

 GOVERNMENT OF DUBAI	Organization/Unit:	إدارة مختبر دبي المركزي Dubai Central Laboratory Department	الوحدة التنظيمية:	 بلدية دبي DUBAI MUNICIPALITY
	Document Title:	Specific Rules for FA Certification of Factory –Made Air Duct and Air connectors as per UL 181:2013 (R2017)	عنوان الوثيقة:	
	Doc Ref.	DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2215 (IC)	رقم الوثيقة :	

Issue Date	Rev. No.	Summary Of Amendments
10.06.2020	0	First draft for comments
25.10.2020	0	Second draft for comments
29.12.2020	1	Issue for Use
26/09/2021	2	Revised to reflect the Removal of the documents in clause 2.1.2, in addition to further amendment in the provision for accepting valid test reports ( clause 2.4.2.1b), in line with DM 30% reduction of requirements (both service and specialized). Modifications in the auditing part for the factories already certified against ISO 9001 to opt for auditing only the areas of production and monitoring stages of product realization, quality control and final product testing and evaluation.

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## 1. GENERAL

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This document prescribes the specific rules for the implementation of the DM Third Party Product Certification Scheme Through Factory Assessment as applied to the specific product(s) identified herein, taking into consideration the applicable normative references and standard specifications.
- 1.1.2 The applicant shall comply with these specific rules, and with those already mentioned in DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2001 (IC) “General Rules for DM Third Party Product Certification Through Factory Assessment.”

### 1.2 SCOPE

- 1.2.1 This specific rule covers requirements of the materials for the fabrication of air duct and air connector system for use in accordance with the International Mechanical Code, International Residential Code, and Uniform Mechanical Code, Standards of the National Fire Protection Association for the installation of Air conditioning and Ventilating Systems, NFPA No. 90A, and the installation of Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning systems, NFPA No. 90B.
- 1.2.2 The air ducts and air connectors covered in this specific rule include preformed lengths of flexible or rigid ducts, materials in the form of boards for field fabrication of lengths or rigid ducts, and preformed flexible air connectors.
- 1.2.3 Air ducts and air connectors covered in this specific rules are classified as follows:
- Class 0 – Air ducts and air connectors having a surface burning characteristics of zero
- Class 1 - Air ducts and air connectors having a flame spread index (FSI) of not over 25 without evidence of continued progressive combustion and smoke develop index (SDI) of not over 50.

### 1.3 PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION AND APPLICABLE STANDARD/NORMATIVE REFERENCE

- 1.3.1 Product Name: Factory-Made Air Ducts and Air Connectors
- 1.3.2 Applicable standard/Normative reference: UL 181: 2013 (R2017) – Standard for Safety: Factory – Made Air Ducts and Air Connectors
- 1.3.3 Additional References:
- ISO 9001 - Quality Management System – Requirements
- ISO 19011 - Guidelines for Auditing Management System

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#### 1.4 DEFINITION OF TERMS

In addition to the definitions given in UL 181: 2013 (R2017) & DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2001 (IC), the following shall also apply:

- 1.4.1 Independent Testing Laboratory - Dubai Central Laboratory (DCL) or any testing laboratory recognized / approved by DCLD-PCAS.
- 1.4.2 Independent Test – test performed or conducted by the recognized Independent Testing Laboratory.
- 1.4.3 Standard Specification (SS) – UL 181: 2013 (R2017) – Standard for Safety: Factory –Made Air Ducts and Air Connectors.
- 1.4.4 Fabrication Quality Control System (Product Quality Assurance Plan) - a quality plan used by the fabricator to ensure continuous compliance of the certified product.
- 1.4.5 QMS – Quality Management System aligned with the requirements of ISO 9001 Standard.
- 1.4.6 Applicant / Client – A company with legal entity, which applies for certification of the air duct and air connectors and is responsible for fulfillment of all certification requirements and got the right to use DCL Conformity Mark for the certified air duct and air connectors.

Fabricators and/or manufacturers of the air duct and air connector shall be the considered the applicant /client.

- 1.4.7 DM Certification Body – Products Conformity Assessment Section- Dubai Central Laboratory (DCLD-PCAS).
- 1.4.8 Authorized auditor - is any approved auditor by DCLD-PCAS either internal within DCLD or external (Approved CAB's auditor or approved auditor based on a signed contract).

