction

Concurrent flame spread is assisted by the incident heat flux from the flame to unignited portions of the burning material. Lateral flame spread is not so assisted and tends to be much slower in progression unless an external source of heat flux is present. Concurrent flame spread for thermally thick materials can be expressed as follows:

$$V = \frac{\left(\dot{q}_i''\right)^2 L_f}{k\rho c\left(T_{ig} - T_s\right)^2} \qquad \textbf{(E.6.5)}$$

The values for $k\rho c$ and ignition temperature are calculated from the cone calorimeter as discussed. For this equation, the flame length, L_f, is measured from the leading edge of the burning region, and T_s is the initial temperature of the solid material.

E.6.6 Classification of Fires for Engineering Equations. The engineering equations in Chapter 8 are appropriate for steady fires, limited-growth fires, and *t*-squared forms of continuous-growth fires.

Annex F Design Information

This annex is not a part of the requirements of this NFPA document but is included for informational purposes only.

F.1 Growth times for combustible arrays have been obtained *[see Table F.1(a)]*. These are specified for certain storage heights.

Table F.1(a) Continuous-Growth Fires

Fuel	Growth Time* (s)
Wood pallets, stacked 0.46 m high (6%–12% moisture)	160–320
Wood pallets, stacked 1.52 m high (6%–12% moisture)	90–190
Wood pallets, stacked 3.05 m high (6%–12% moisture)	80–120
Wood pallets, stacked 4.88 m high (6%–12% moisture)	75–120
Mail bags, filled, stored 1.52 m high	190
Cartons, compartmented, stacked 4.57 m high	60
Paper, vertical rolls, stacked 6.10 m high	17–28
Cotton (also PE, PE/cot acrylic/nylon/PE), garments in 3.66 m high rack	22–43
Ordinary combustibles rack storage, 4.57 m–9.14 m high	40–270
Paper products, densely packed in cartons, rack storage, 6.10 m high	470
PE letter trays, filled, stacked 1.52 m high on cart	180
PE trash barrels in cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	55
FRP shower stalls in cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	85
PE bottles packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	85
PE bottles in cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	75
PE pallets, stacked 0.91 m high	150
PE pallets, stacked 1.83 m2.44 m high	32–57
PU mattress, single, horizontal	120
PU insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.57 m high	8
PS jars packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	55
PS tubs nested in cartons, stacked 4.27 m high	110
PS toy parts in cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	120
PS insulation board, rigid foam, stacked 4.27 m high	7
PVC bottles packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	9
PP tubs packed in compartmented cartons, stacked 4.57 m high	10
PP and PE film in rolls, stacked 4.27 m high	40
Distilled spirits in barrels, stacked 6.10 m high	25–40

FRP: fiberglass-reinforced polyester. PE: polyethylene. PP: polypropylene. PS: polystyrene. PU: polyurethane. PVC: polyvinyl chloride.
*Growth times of developing fires in various combustibles, assuming 100 percent combustion efficiency.

Actual tests [Yu and Stavrianidis, 1991] have demonstrated that it is reasonable to assume that the instantaneous heat release rate per unit height of the storage array is insensitive to the storage height. Such behavior corresponds to the growth time, t_g, being inversely proportional to the square root of the storage height. Alternatively, it corresponds to the fire growth coefficient, α_g, being directly proportional to the storage height. For example, if the storage height is one-third the tested height, the growth time is $[1/(⅓)]^{1/2} = 1.73$ times the growth time from the test. If the storage height is three times the tested height, the growth time is $(⅓)^{1/2} = 0.58$ times the growth time from the test. For fuel configurations that have not been tested, the procedures discussed in Annex E might be applicable.

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t-Squared Fires. Over the past decade, those interested in developing generic descriptions of the rate of heat release of accidental open flaming fires have used a *t-squared* approximation for this purpose. A *t*-squared fire is one in which the burning rate varies proportionally to the square of time. Frequently, *t*-squared fires are classified by their speed of growth as fast, medium, or slow (and occasionally ultra-fast). Where these classes are used, they are determined by the time needed for the fire to grow to a rate of heat release of 1000 kW. The times for each of these classes are provided in Table F.1(b). For many fires involving storage arrays, the time to reach 1000 kW might be much shorter than the 75 seconds depicted for ultra-fast fires.

Table F.1(b) Classifications of *t*-Squared Fires

Class	Time to Reach 1000 kW (s)
Ultra-fast	75
Fast	150
Medium	300
Slow	600

The general equation is as follows:

$$Q = \alpha_g t^2 \qquad \textbf{(F.1)}$$

where:
Q = rate of heat release (kW)
α_g = a constant describing the speed of growth (kW/s^2)
t = time (s)

A *t*-squared fire can be viewed as a fire in which the rate of heat release per unit area is constant over the entire ignited surface, and in which the fire spreads in circular form with a steadily increasing radius. In such cases, the increase in the burning area is the square of the steadily increasing fire radius. Of course, other fires that do not have such a conveniently regular fuel array and consistent burning rate might or might not actually produce a *t*-squared curve. The tacit assumption is that the *t*-squared approximation is close enough for reasonable design decisions.

Figure 8.3.1 demonstrates that most fires have an incubation period during which the fire does not conform to a *t*-squared approximation. In some cases, this incubation period might be a serious detriment to the use of the *t*-squared approximation. In most instances, this is not a serious concern in large spaces covered by this standard. It is expected that the rate of heat release during the incubation period will not usually be sufficient to cause activation of the smoke detection system. In any case, where such activation occurs, or where human observation results in earlier activation of the smoke-venting system, a fortuitous safeguard will result.

Figure F.1(a) compares rate of heat release curves developed by the aforementioned classes of *t*-squared fires and two test fires commonly used for test purposes. The test fires are shown as dashed lines labeled as furniture and 6 ft storage. The dashed curves farther from the fire origin show the actual rates of heat release of the test fires used in the development of the residential sprinkler and a standard 6 ft high array of test cartons containing foam plastic pails that also are frequently used as a standard test fire.

The other set of dashed lines in Figure F.1(a) shows these same fire curves relocated to the origin of the graph. This is a more appropriate comparison with the generic curves. It can be seen that the rate of growth in these fires is actually faster than that prescribed for an ultra-fast fire. This is appropriate for a test fire designed to challenge the fire suppression system being tested.

Figure F.1(b) relates the classes of *t*-squared fire growth curves to a selection of actual fuel arrays.

