



## Commercial Cooking: Grease Collection Containers

No. FP-2009-26 June 30, 2009

**Learning Objective:** The student shall be able to recite the requirements for grease collection containers in commercial cooking applications.

The rectangular container at the bottom of the picture is a grease collector installed in a commercial cooking ventilation hood.

Where cooking occurs that produces smoke or grease-laden vapors, the cooking equipment must be covered by an adequately designed and substantially constructed hood and exhaust system that meet the requirements of either NFPA<sup>®</sup> 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations*, or Chapter 5 of the *International Mechanical Code*<sup>®</sup>.

The hood is intended to capture the flammable grease-laden vapors and discharge them through a duct system to a safe location, usually outside the building. The hood must be outfitted with filters to capture as much grease as feasible before it enters the duct system. (See Coffee Break FP-2009-3 for more information on grease filters.)

Excess grease that does not adhere to the filters may run down their surface where it must be collected in a grease drip tray or grease gutter. Grease filters that require a specific orientation to drain grease must be identified clearly, or the hood must be constructed so that filters cannot be installed in the wrong orientation. The filters in the photograph are required to be installed with the baffles in the vertical orientation.

The lower edge of the hood should be designed so the size of the grease tray or gutter is kept to the minimum size needed to collect grease. Grease drip trays or gutters should be pitched to drain into an approved container that is accessible or removable for cleaning. NFPA<sup>®</sup> 96 requires that this be an enclosed metal container with a capacity not exceeding 1 gal.

For additional information, refer to NFPA<sup>®</sup> 96, *Standard for Ventilation Control and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations* Chapter 6, or the *International Mechanical Code*<sup>®</sup> Chapter 5.



This grease collection cup may not exceed 1 gal (3.8 L) capacity.

