



Our Ref. HAD/LA/6/3/1 P.12

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1.7.2026

(Date)

To: Hotel and Guesthouse Licensees

Provision of Smokehoods at Hotel and Guesthouse Premises

This circular serves to request hotel and guesthouse licensees to provide suitable smokehoods at their premises for guests and staff, so as to enhance the level of fire safety protection of the premises.

Background

2. Hotels and guesthouses present a comparatively higher fire safety concern, as they provide short-term accommodation to occupants who may be asleep at the time of a fire, who are typically unfamiliar with the layout of the premises, and who may have difficulty identifying the most appropriate escape route in smoke-filled conditions. The Fire Services Department considers that the introduction of smokehoods at such premises would provide a meaningful enhancement to existing fire safety arrangements.
3. Smoke inhalation remains one of the principal causes of casualties in building fires. Dense smoke and toxic combustion products can rapidly impair visibility and respiration, hindering safe evacuation even where appropriate fire service installations and escape routes are in place.
4. Smokehoods, also known as filtering respiratory protective devices for self-rescue from fire, are designed to provide short-term respiratory protection against smoke and toxic gases during emergency evacuation. They typically offer a critical window of protection in the order of 15 to 30 minutes, depending on product specification, sufficient to assist occupants in evacuating through smoke-affected routes. The provision of such devices in guest rooms and staff areas would therefore supplement existing means of escape arrangements by affording occupants additional protection at the point of escape.

Configuration Requirements

5. Hotel and guesthouse operators are required to provide smokehoods at their premises in accordance with the following configuration:
 - (i) Guest rooms – each guest room shall be provided with a sufficient number of smokehoods to cover the maximum permitted occupancy of that room;
 - (ii) Staff areas – staff work areas, including lobbies, staff rooms, offices, kitchens and other relevant areas, shall be provided with a sufficient number of smokehoods to cover the number of staff reasonably expected to be on duty; and
 - (iii) Common areas and designated locations – where appropriate, additional smokehoods may be placed at clearly identified locations to facilitate access during evacuation.

Product Standards

6. The smokehoods provided shall comply with recognised product standards. Reference may be made to GB 21976.7-2012, "Escape apparatus for building fire — Part 7: Filtering respiratory protective devices for self-rescue from fire", or to other comparable recognised international standards.

7. To ensure the effectiveness and reliability of smokehoods, the following technical guidelines must be observed when selecting and placing such smokehoods:

- (i) Must comply with national standards or other equivalent standards [e.g., bearing China Compulsory Certification (CCC) product certification];
- (ii) Must be unexpired, with intact packaging and accompanied by clear instructions for use; and
- (iii) It is recommended to select models with an effective protection time of not less than 30 minutes, and to equip appropriate sizes for adults and children as needed.

Maintenance and Management

8. Licensees shall establish appropriate maintenance and management arrangements, including regular inspection of the expiry dates and packaging integrity of smokehoods, to ensure that they are ready for immediate use in emergency situations. Expired or damaged smokehoods shall be replaced promptly.

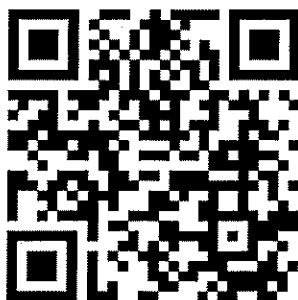
Effective Date and Grace Period

9. The requirements of this circular shall take effect on 1 July 2026. To allow licensees sufficient time to make the necessary arrangements, a one-off grace period of a year (i.e. from the date of this circular to 30 June 2027) is granted. Licensees shall complete the procurement and installation of smokehoods within the grace period.

Steps for Wearing Smokehoods

- 1. Open (開) - Open the packaging
- 2. Pull (拔) - Remove plugs
- 3. Put on (套) - Pull over head
- 4. Tighten (拉) - Secure the mask

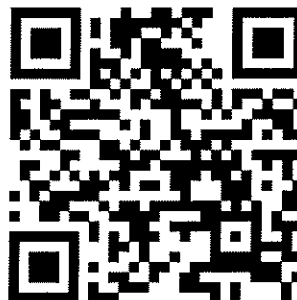
For information on properly fitted smokehoods, correct wearing instructions, and related precautions, please refer to the QR code provided by the Fire Services Department:



Properly Fitted
Smokehoods



Correct Wearing
Instructions



Related
Precautions

Enquiries

10. For enquiries, please contact our Fire Safety Team of Office of the Licensing Authority at 2117 3574 or 2117 2472.



(YUEN Kin-pun)
for Chief Officer of Licensing Authority