



SAFETY ALERT

Subject: Pipe Corrosion in Kitchen Floor Ducts and Voids

Number: 07/2013

DIO Secretariat Sponsor: Robin Cawthorne

Date of issue:
27 November 2013

Contact if different from above Sponsor:

Narinder Basra

ODC – Engineering & Construction
Defence Infrastructure Organisation
Kingston Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B75 7RL

Tel: 94421 3695 / 0121 311 3695. Email: DIOODC-ENGConstMech3@mod.uk

Who should read this: CEstOs, Top Level Budget Holders, Project Sponsors, MOD Project Managers and others within the IPT (for both Prime, PFI/PPP and traditionally procured contracts), Defence Infrastructure Organisation Advisors and Infrastructure Managers with responsibility for MOD projects and Property Management Works Services (including the legacy work of EWCs/WSMs) Coordinating Authorising Engineers, Authorising Engineers and Authorised Persons.

When it takes effect: Immediately

When it is due to expire:
26 November 2014

Health and Safety

Document Aim: To raise awareness of the corrosive effect of floor cleaning chemicals on pipework in the kitchen floor ducts.

1. Background

Whilst gas engineers were conducting a pipework tightness test they noticed a 10 millibar drop on the tightness over a period of 2 minutes. Following elimination tests

this was then narrowed down to the pipework leg that passes underneath the kitchen floor in a void.

The pipe in question was (see Fig 1, 2 and 3 below) exposed by lifting the concrete covers to the void, through which the pipework was routed. The source of the leak was found to be through the walls of the pipe which can be clearly seen in Fig 1 below.

The corrosion was due to very aggressive corrosive action on the pipework as a direct result of chemicals and water used for cleaning processes of the kitchen floor passing through the void covers onto the pipework below.

2. Requirement

All gas pipework which is routed through underground voids in the floors of Mess kitchen facilities should be inspected for their condition and any signs of corrosion.

All such situations should be monitored frequently and any damaged pipework removed and replaced.



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3