

# IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS IN A GREASE EXTRACT DUCTWORK SYSTEM

**It is often extremely difficult accurately to assess the extent of deposit build-up on the internal surfaces of a grease extract ductwork system, owing to access limitations. However, a number of simple ways do exist whereby the existence of a potential fire hazard can be established.**

- *In order to enable a grease extract ductwork system to be fully cleaned, access doors must be installed within the system at minimum intervals of 3m.*
- *If access panels have been installed in a grease extract ductwork system, it is possible to review the internal condition of the ductwork system by the removal of one or more of the access panels.*
- *If access panels have not been installed in a grease extract ductwork system, it is almost certain that it has never been properly cleaned.*
- *If there is evidence of grease deposits on the canopy filters – or running through the filters into the ventilation canopy – it is likely that the system contains potentially fire-hazardous grease deposits.*
- *Similarly, if there is evidence of grease deposits on the point of discharge to atmosphere, it is likely that the system contains potentially fire-hazardous grease deposits.*
- *Certificates of cleaning may be issued by many less reputable contractors when only a partial clean has been undertaken, and fire hazardous grease deposits have not been fully removed.*