F.2 For consistency with Annex B and with referenced documents on the fire model LAVENT, the nomenclature for this section differs from that of the other section in this annex. The definitions for the variables used in this section are provided in Section B.7.

A ceiling vent design is successful to the extent that it controls a fire-generated environment developing in a space of fire origin according to any of a variety of possible specified criteria. For example, if the likely growth rate of a fire in a particular burning commodity is known, a vent system with a large enough vent area, designed to provide for timely opening of the vents, can be expected to lead to rates of smoke

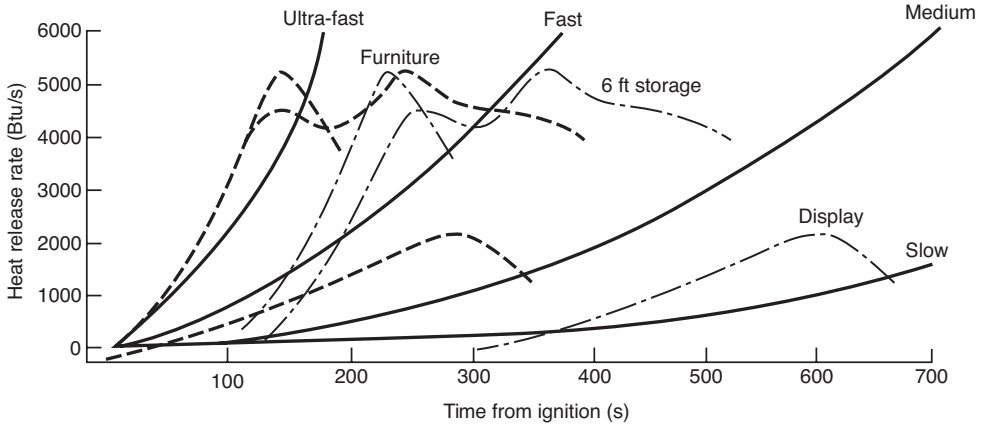


FIGURE F.1(a) Rates of Energy Release for *t*-Squared Fire. (Redrawn from NIST, 1987.)

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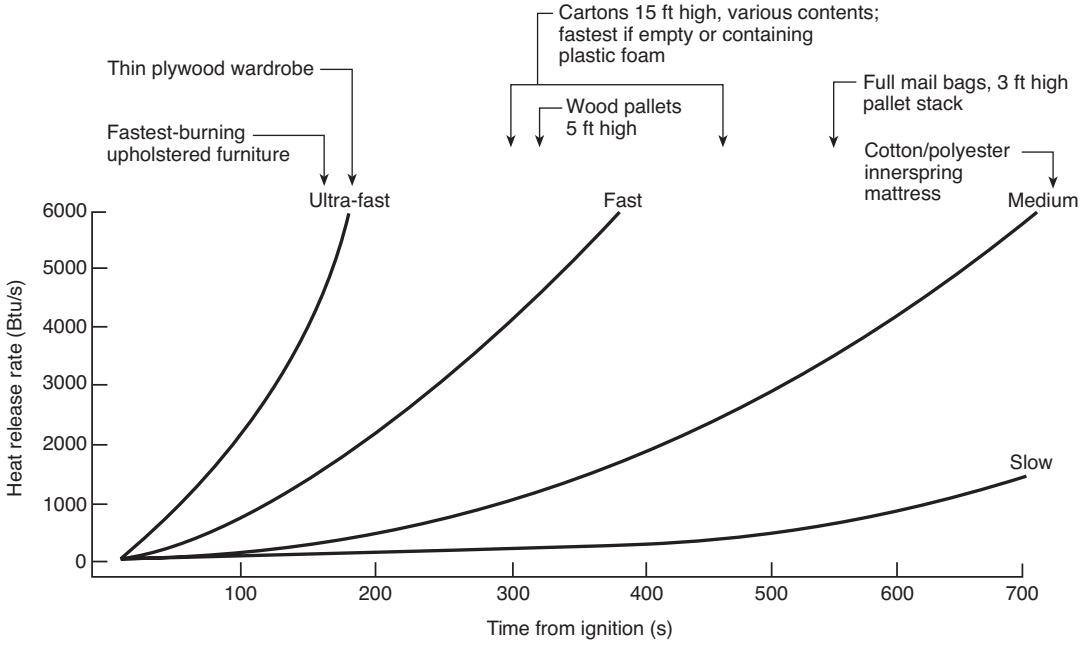


FIGURE F.1(b) Relation of *t*-Squared Fires to Some Fire Tests.

removal that are so large that fire fighters, arriving at the fire at a specified time subsequent to fire detection, are able to attack the fire successfully and protect commodities in adjacent spaces from being damaged.

To evaluate the success of a particular design, it is necessary to predict the development of the fire environment as a function of any of a number of physical characteristics that define and might have a significant effect on the fire scenario. Examples of such characteristics include the following:

(1) The floor-to-ceiling height and area of the space and the thermal properties of its ceiling, walls, and floor
(2) The type of barriers that separate the space of fire origin and adjacent spaces (e.g., full walls with vertical door-like vents or ceiling-mounted draft curtains)
(3) The material type and arrangement of the burning commodities (e.g., wood pallets in plan-area arrays of 3 m × 3 m and stacked 2 m high)
(4) The type, location, and method of deployment of devices that detect the fire and actuate the opening of the vents (e.g., fusible links of specified RTI and distributed at a specified spacing distance below the ceiling)
(5) The size of the open area of the vents themselves

The best way to predict the fire environment and evaluate the likely effectiveness of a vent design is to use a reliable mathematical model that simulates the various relevant physical phenomena that come into play during the fire scenario. Such an analytical tool should be designed to solve well-formulated mathematical problems, based on basic relevant principles of physics and on fundamentally sound, well-established, empirical relationships. Even in the case of a particular class of problem, such as an engineering problem associated with successful vent design, there is a good deal of variation among applicable mathematical models that could be developed to carry out the task. Such models might differ from one another in the number and detail of the individual physical phenomena taken into account. Therefore, the list of physical characteristics that define and could have a significant effect on the fire scenario does not include outside wind conditions, which could have an important influence on the fire-generated environment. A model might or might not include the effect of wind. A model that does include the effect of wind is more difficult to develop and validate and is more complicated to use. Note that the effect of wind is not taken into account in the following discussion of the LAVENT model. However, by using reasonably well-accepted mathematical modeling concepts, LAVENT could be developed to the point that it could be used to simulate this effect.