## 2. REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION

### 2.1 APPLICATION

- 2.1.1 The client shall apply to DCLD-PCAS for the certification and authorization to use of DCL Conformity Mark.
- 2.1.2 Application forms shall be submitted by client to DCLD-PCAS.
- 2.1.3 Separate application shall be submitted for each product type or group of products that refers to a different specific rules.

### 2.2 FACTORY OPERATION

- 2.2.1 Quality Management System

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The client shall have a Quality Management System that is aligned to the requirements of ISO 9001 standard.  
**NOTE:** Having a certificate of ISO 9001 is not a mandatory requirement; however the structure of the manufacturer's QMS shall be in line with its requirements.

#### 2.2.2 Laboratory

The applicant shall have a quality assurance laboratory to carry out fabrication control testing to ensure that the products comply with the requirements of the standard specification.

The laboratory can be part of the factory facilities, or, can be through a documented agreement with an accredited external laboratory. As a minimum requirement, the laboratory shall have the following testing equipment:

- a. Dimensional test equipment

#### 2.3 INITIAL FACTORY AUDIT

- 2.3.1 Initial Audit shall be carried out by duly authorized auditor(s) which shall cover the auditing of the quality management system to verify its compliance with the requirements of ISO 9001, in addition to verify the implementation of DCLD-PCAS certification's requirements. Where possible; the audit can be carried out remotely as per (DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2098 (IC) Guidelines for Remote Audit) or as per the related approved guidelines which are followed by the approved outsourced CAB.

*NOTE: An independent certification to ISO 9001 issued by a QMS certification body recognized by DCLD-PCAS may be considered as having satisfied this requirement; however, DCLD-PCAS may still opt to carry out verification audit to confirm that the factory is in compliance with requirements of DCLD certification schemes and rules, mainly the areas of production and monitoring stages of product realization, quality control and final product testing and evaluation.*

- 2.3.1.2 Factory audit shall be conducted by the designated audit team in accordance with ISO 19011 – Guidelines for Auditing Management System.

#### 2.4 PRODUCT EVALUATION

- 2.4.1 **Special Provisions for Air Ducts and Air Connectors that are certified to UL 181 by independent accredited third party Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB).**

- 2.4.1.1 For Air Ducts and Air Connectors that are already covered by UL 181 Certification the following shall apply:

- a. DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall review the current UL 181 Certification to ensure that the Certificate is still valid and there are no changes in the fabrication procedure and materials used for the

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fabrication of air ducts and air connectors, which were used by Conformity Assessment Bodies (CAB) in the certification to UL 181.

- b. DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall review the available test reports as per the requirements of UL 181. The said test reports shall be within the three year period from the date of issue.
- c. If the result of review of the related documents as mentioned above is meeting the requirements of clause 2.4.1.1a and 2.4.1.1b, the DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors may opt not carry out product sampling. However, the available test reports shall be evaluated for compliance to clause 2.4.3.2.
- d. If the result of review of the related documents as mentioned above is not meeting the requirements of clauses 2.4.1.1a and 2.4.1.1b the DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall carry out product sampling as per clause 2.4.3.1.
- e. If the result of review of the test reports as per clause 2.4.1.1c is not complying with the requirements of UL 181, the DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall carry out product sampling as per clause 2.4.3.1.

2.4.1.2 After granting the DCLD-PCAS Certification, and during the periodic surveillance visits, DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall review the continuing validity of the UL 181 Certification and if there are no changes in the fabrication procedure and materials used for the fabrication of air ducts and air connectors as covered in the UL 181 Certification, no further testing will be conducted.

2.4.1.3 At every 3<sup>rd</sup> year from original certification date, DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors, shall select new samples from among the air ducts and air connectors covered within the scope of the DCL Certification and send it to independent testing laboratory for full testing.

#### 2.4.2 Special Provisions for Air Ducts and Air Connectors that are tested to UL 181 by independent testing laboratories

2.4.2.1 For Air Ducts and Air Connectors that are tested to UL 181 the following shall apply:

- a. DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall review the test reports as per UL 181 to ensure that the test reports are within the three year period from the date of issue. The said test reports shall be evaluated to check if there are no changes in the fabrication procedure and materials used for the fabrication of air ducts and air connectors, against the sample description mentioned in the test reports as per UL 181.
- b. Where applicable, independent test should only be conducted if the result of the in-plant test shows satisfactory result. DCLD-PCAS shall accept available valid test reports conducted by an approved DCLD-PCAS independent laboratory within one year from the date of the initial assessment, in line with the internal quality control testing plan of the factory. In such case, the testing of that particular parameter(s) shall be waived accordingly.
- c. If the result of review of the test reports as mentioned above is not meeting the requirements of clause 2.4.3.2, the DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall carry out product sampling as per clause 2.4.3.1.

