



Ductwork Support Spacing Tech Brief 13-01

Question.....can we use 14 foot support spacing for round spiral ductwork?

Overview:

SMACNA HVAC Duct Construction Metal and Flexible (2005) Table 5-2 allows for a maximum spacing of 12 feet. In addition SMACNA (2005) stipulates the required wire size, rod, or strap required for proper support. The standard gauges also required by SMACNA (2005) are also required; this is standard practice for Lindab.

SMACNA (2005) also directs you to utilize SMACNA Round Industrial Duct Construction Standards (RIDCS) for longer spans.

SMACNA RIDCS 1st edition (1977) has convenient tables for the material gauges for increased spans. In addition, a variety of options are offered for the ductwork support which are more stringent than the SMACNA (2005) requirements. In general, the current SMACNA (2005) gauges are suitable for spans up to 30 feet; however, the more stringent ductwork support guidelines must be followed.

The current version for SMACNA RIDCS is the 2nd edition (1999) which made a decision (outlined in section 5.3.1) to require 22 gauge minimum. Using this document as the basis of design would then require increase gauges for all ductwork less than 44 inch diameter. This is in addition to the more stringent support detailed in chapter 13 Hanger & Supports.