The discussion that follows describes a group of phenomena that represent a physical basis for estimating the fire-generated environment and the response of heat-responsive elements in well-ventilated compartment fires with draft curtains and ceiling vents activated by fusible links, thermoplastic drop-out panels, or other alternative means of activation or smoke detectors. The phenomena include the following:

(1) Growth of the smoke layer in the curtained area
(2) The flow dynamics of the buoyant fire plume
(3) The flow of smoke through open ceiling vents
(4) The flow of smoke below draft curtains
(5) Continuation of the fire plume in the upper layer
(6) Heat transfer to the ceiling surface and the thermal response of the ceiling
(7) The velocity and temperature distribution of plume-driven, near-ceiling flows
(8) The response of near-ceiling deployed heat-responsive elements and smoke detectors

All the phenomena in items (1) through (8) are taken into account in the LAVENT model, which was developed to simulate well-ventilated compartment fires with draft curtains and fusible link-actuated or smoke detector–actuated ceiling vents. Other models that could be developed for a similar purpose typically would also be expected to simulate these basic phenomena.

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The space to be considered is defined by ceiling-mounted draft curtains with a fire and with near-ceiling fusible link-actuated ceiling vents and sprinklers. The curtained area should be considered as one of several such spaces in a large building area. Also, by specifying that the curtains be deep enough, they can be thought of as simulating the walls of a single uncurtained area.

This section discusses critical physical phenomena that determine the overall environment in the curtained space up to the time of sprinkler actuation. The objective is to identify and describe the phenomena in a manner that captures the essential features of this generic class of fire scenario and that allows for a complete and general, but concise and relatively simple, mathematical/computer simulation.

The overall building area is assumed to have near-floor inlet air openings that are large enough to maintain the inside environment, below any near-ceiling smoke layers that might form, at outside-ambient conditions. Figure F.2(a) depicts the generic fire scenario considered. It is assumed that a two-layer zone-type model adequately describes the phenomena under investigation. The lower layer is identical to the outside ambient. The upper smoke layer thickness and properties change with time, but the layer is assumed to be uniform in space at any time. Conservation of energy and mass along with the perfect gas law is applied to the upper layer. This leads to equations that necessitate estimates of the net rate of enthalpy flow plus heat transfer and the net rate of mass flow to the upper layer. Qualitative features of the phenomena that contribute to these flows and heat transfer are described briefly.

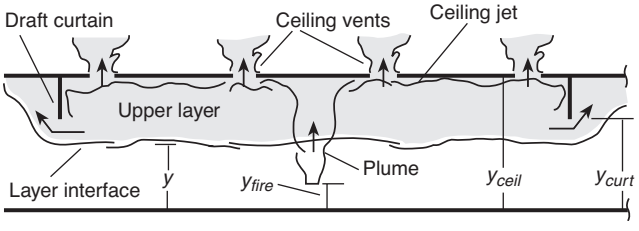


FIGURE F.2(a) LAVENT Model: Fire in a Building Space with Draft Curtains and Ceiling Vents.

Flow is driven through ceiling vents by cross-vent hydrostatic pressure differences. The traditional calculation uses orifice-type flow calculations. Bernoulli's equation is applied across a vent, and it is assumed that, away from and on either side of the vent, the environment is relatively quiescent. Figure F.2(b) depicts the known, instantaneous, hydrostatic pressure distribution in the outside environment and throughout the depth of the curtained space. These pressures are used to calculate the resulting cross-vent pressure difference, then the actual instantaneous mass and enthalpy flow rates through a vent.

If and when the smoke layer boundary face drops below the bottom of the draft curtains, the smoke starts to flow out of the curtained space. As with the ceiling vents, this flow rate is determined by the cross-vent hydrostatic pressure difference. As depicted in Figure F.2(c), however, the pressure difference in this case is not constant across the flow. Nonetheless, even in this configuration, the instantaneous flow rates are easily determined with well-known vertical-vent flow equations used traditionally in zone-type fire models.

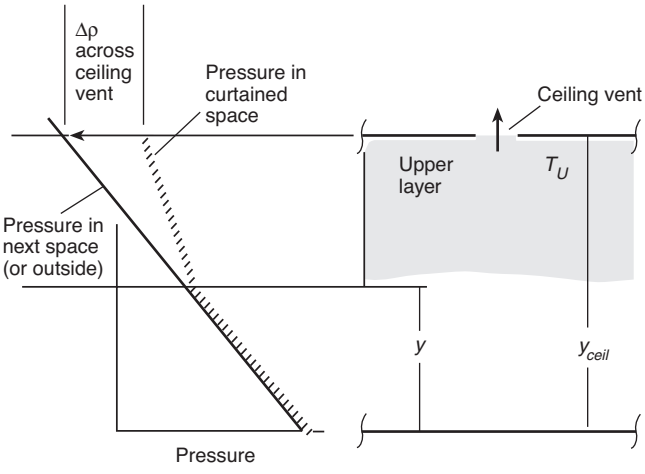


FIGURE F.2(b) Flow Through a Ceiling Vent.

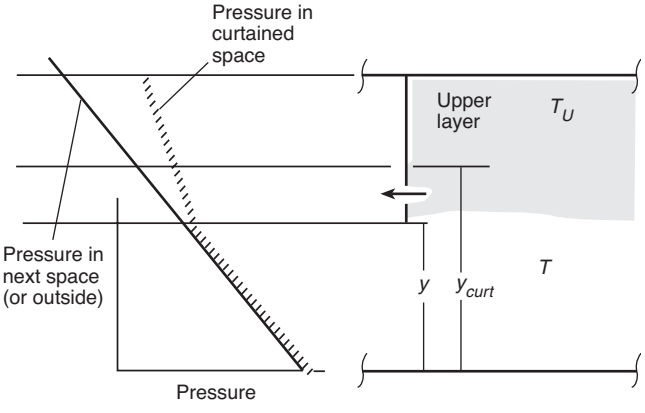


FIGURE F.2(c) Flow Below a Draft Curtain.

The major contributors to the upper-layer flow and surface heat transfer are the fire and its plume. These properties are depicted in Figure F.2(d). It is assumed that the rate of energy release of the fire's combustion zone does not vary significantly from known free-burn values that are available and assumed to be specified *(see Chapter 8)*. A known, fixed fraction of this energy is assumed to be radiated isotropically, as in the case of a point source, from the combustion zone. The smoke layer is assumed to be relatively transparent (i.e., all radiation from the fire is incident on the bounding surfaces of the compartment).