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2.4.2.2 After granting the DCLD-PCAS Certification, and during the periodic surveillance visits, DCLD-PCAS Audit or its approved outsourced CAB team shall check whether the test reports are within the validity period of three years and if there are no changes in the fabrication procedure and materials used for the fabrication of air ducts and air connectors as described in test reports as per UL 181, no further testing will be conducted.

2.4.2.3 At every 3<sup>rd</sup> year from original certification date, DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors shall select a new sample from among the air ducts and air connectors covered within the scope of the DCL Certification and send it to independent testing laboratory for full testing.

### 2.4.3 Products not covered by UL 181 Certification

#### 2.4.3.1 Sampling and Testing

- Sampling and number of tests shall be as per the requirements specified in the standard specification (SS).
- Test samples shall be taken for initial testing from the fabrication line. Identification of samples for initial testing shall be fabricated/manufactured using the same fabrication procedure and materials.
- Three sets of sample per product per type shall be subjected to testing; the first set, if applicable, will be tested in the plant witnessed by DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors, the second set will be sent to independent testing laboratory. The third set will be kept by the fabricator as reference sample.
- Test samples for independent test shall be identified and signed in the presence of DCLD-PCAS duly authorized auditors and shall be submitted to DCLD-PCAS approved independent testing laboratory.
- For periodic test requirements: The Fabricator shall have a Fabrication Control System (Product Quality Assurance Plan) to ensure continuous compliance of the certified product (Factory Air Duct & Air Connectors comply) with the requirements of the UL 181. The fabricator shall have a complete test of the requirements of UL 181 for the fabricated air ducts and air connectors at least once every three years, provided there are no major changes in the materials used for the fabrication of air ducts & air connectors, and fabrication procedure.

#### 2.4.3.2 Product Evaluation Criteria

- The product shall conform to the requirements as specified in Table 6.1 (Test Program) specified in UL 181:

Tests	Air ducts		Air Connectors	Joining Materials
	Rigid	Flexible		
Surface Burning Characteristics	x	x	x	-
Flame Resistance	-	-	-	x
Flame Penetration	x	x	-	-
Burning	x	x	x	-
Corrosion <sup>1</sup>	x	x	x	x
Mold Growth & Humidity	x	x	x	x
Temperature	x	x	x	-

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Puncture	x	x	-	-
Static Load	x	x2	x2	-
Impact	x	x	-	-
Erosion	x	x	x	-
Pressure	x	x	x	-
Collapse	x	x	x	-
Tension	-	x	x	-
Torsion	-	x	x	-
Bending	-	x	x	-
Leakage	x	x	x	-

#### Notes

- x Test applicable
- Test not applicable
- 1 Applicable to parts of metals not inherently corrosion resistant
- x2 Test applicable for flexible air ducts and air connectors that incorporate vapor barrier supported by grommets or other means of field support

#### b. Materials for Construction

- Metals used in the assembly of air ducts and air connectors shall be resistant to atmospheric corrosion and shall not be used in combinations that results in galvanic action which deteriorates any part of the system formed from such material.
- The corrosion-resistant coating shall provide protection against atmospheric corrosion as determined by Section 12 Corrosion Resistance, as specified in the Standard Specification, at least equivalent to steel having a uniform coating of zinc of not less than 0.3 ounce per square foot (91.6 g/m<sup>2</sup>) of surface area.
- Materials which have their protective coating damaged or the effectiveness reduced by the manufacturing / fabrication process are to be tested after being subjected to such process.
- Panels, sealants, and adhesives used in the fabrication of air duct and air connector shall be DCLD Certified.

