

August 10, 2004

NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

APPROVAL/ACCEPTANCE of:

GRIPPLE, Inc., HANG-FAST galvanized wire rope/cable Hanger Assemblies
DURO DYNE, DYNA -TITE galvanized wire rope/cable Hanger Assemblies
DUCTMATE, CLUTCHER galvanized wire rope/cable Hanger Assemblies
ERICO, CADDY SPEED LINK, galvanized wire rope/cable Hanger Assemblies
OTHER HANGER ASSEMBLIES

Representatives of the above referenced manufacturers have requested approvals of their hanger assemblies for use in St. Louis County. These assemblies essentially consist of galvanized wire rope/cable that is fastened together with adjustable gripping/fastening/locking devices to form a hanger support for MEP system components.

All of the above mentioned hanger assemblies have either received or, are in the process of receiving a report from the Sheet Metal & Air Conditioning Contractors National Association, Inc. (SMACNA). These reports address the strength of the above mentioned hanger assembly's adjustable gripping/fastening/locking devices and related acceptability of these products for use in conjunction with the SMACNA, HVAC, Duct Construction Standards Manual. This Manual is referenced in the St. Louis County Mechanical Code.

The requested approvals have not been totally clear as to the details of the hanger assemblies or their attachment to the structure or the MEP system components. It is the intent of this Notice to Industry to describe the conditions of approval/acceptance of these and other hanger assemblies, within the portions of St. Louis County governed by the St. Louis County Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Codes.

Structural Strength Concerns Related to Hanger Assemblies

The acceptable use of these and other hangers is dependent on engineering evaluation related to:

1. The specific method of attachment of the hanger assembly to the upper structural members of the structure.
2. The strength of the attachment/fastening of the upper portion of the hanger assembly to the structural members of the structure.
3. The strength of the structural member that the hanger support is attached to.
4. The strength of the hanger assembly itself, including adjustable gripping/fastening/locking devices and permanent end fittings.
5. The strength of the specific configuration by which the hanger assemblies are attached to the MEP system components being supported.
6. The spacing of hanger assembly supports based on the above structural strength considerations and the maximum spacing identified in the Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Codes.
7. The conditions or limitations of testing and/or listing.

A review of the above structural strength concerns makes it clear that the County's inspection staff cannot and should not make field evaluations of all aspects of these hanger assemblies. Moreover, these are concerns that must be addressed by the responsible project engineer.

(Cont'd.)

NOTICE

Beginning September 10, 2004, it will be the policy of the Department of Public Works Code Enforcement Division, to Approve or Accept the above mentioned and other hanger assemblies under the following conditions ONLY:

That the County approved plans and specifications OR shop drawings approved by the responsible project engineer, OR sealed engineering documents reviewed by the responsible project engineer; are maintained at the jobsite and contain the following detailed information concerning the installation of the hanger assemblies.

- a. Details of the specific method of upper attachment/fastening of these hanger assemblies to the structural elements of the building. These specific details shall include specific (size, type) concrete anchors, eye bolts, clips, beam clamps, etc.
- b. Specific details concerning the materials and size of the hanger assemblies themselves. For the above mentioned hanger assemblies, these details shall include the size of the galvanized wire rope/cable as well as the size of wire rope/cable gripping/fastening/locking device(s). Details would also include specific information on permanent end fittings. All detail information is necessary for each different configuration of hanger assembly being utilized and each different type of MEP system component being supported.
- c. Details concerning the specific configuration of attachment of the hanger assembly to the MEP element for each different type of MEP system component being supported.
- d. Specific details concerning the spacing of hanger assemblies for each different type/size of hanger assembly and each different type of MEP system component being supported.

This Notice to Industry supersedes all previous Code Enforcement Division correspondence concerning this subject.

Notes:

1. **The concerns and conditions of approval or acceptance contained in this Notice shall apply to all types of hanger assemblies used to support MEP system components.**
2. **There will be no other approvals or conditions of acceptance required or issued concerning the above referenced hanger assemblies.**
3. **This Notice is not intended to imply or require that a SMACNA Manual Acceptability Report is necessary for the above referenced or other hanger assemblies.**
4. **These same conditions of Approval or Acceptance apply regardless of whether or not a SMACA Manual Acceptability Report has been obtained.**
5. **This Notice and these general conditions of Approval or Acceptance do not apply to the use of the above referenced Hanger Assemblies as Seismic Restraints/Sway Bracing. St. Louis County is currently considering the adoption of the 2003 International Building Code. A separate Notice to Industry will be issued concerning Seismic Restraints/Sway Bracing, once the new County Code has been finalized.**

Michael E. Werner PE, Deputy Public Works Director for Code Enforcement

Distribution:

All Code Enforcement Division Plan Review & Inspection Staff