A plume model, selected from the several available in the literature, is used to determine the rate of mass and enthalpy flow in the plume at the elevation of the smoke layer boundary. It is assumed that all of this flow penetrates the smoke layer boundary and enters the upper layer. As the plume flow enters the upper layer, the forces of buoyancy that act to drive the plume toward the ceiling are reduced immediately because of the temperature increase of the upper-layer environment over that of the lower ambient. As a result, the continued ascent of the plume gases is less vigorous (i.e., is at a reduced velocity) than it would be in the absence of the layer. Also, as the plume gases continue their ascent, the temperature becomes higher than it would be without the upper layer. Such

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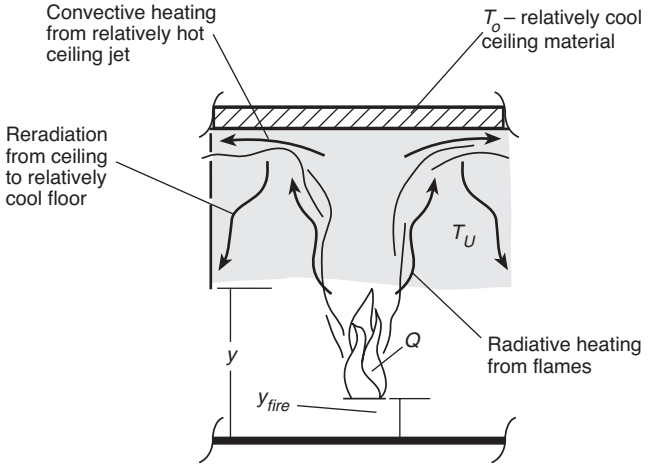


FIGURE F.2(d) The Fire, the Fire Plume, and Heat Transfer to the Ceiling.

higher temperatures are a result of the modified plume entrainment, which is now occurring in the relatively high-temperature upper layer rather than in the ambient-temperature lower layer. Methods of predicting the characteristics of the modified upper-plume flow are available.

Having penetrated the smoke layer boundary, the plume continues to rise toward the ceiling of the curtained area. As it impinges on the ceiling surface, the plume flow turns and forms a relatively high-temperature, high-velocity, turbulent-ceiling jet that flows radially outward along the ceiling and transfers heat to the relatively cool ceiling surface. The ceiling jet is cooled by convection, and the ceiling material is heated by conduction. Eventually, the now-cooled ceiling jet reaches the extremities of the curtained space and is deposited into and mixed with the upper layer. The convective heat transfer rate and the ceiling surface temperature on which it depends are both strong functions of the radial distance from the point of plume–ceiling impingement, and both decrease rapidly with increasing radius.

The thermal response of the ceiling is driven by transient heat conduction. For the time period typically considered, radial gradients in ceiling surface conditions are small enough so that the conduction heat transfer is quasi–one dimensional in space. Therefore, the thermal response of the ceiling can be obtained from the solution to a set of one-dimensional conduction problems at a few discrete radial positions. These problems can be solved subject to net convection and radiation heat flux boundary conditions.

Interpolation in the radial direction between the solutions leads to a sufficiently smooth representation of the distributions of ceiling surface temperature and convective heat transfer rate. The latter is integrated over the ceiling surface to obtain the net instantaneous rate of convective heat transfer losses from the ceiling jet.

Convective heating and the thermal response of a near-ceiling heat-responsive element, such as a fusible link or thermoplastic drop-out panel, are determined from the local ceiling jet velocity and temperature. Velocity and temperature depend on vertical distance below the ceiling and radial distance from the fire plume axis. If and when its fusion (activation) temperature is reached, the device(s) operated by the link or other heat-responsive element is actuated.

For specific radial distances that are relatively near the plume, the ceiling jet is an inertially dominated flow. Its velocity distribution, depicted in Figure F.2(e), can be estimated from the characteristics of the plume, upstream of ceiling impingement. The ceiling jet temperature distribution, depicted in Figure F.2(f) for a relative "hot" or "cool" ceiling surface, is then estimated from the velocity (which is now known), upper-layer temperature, ceiling-surface temperature, and heat flux distributions.

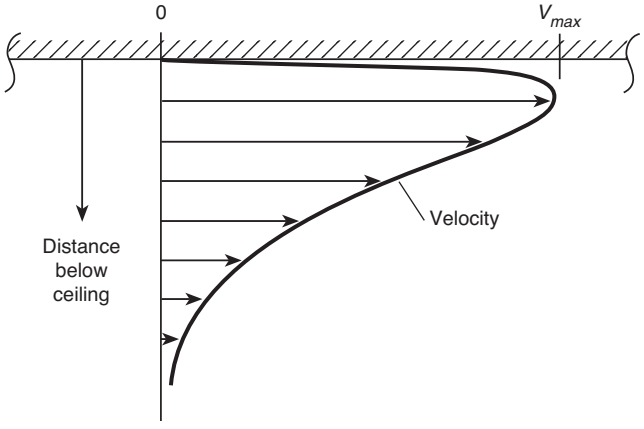


FIGURE F.2(e) Ceiling Jet Velocity.

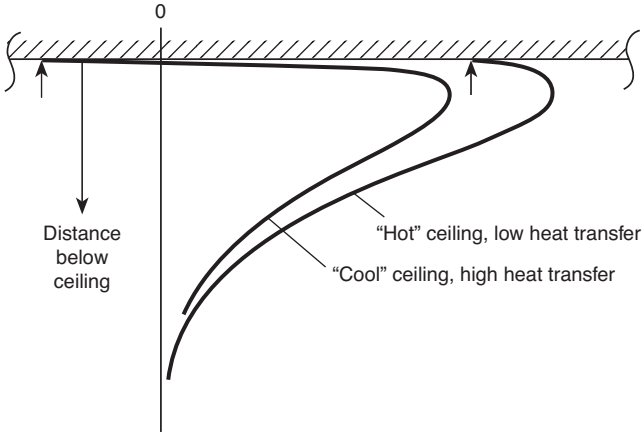


FIGURE F.2(f) Ceiling Jet Temperature.

Annex B provides details of all equations of the LAVENT mathematical fire model and its associated computer program, developed to simulate all the phenomena described thus far. LAVENT can be used to simulate and study parametrically a wide range of relevant fire scenarios involving these phenomena.

Included in B.5.5 is a summary of guidelines, assumptions, and limitations to LAVENT. For example, as specified in that subsection, LAVENT assumes that, at all times during a simulated fire, the overall building space containing the curtained area of fire origin is vented to the outside (e.g., through open doorways). It is assumed, furthermore, that the area of the outside vents is large relative to the area of the open ceiling vents in the curtained area.