#### c. Samples drawn for independent tests shall meet the relevant clauses of the Standard Specification (SS) as follows:

##### c.1 Performance

- Test For Surface Burning Characteristic (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 7
- Flame Resistance Test (for Joining Materials) shall comply with clause 8
- Bending Test (for Flexible Air Duct & Air Connector) shall comply with clause 9

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- Flame Penetrating Testing (for Air Ducts) shall comply with clause 10
- Burning Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 11
- Corrosion Resistance (for Air Ducts, Air Connectors and Joining Materials) shall comply with clause 12
- Mold Growth & Humidity Test (for Air Ducts, Air Connectors and Joining Materials) shall comply with clause 13
- Temperature Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 14
- Puncture Test (for Air Duct) shall comply with clause 15
- Static Load Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 16
- Impact Test (for Air Duct) shall comply with clause 17
- Erosion Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 18
- Pressure Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 19
- Collapse Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 20
- Tension Test (for Flexible Air Duct & Air Connector) shall comply with clause 21
- Torsion Test (for Flexible Air Duct & Air Connector) shall comply with clause 22
- Leakage Test (for Air Ducts and Air Connectors) shall comply with clause 23

d. Marking. Each piece of air duct or air connector shall be marked with the following:

- The Manufacturer's or vendor's identification
- The rated air velocity
- The rated negative and positive pressure, and
- Specific information relative to fabricating and joining materials and methods
- In addition, each piece of material for the field-fabrication of air ducts or air connectors shall be marked with information covering the maximum and minimum dimensions of air ducts or air connectors for which the material is intended, and each piece of rigid air duct or air connector shall be marked with the manufacturer's specified support spacing.
- Detailed information relative to the fabricating and joining materials and methods to be employed for an air duct or air connector shall not be included in instructions packaged with each carton of material, unless the marking on the air duct or air connector shall identify the joint treatment to be employed. In addition, the marking on the instructions is to be referenced to that treatment.
- Each material furnished separately for use in fabrication of an air duct or air connector system, such as tape, cement, and adhesive, shall be marked with identification (such as name and catalog designation of product) to associate it with the marking on the air duct or air connector and the manufacturer's or vendor's installation instructions.
- All required markings shall be grouped and appropriately located on each piece at intervals of 10 feet (3.0 m) or fractions thereof. Markings shall be permanent, by means such as printing or stenciling with

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waterproof ink or paint on the surface of the material or on labels not affected by water, and shall be attached to the material by means of water-insoluble adhesive.

- When a manufacturer produces material at more than one factory, each individual piece or assembly shall have a distinctive marking to identify it as the product of a particular factory.

- e. Installation Instructions shall be as per clause 25.
- f. If the result of the test conducted by the independent testing laboratory shows non-conformance to the specified requirements, the retest shall be carried out on the reference sample kept by the manufacturer or on new samples collected by DCLD-PCAS authorized representative(s), on which full testing shall be carried out, if necessary.
- g. If the re-test passed, the initial product assessment is considered conforming to standard specification. If not, the fabricators will be advised to take corrective action.
- h. Only after reassessment and subsequent product compliance shall the fabricator be allowed to use DCL Conformity Mark on the product(s) which found complying with the certification requirements.
- i. Test reports for the samples of air ducts and air connectors tested by DCLD-PCAS approved independent testing laboratory shall be valid for three years from the date of issue; provided there are no changes on the fabrication procedure and the materials used in the fabrication as referred to in the said test reports.

### 3. GRANTING OF THE DCL CERTIFICATION

#### 3.1 CONDITIONS FOR GRANTING THE DCL PRODUCT CONFORMITY CERTIFICATE

- 3.1.1 When the results of the initial audit as per clause 2.3 and product evaluation as per clause 2.4 show conformity to the requirements specified in the General Rule and Specific Rule, the Certificate of Conformity and the authorization to use the DCL Conformity Mark shall be issued to the client for the type(s)/model(s)/brand(s) of the products covered by the assessment.
- 3.1.2 The client shall agree with DCLD-PCAS for the preparation and implementation of a product quality assurance plan / mechanism to ensure continuing compliance with the Standard Specifications and the requirements of this certification scheme. It shall consist of (1) an internal product quality assurance plan, and (2) an independent testing plan.
- 3.1.3 Fabrication Quality Control System (Internal Product Quality Assurance Plan)

The client shall have an internal product quality assurance plan giving details of the tests to be carried out at the factory. This will include as a minimum, the following details: (1) location of sampling; (2) frequency of sampling; (3) quantities of samples; (4) tests to be carried out; (5) results acceptance criteria; and (6) responsible

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person to carry out the activity. The plan shall cover all inspections carried out thru out the whole manufacturing process; i.e. (raw materials – production lines- finished product testing and evaluation as per standard specifications –final packing.

The plan shall take into consideration the control of raw materials, fabrication /production process, the volume of fabrication/production, the criticality of the test to be specified, frequency of sampling and testing, and other relevant factors.

