

FIRE SAFETY AND AIRMAID[®]

This document presents comparative results from fires in two very similar restaurants in Finland. Both were à la Carte-style restaurants serving hamburgers, kebab, pizza etc. with conventional cooking appliances (not open fire).



Without AirMaid[®]:

Fire occurred January 2013

Fire brigade arrived within 5 min

Fire started from fryer

Fire progression and result:

Fire reached the hood.

Fire continued past the grease filter then continued spreading through the duct

Fire brigade left the next morning (after 6 hours)

Several adjoining shops were also closed
Restaurant was closed for 6 weeks



With AirMaid[®] in use 3 years:

Fire occurred September 2013

Fire brigade arrived in 6 min

Fire started from fryer

Fire progression and result:

Fire reached the hood.

Fire stopped at the grease filter

Fire brigade left after 35 minutes

Surrounding businesses were not affected

Restaurant was closed for 4 days for repair,
primarily due to water damage

Summary:

- Initial conditions of both fires were the same. The hoods and ventilation system were operating normally. The fire started in the fryer, the fire brigade arrived within 5-6 minutes and the flames reached up to the hood and its grease filters.
- However, the final results were very different: One restaurant went back into operation after 5 days, the other after 6 weeks.
- AirMaid[®] and its effective reduction of grease build-up in the ducts prevented the flames from spreading further. As a result, significantly reduced repairs required minimizing disruption in commercial activities.

On an average, Finland experiences from 20 - 30 grease fires annually that are so-called "close-to" situations. The worst exhaust duct fire in Finland occurred in 2010 in the city of Tampere. This was a historic building built in 1865 and the damage was so extensive that a complete restoration of the building was required. The restaurant was closed for more than 2 years and the total cost of the building renovation reached approximately 15 million Euros.

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