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Therefore, if the total area of the outside vents is A_{out}, then $(A_{out}/A_V)^2$ is significantly larger than 1 (e.g., $A_{out}/A_V > 2$). If the outside vents are in the bounding walls of the curtained space, not in adjacent spaces, they should be located entirely below the smoke layer boundary. Subsection B.5.5 should be referenced for the details of other guidelines, assumptions, and limitations.

If the actual size of the outside vents is not significantly larger than the vent area, consideration should be given to increasing the vent area to account for the restrictions in inlet air using the following multiplier:

$$M\left[1+\left(\frac{A_v}{A_{V_{out}}}\right)^2\frac{T_{amb}}{T_U}\right]^{1/2} \quad \textbf{(F.2)}$$

where:

M = multiplier
A_V = total area of open ceiling in curtained space
T_{amb} = outside temperature
A_{Vout} = total area of open vents to outside exclusive of A_V
T_U = upper layer temperature

Annex C is a user guide for the LAVENT computer code. Annex C includes a comprehensive discussion of the inputs and calculated results of a default simulation involving a fire growing in a large pile of wood pallets (*t*-squared growth to a steady 33 MW) in a 9.1 m high curtained warehouse-type space with multiple fusible-link–actuated vents and near-ceiling–deployed fusible sprinkler links. Vents actuated by alternative means such as thermoplastic "drop-out" panels with equivalent performance characteristics can also be modeled using LAVENT. Inputs to LAVENT include the following.

(1) *Dimensions of the Curtained Area of Fire Origin.* Length, width, and height of the curtained area of fire origin
(2) *Dimensions of the Draft Curtain.* Floor to bottom of the curtain separation distance and length of the curtain (a portion of the perimeter of the curtained space can include floor-to-ceiling walls)
(3) *Properties of the Ceiling.* Thickness, density, thermal conductivity, and heat capacity of the ceiling material
(4) *Characteristics of the Fire.* Elevation of the base of the fire above the floor *(see 9.2.3.6)*; total energy release rate of the fire, at different times during the course of the simulated fire scenario (the computer code uses linear interpolation to approximate between these times); and the plan area of the fire, or the total energy release rate per unit area of the fire (in cases where the user supplies the latter input, the computer code estimates the changing area of the fire at any moment by using the current total energy release rate)
(5) *Characteristics of the Ceiling Vent–Actuating Fusible Links or Vent-Actuating Smoke Detectors and of the Corresponding Ceiling Vents.* Horizontal distance from the fire, vertical distance below the ceiling surface, RTI, and fuse temperature of the ceiling vent–actuating fusible links; also, the clear open area, A_V, of their associated ceiling vents
(6) *Characteristics of Fusible Sprinkler Links.* Horizontal distance from the fire, vertical distance below the ceiling surface, RTI, and fuse temperature of fusible sprinkler links

LAVENT is written in Fortran 77. The executable code operates on PC-compatible computers.

LAVENT has had some limited experimental validation in experiments with 3.34 m^2 pool fires in a 37 m × 40 m × 14 m high aircraft hangar [Walton and Notarianni, 1993; Notarianni, 1992]. The hangar was equipped with near-ceiling-mounted brass disks of known RTI, which were used to simulate sprinkler links or heat detector elements. The experiments did not involve ceiling vents. Experimental validation of the various mathematical submodel equation sets that comprise the generalized LAVENT simulation is also implicit. This is the case, since the mathematical submodels of LAVENT, presented in Annex B, are based on carefully reproduced correlations of data acquired in appropriate experimental studies of the isolated physical phenomena that, taken together, make up the combined effects of a LAVENT-simulated fire scenario. The experimental basis and validation of the LAVENT submodels can be found in the references listed in Section B.6.

If ceiling vents are actuated by smoke detectors, the guidelines outlined in 9.2.5.4.3 should be followed. LAVENT can be made to simulate this function with a very sensitive fusible link (i.e., a link with a negligibly small RTI) and an appropriate fuse temperature.

As specified in B.4.1, LAVENT always assumes that the flow coefficient, *C*, for ceiling vents is 0.68; if the user has reason to believe that a different value, C_{user}, is more appropriate for a particular vent (such as the value 0.6 suggested in 9.2.4.2), then the input vent area for that vent should be scaled up proportionately (i.e., A_V, input = $A_V C_{user}/0.68$).

LAVENT calculates the time that the first sprinkler link fuses and the fire environment that develops in the curtained space prior to that time. Because the model does not simulate the interaction of sprinkler sprays and fire environments, any LAVENT simulation results subsequent to sprinkler waterflow should be ignored.

F.3 Objectives of the vent system should be defined and considered. Objectives can include the following:

(1) Provide for fire fighter safety and facilitate post-fire smoke removal by the fire department. The two key issues include activation type (remote or manual removal at roof level by fire fighters), and vent ratio (gross vent area to roof area). Remote activation is a preferred method; however, manual activation at roof level does considerably reduce the time a fire fighter must spend on the roof (versus cutting a hole in the roof) and might be considered acceptable.
(2) Allow extended egress travel distances.
(3) Reduce smoke damage to the contents. Design features such as ganging all vents within a sprinkler zone, and automatically activating all of the vents within one zone following sprinkler activation might achieve objectives 2 and 3; however, additional research is needed to validate this concept.

Chapters 4 through 10 represent the state of technology of vent and draft curtain board design in the absence of sprinklers. A broadly accepted equivalent design basis for using sprinklers, vents, and curtain boards together for hazard control (e.g., property protection, life safety, water usage, obscuration) is currently not available. Designers are strongly cautioned that use of venting with automatic sprinklers is an area of ongoing research to determine its benefit and effect in conjunction with automatic suppression.

This annex section provides design considerations for venting systems in sprinkler-protected areas. These design considerations are based on the research that has been conducted.

Early Research. For occupancies that present a high challenge to sprinkler systems, concern has been raised that the inclusion of automatic roof venting, draft curtains, or both can be detrimental to the performance of automatic sprin-

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klers. Although there is no universally accepted conclusion from fire experience [Miller, 1980], studies on a model scale [Heskestad, 1974] suggested the following:

(1) Venting delays loss of visibility.
(2) Venting results in increased fuel consumption.
(3) Depending on the location of the fire relative to the vents, the water demand necessary to achieve control is either increased or decreased over an unvented condition. With the fire directly under the vent, water demand is decreased. With the fire equidistant from the vents, water demand is increased.