#### 3.1.4 Independent Testing Plan

The client shall agree to an independent testing plan to be carried out on samples which are collected in accordance with DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2096 (IC) – Surveillance of Certified clients under the Factory Assessment Scheme, and implemented by DCLD-PCAS.

### 3.2 ISSUANCE OF DCL CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

If the conditions mentioned above in clause 3.1 have been complied, the client shall be issued a DCL Certificate of Conformity and a Scope of Certification that covers the type(s)/model(s)/brand(s)/size(s) of the products that are certified and will be authorized to use the DCL Conformity Mark on the certified products.

### 3.3 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CERTIFIED CLIENT

- 3.3.1 The client shall ensure that his product, for which the conformity certificate has been issued, conforms at all times to the requirements of the General Rule and Specific Rules and shall maintain to the satisfaction of DCLD-PCAS, a system of quality control including inspection and testing.
- 3.3.2 The client shall give the duly authorized representative(s) of DCLD-PCAS, access during working hours, without prior notification, to the premises/plant where certified product are fabricated and or stored, for the purpose of evaluating the materials, fabrication processes, finished products, quality assurance facilities, records and others in accordance with the requirements of the scheme.
- 3.3.3 The client shall maintain a log of all the DCL Certified products which includes the following information: type of air duct and air connector, dimensions and length, number of pieces, production dates, site or projects where these materials are supplied and delivery date. The said log shall be accessible to the DCLD-PCAS duly authorized representative(s) during working hours, without prior notification for the purpose of evaluating the materials, fabrication processes, finished products, quality assurance facilities, records and others in accordance with the requirements of the scheme.
- 3.3.4 The client shall inform the DCLD-PCAS in writing of any change of management, transfer of plant site, modification in the product, fabrication process or factory quality management system.
- 3.3.5 Upon transfer of plant site, the certificate of conformity shall be deemed valid only after factory and product audit at the new site has been satisfactorily completed.

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3.3.6 Any infraction stated in the terms and conditions of the certification scheme and the use of DCL Conformity Mark shall constitute sufficient grounds for suspension, withdrawal and termination of certification in accordance with DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-07.

3.3.7 Any dispute that may arise in connection with the Terms and Conditions of the certification scheme shall be settled in accordance with DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-08 Appeals, Disputes, and Complaints Procedure.

3.3.8 The client shall pay all applicable fees related to the certification process.

#### 3.4 USE OF THE DCL CONFORMITY MARK

3.4.1 The design and use of the DCL Conformity Mark shall be in accordance with the Terms and Conditions for the Use of the DCL Conformity Mark, DM-DCLD-IMS-RD-13.

3.4.2 The client shall submit a product-marking proposal for approval by the DCLD-PCAS. The proposal shall include drawings and/or diagrams showing the location and size of the marking for each size of the product/product container, where applicable.

3.4.3 The DCL Certificate of Conformity and the authorization to use the DCL Certification Mark are non-transferable.

#### 4. SURVEILLANCE

4.1 DCLD authorized auditors shall carry out periodic factory surveillance audit to ensure consistent compliance with the requirements of this certification scheme as per DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2096 (IC) – Surveillance of Certified Establishments under the Factory Assessment Scheme.

4.2 Testing as part of the surveillance shall be in accordance with the Independent Testing Plan (clause 3.1.4) that has been agreed between DCLD-PCAS and the client.

#### 5. FEE SCHEDULE

5.1 The client shall pay the applicable fees and charges related to the granting of the certification and use of the DCL Conformity Mark in accordance with DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2074 (IC) “Fee structure for Factory Assessment Certification of Voluntary Products”.

5.2 The fees for this certification scheme shall include but not limited to the following

- 5.2.1 Application Fee
- 5.2.2 Initial Assessment Fee
- 5.2.3 Certification Fee
- 5.2.4 Marking Fee

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	<b>Document Title:</b>	<b>Specific Rules for FA Certification of Factory –Made Air Duct and Air connectors as per UL 181:2013 (R2017)</b>	عنوان الوثيقة:	
	<b>Doc Ref.</b>	<b>DM-DCLD-RD-DP21-2215 (IC)</b>	رقم الوثيقة :	

- 5.2.5 Surveillance Fee
- 5.2.6 Annual Renewal Fee
- 5.2.7 Testing Fee
- 5.2.8 Outsource Activity Fee, where applicable

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