A series of tests was conducted to increase the understanding of the role of automatic roof vents simultaneously employed with automatic sprinklers [Waterman et al., 1982]. The data submitted did not provide a consensus on whether sprinkler control was impaired or enhanced by the presence of automatic (roof) vents for the typical spacing and area.

Large-scale fire tests, conducted at the Factory Mutual Research fire test facility without vents, indicated that certain configurations of draft curtains can have a detrimental effect on the performance of a sprinkler system during a high-challenge fire [Troup, 1994]. Two tests were conducted, one in which a fire was initiated adjacent to a draft curtain, and one near the junction of two draft curtains. Sprinkler performance in these two tests was considered unsatisfactory because an excessive number of sprinklers operated and damage significantly increased in comparison to similar tests conducted without draft curtains.

Other large-scale fire tests were conducted [Hinkley et al., 1992] employing liquid fuels, small vent spacings (minimum of 4.7 m), and vents open at ignition. Hinkley reached the following conclusions:

(1) The prior opening of vents had little effect on the operation of the first sprinkler.
(2) Venting substantially reduced the total number of sprinkler operations.

In an independent analysis of these tests, Gustafsson [1992] noted that sprinklers near the fire source were often delayed or did not operate at all.

Recent Research. The Fire Protection Research Foundation, formerly known as the National Fire Protection Research Foundation, organized large-scale tests to study the interaction of sprinklers, roof vents, and draft curtains [McGrattan et al., 1998], involving heptane spray fires and arrays of cartoned plastic commodity of a standard configuration. The test space was ventilated by a smoke abatement system. The findings were as follows:

(1) In the heptane spray fires, venting had no significant effect on sprinkler operations, unless a fire was ignited directly under a vent, in which case the number of sprinkler operations decreased.
(2) When a draft curtain was installed in the heptane spray fires, the number of operating sprinklers increased.
(3) In five tests with the cartoned plastic commodity, three tests opened 20–23 sprinklers and two tests opened 5–7 sprinklers, which was attributed to variability in the initial fire growth and not to any of the variables under study.
(4) One of these tests with ignition near a draft curtain consumed much more fuel than the other tests, which was attributed to fire spread under the draft curtain.
(5) Effects of venting through roof vents on smoke obscuration could not be determined because of the dominant effect of the building smoke abatement system.
(6) In all experiments in this study where, in some cases, vents were open at the start of the fire, and in those instances where the fire was located directly under a vent, sprinklers performed satisfactorily. Satisfactory sprinkler performance is defined by all of the following criteria:
   (a) Fire did not jump the aisles.
   (b) The number of spinklers operating did not exceed the design area.
   (c) Fire did not spread to an end of the fuel array.

While the use of automatic venting and draft curtains in sprinklered buildings is still under review, the designer is encouraged to use the available tools and data referenced in this document for solving problems peculiar to a particular type of hazard control [Miller, 1980; Heskestad, 1974; Waterman, 1982; Troup, 1994; Hinkley, et al., 1992; Gustafsson, 1992; McGrattan et al., 1998].

(7) In tests where the vents were opened by fusible link, a number of the vents failed to open, which was attributed to either the cooling effects of the control mode sprinklers on the smoke layer or direct spray cooling of the fusible links.

Design Considerations. As a result of the research, the following guidelines are provided for the design of venting systems in those areas of a building protected with an automatic sprinkler system designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, for the specific occupancy hazard.

(1) Draft curtains and open vents of venting systems should not adversely affect sprinklers that are capable of discharging water onto the fire, either in time of operation or in the water discharge pattern.
(2) Vents that are open prior to sprinkler operations in a region surrounding the ignition point, within a radius of 1½ sprinkler spacings, can interfere with the opening of sprinklers capable of delivering water to the fire. The vent system design should consider the following:
   (a) This interference is likely to be a factor if the total vent area is divided among many closely spaced vents, as in the investigation by Hinkley et al. [1992], commented on by Gustafsson [1992].
   (b) If the vent spacing is several times as large as the sprinkler spacing, model fire tests simulating a 1.2 m × 1.2 m vent in a 7.6 m high building [Heskestad, 1995] showed that sprinkler operations were significantly delayed whenever ignition occurred anywhere under the area of an open vent. Otherwise, there was little delay. This delay can be important for systems with early suppression fast response (ESFR) sprinklers.
   (c) Use of high-temperature, heat-responsive actuation mechanisms, compared to the sprinklers, can mitigate the problem of open vents. For example, for 74°C rated ESFR sprinklers, a minimum 180°C activation temperature should be provided for vents. Another approach would be to provide gang operation of the vents at the moment a conservative number of sprinklers are operating.
   (d) The vent system design should consider the effects of the venting system on the ceiling jet.

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(3) The location of draft curtains should be determined considering the following:
   (a) Draft curtains can delay or prevent operation and can interfere with the discharge of sprinklers capable of delivering water to the fire. In practice, sprinklers capable of delivering water to the fire can be considered to be those that are within 1½ sprinkler spacings of the ignition point.
   (b) Draft curtains should be located in aisles and should be horizontally separated from combustible contents.
   (c) The layout of the sprinkler protection and the width of the aisle below the draft curtain should be sufficient to prevent the fire from jumping the aisle space. Accordingly, if a draft curtain is positioned midway between two sprinklers, the nearest possible ignition point should be at least ¾ of one sprinkler spacing away from the draft curtain. In other words, there can be no storage of combustible material within ¾ of one sprinkler spacing of a draft curtain. Aisles free of combustible storage, centered under draft curtains, should be at least 1½ sprinkler spacings wide (e.g., a minimum of 15 ft aisle for 10 ft sprinkler spacing in the direction perpendicular to the draft curtain). For situations where such an aisle width is not practical, the aisle space can be reduced to a minimum of 8 ft, when a line of sprinklers is provided on each side of the draft curtain, 4 in. to 12 in. horizontally from the face of the draft curtain. For existing sprinkler installations, these sprinklers near the draft curtain might need to be staggered horizontally with respect to adjacent line of sprinklers, in order to maintain the minimum separation required by NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, and to prevent sprinkler skipping.
   (d) Where aisles of sufficient width cannot be maintained, full-height partitions can be used in lieu of draft curtains.

(4) The design fire's rate of heat release rate–time history should account for the operation of the sprinkler system.

(5) Determination of the smoke layer temperature should take into account the operation of the control mode sprinkler system. Control mode sprinklers operate when a temperature-rated element fuses in each individual control mode sprinkler head. Since in most fires only a small number of control mode sprinkler heads close to the seat of the fire operate, it follows that the bulk temperature of the smoke layer and/or the ceiling jet beyond the operating control mode sprinklers cannot be significantly higher than the control mode sprinkler fusible element operating temperature, due to the cooling effect on the smoke of the operating control mode sprinklers. Therefore once the first control mode sprinkler has operated, if calculations show the smoke layer temperature to be above the control mode sprinkler fusible element operating temperature, the smoke layer temperature should be modified to reflect this effect. A possible approach when vents are used would be to set the smoke layer temperature equal to the control mode sprinkler fusible elements operating temperature, this being a reasonably conservative design solution.

(6) The vent flow, smoke movement, and position of the smoke layer boundary should take into account the downdrag effect produced by operation of the sprinkler system.

(7) The effect of control mode sprinkler cooling may limit the number of vents opening if control of the vent is only by fusible link or if drop-out panels are used. If the fusible link or drop-out panel operating temperature is equal to or higher than the control mode sprinkler fusible element operating temperature, then vents outside the outer ring of operating control mode sprinklers are unlikely to open. This could significantly limit the effectiveness of the smoke vent system. Use of ganged vents operated from detectors or a sprinkler flow switch is a way to avoid this situation.

Recent Literature Review

A recent paper examines the interaction of control mode sprinklers with smoke and heat vents [Beyler and Cooper, 2001]. The paper reviews 13 experimental studies that have some relevance to the claims posed for and against the combined use of control mode sprinklers and smoke/heat vents. These studies are used to evaluate the positive and negative claims that have been made with regard to the combined use of control mode sprinklers and smoke/heat vents. Three of the studies investigate the use of smoke/heat vents alone. Four investigations include control mode sprinklers, but do not include roof vents. Three of these are test series in which perimeter vents were used in the test facility, and the fourth included control mode sprinklers, a partial draft curtain, and no smoke/heat vents. Four test series included control mode sprinklers, smoke/heat vents, and draft curtains, but utilized spray or pool fires that were not subject to extinguishment by the control mode sprinklers. Four test series included control mode sprinklers, smoke/heat vents, and draft curtains, and used Class A fuels that were subject to extinguishment.

The studies of smoke and heat venting used in conjunction with control mode sprinklers do not provide evidence that venting has a negative effect on control mode sprinkler performance.

Experimental studies have shown that venting does limit the spread of products of combustion by releasing them from the building within the curtained compartment of fire origin. This improves visibility for building occupants and fire fighters who need to find the seat of the fire to complete fire extinguishment. Limiting the spread of smoke and heat also reduces smoke and heat damage to the building. In the event that control mode sprinklers do not operate, venting remains a valuable aid to manual control of the fire.

The experimental studies have shown that early vent activation has no detrimental effects on control mode sprinkler performance and have also shown that current design practices are likely to limit the number of vents operated to one and vents may in fact not operate at all in very successful control mode sprinkler operations. Design practices should move to methods that assure early operation of vents, and vent operation should be ganged so that the benefit of roof vents is fully realized. Control mode sprinkler design with vents and draft curtains needs to take full account of draft curtains as obstructions.

Following the publication of the paper by Beyler and Cooper [2001], in a letter to the editor Heskestad [2002] reviewed the conclusions of the authors that: (1) venting clearly does not have a negative effect on sprinkler performance, (2) venting limits spread of combustion products, and (3) venting remains a valuable aid to manual control of the fire in the event the sprinklers do not operate. He argues the view that the first two of these conclusions are performance measures that are not met, or well met, by current technology based on the studies cited by the authors. With respect to the third conclusion, Heskestad refers to the FM Global position that venting, installed as backup to an automatic sprinkler system that is inadequate or impaired, is not cost-effective because it is unlikely a large loss will be averted solely due to the presence of vents.

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Annex G Informational References

G.1 Referenced Publications. The documents or portions thereof listed in this annex are referenced within the informational sections of this standard and are not part of the requirements of this document unless also listed in Chapter 2 for other reasons. There are additional lists of references at the ends of Annexes B, C, and D.

G.1.1 NFPA Publications. National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471.

NFPA 13, *Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 68, *Standard on Explosion Protection by Deflagration Venting*, 2007 edition.

NFPA 72®, *National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code*, 2010 edition.

NFPA 90A, *Standard for the Installation of Air-Conditioning and Ventilating Systems*, 2012 edition.

NFPA 92, *Standard for Smoke Control Systems*, 2012 edition.

NFPA 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, 2011 edition.

NFPA 287, *Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Flammability of Materials in Cleanrooms Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA)*, 2007 edition.

G.1.2 Other Publications.

G.1.2.1 ASTM Publications. ASTM International, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, P.O. Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

ASTM D 635, *Test Method for Rate of Burning and/or Extent and Time of Burning of Self-Supporting Plastics in a Horizontal Position*, 2006.

ASTM E 1321, *Standard Test Method for Determining Material Ignition and Flame Spread Properties*, 2009.

ASTM E 1354, *Standard Test Method for Heat and Visible Smoke Release Rates for Materials and Products Using an Oxygen Consumption Calorimeter*, 2009.

ASTM E 2058, *Standard Test Methods for Measurement of Synthetic Polymer Material Flammability Using a Fire Propagation Apparatus (FPA)*, 2009.

G.1.2.2 BSI Publications. British Standards Institution, 389 Chiswick High Road, London W4 4AL, U.K.

BS 7346–5, *Functional recommendations and calculation methods for smoke and heat exhaust ventilation systems employing time-dependent design fires.*

G.1.2.3 EN Publications. European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization (CENELEC), 25, Rue de Stassartstraat, B-1050, Brussels, Belgium.

EN 12101-1, *Specification for smoke barriers.*

EN 12101-2, *Specification for natural smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

EN 12101-3, *Specification for powered smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

G.1.2.4 ISO Publications. International Organization for Standardization, 1, Rue de Varembé, Case postal 56, CH-1211 Geneve 20, Switzerland.

ISO DIS 21927-1, *Specification for smoke barriers.*

ISO DIS 21927-2, *Specification for natural smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

ISO DIS 21927-3, *Specification for powered smoke and heat exhaust ventilators.*

G.1.2.5 NIST Publications. National Institute of Standards and Technology, 100 Bureau Drive, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-1070.

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GRAPH graphics code.

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Index

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-A-

Administration ..... Chap. 1
- Application 1.3
- Equivalency 1.5
- Purpose. (Reserved) 1.2
- Retroactivity 1.4
- Scope 1.1

Air Inlets ..... Chap. 6
- Air Paths 6.7
- Construction 6.2
- Dimensions and Spacing of Air Inlets 6.6
- General 6.1, A.6.1
- Installation 6.4
- Location 6.3, A.6.3
- Methods of Operation 6.5

Approved
- Definition 3.2.1, A.3.2.1

Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)
- Definition 3.2.2, A.3.2.2

-C-

Ceiling Jet
- Definition 3.3.1

Clear (Air) Layer
- Definition 3.3.2

Clear Layer Interface
- Definition 3.3.3, A.3.3.3

Continuously Growing Fires
- Definition 3.3.4

Curtained Area
- Definition 3.3.5

-D-

Definitions ..... Chap. 3

Design Depth of the Smoke Layer
- Definition 3.3.6

Design Documentation ..... Chap. 13
- Documentation Required 13.1, A.13.1
  - Conceptual Design Report 13.1.2
  - Design Brief 13.1.1
  - Detailed Design Report 13.1.3
  - Operations and Maintenance Manual 13.1.4

Design Fire
- Definition 3.3.7

Design Information ..... Annex F

Design Interval Time
- Definition 3.3.8

Draft Curtain
- Definition 3.3.9

Draft Curtains ..... Chap. 7
- Construction 7.2, A.7.2
- General 7.1, A.7.1
- Location and Depth 7.3
- Spacing 7.4

-E-

Effective Ignition
- Definition 3.3.10, A.3.3.10

Explanatory Material ..... Annex A

-F-

Fuel Array
- Definition 3.3.11

Fundamentals ..... Chap. 4
- Design Basis 4.2, A.4.2
- Design Objectives 4.1, A.4.1
- Determination of Contents Hazard 4.3
- Smoke Production 4.5
  - Base of the Fire 4.5.1, A.4.5.1
  - Entrainment 4.5.3, A.4.5.3
    - Virtual Origin 4.5.3.2, A.4.5.3.2
  - Fire Size 4.5.2, A.4.5.2
- Vent Flows 4.6
  - Buoyancy and Vent Flow 4.6.1, A.4.6.1
  - Inlet Air 4.6.2, A.4.6.2
- Venting 4.4
  - Design Objectives 4.4.1
  - Vent Mass Flow 4.4.3, A.4.4.3
  - Vent System Designs and Smoke Production 4.4.2, A.4.4.2

-H-

Heat Detector
- Definition 3.3.12

-I-

Informational References ..... Annex G

Inspection and Maintenance ..... Chap. 12
- Air Inlets 12.5
- Conduct and Observation of Operational Tests 12.4
  - Inspection, Maintenance, and Testing of Mechanical Smoke-Exhaust Systems 12.4.3
    - Acceptance Testing 12.4.3.2
    - Component Testing 12.4.3.1
    - Exhaust System Maintenance 12.4.3.4
    - Inspection Schedule 12.4.3.5
    - Periodic Testing 12.4.3.3
  - Mechanically Opened Vents and Air Inlets 12.4.1
  - Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents 12.4.2
- General 12.1, A.12.1
- Ice and Snow Removal 12.6
- Inspection, Maintenance, and Acceptance Testing 12.3
  - Inlet Air Sources 12.3.4
  - Inspection Schedules 12.3.1
  - Mechanically Opened Vents 12.3.2
  - Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents 12.3.3
- Requirements 12.2, A.12.2
  - Inspection and Maintenance 12.2.3
  - Mechanically Opened Vents 12.2.1
  - Thermoplastic Drop-Out Vents 12.2.2

-L-

Labeled
- Definition 3.2.3

Limited-Growth Fires
- Definition 3.3.13

Listed
- Definition 3.2.4, A.3.2.4

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-M-

Material
- Definition 3.3.14
- Limited-Combustible Material
  - Definition 3.3.14.1
- Noncombustible Material
  - Definition 3.3.14.2

Mechanical Smoke Exhaust System
- Definition 3.3.15

Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems ..... Chap. 10
- Exhaust Rates 10.2
- Fire Exposure 10.3
- General 10.1, A.10.1
- Intake Air 10.5
- Number of Exhaust Inlets 10.4, A.10.4

-P-

Plastics
- Class CC1 Plastics
  - Definition 3.3.16.1, A.3.3.16.1
- Class CC2 Plastics
  - Definition 3.3.16.2, A.3.3.16.2
- Definition 3.3.16

Plugholing
- Definition 3.3.17

Predicting the Rate of Heat Release of Fires ..... Annex E

-R-

Referenced Publications ..... Chap. 2
- General 2.1, A.2.1
- NFPA Publications 2.2
- Other Publications 2.3
- References for Extracts in Mandatory Sections 2.4

-S-

Sample Problem Using Engineering Equations (Hand Calculations) and LAVENT ..... Annex D

Shall
- Definition 3.2.5

Should
- Definition 3.2.6

Sizing Vents ..... Chap. 9
- General 9.1, A.9.1
- Hand Calculations 9.2
- Design Concepts 9.2.2
- Mass Flow Rate in Plume 9.2.3
- Mass Flow Rate Through Vents 9.2.4, A.9.2.4
- Required Vent Area and Inlet Area 9.2.5
  - Area Calculation 9.2.5.3
  - Detection and Activation 9.2.5.4
    - Detection Computer Programs 9.2.5.4.4
  - Inlet Area 9.2.5.2
  - Vent Area 9.2.5.1
- Vent System Designs 9.2.1
- Models 9.3

Smoke
- Definition 3.3.18

Smoke Layer
- Definition 3.3.19, A.3.3.19

Smoke Layer Boundary
- Definition 3.3.20, A.3.3.20

-T-

The Design Fire ..... Chap. 8
- General 8.1, A.8.1
- Growing (Continuous-Growth) Fires 8.3
- Steady (Limited-Growth) Fires 8.2

The Theoretical Basis of LAVENT ..... Annex B

-U-

User Guide for the LAVENT Computer Code ..... Annex C

-V-

Vent
- Definition 3.3.21

Vent System
- Definition 3.3.22

Venting in Sprinklered Buildings ..... Chap. 11
- Automatic Sprinkler Systems 11.2, A.11.2
- Design 11.1, A.11.1
- Storage Occupancies Protected by Control Mode Sprinklers 11.3, A.11.3

Vents ..... Chap. 5
- Dimensions and Spacing of Vents 5.4
- Listed Vents 5.1, A.5.1
- Mechanical Smoke Exhaust Systems 5.5
- Methods of Operation 5.3
- Vent Design Constraints 5.2

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