

SYSTEM 15[®] DWV

Drainage System for Non-combustible Buildings

What is System 15[®]?

This PVC Drain Waste and Vent (DWV) system is typically installed by mechanical contractors in low-rise and light commercial applications where DWV systems don't run through air plenums (an air plenum is an air distribution box that releases chilled or heated air into a building).



Where is System 15[®] used?

In residential homes, regular black ABS DWV pipe is approved for use. However, ABS has a Flame Spread rating greater than 25 so it is not approved for use in noncombustible buildings.

When installing DWV systems in commercial buildings, such as offices, condos, retail, long-term care homes etc., different Building Code requirements apply. The National Building Code classifies buildings as either combustible, such as wood, or non-combustible, like steel and concrete.

Unlike the use of ABS DWV plastic piping in residential wood frame construction, the Building code requires minimum burn characteristics of combustible materials when used in non-combustible commercial type buildings.

If your customer is renovating a commercial non-combustible building, all the materials that will burn, including plastic pipe, must have a Flame Spread rating equal to or less than 25. System 15[®] is specifically engineered to achieve a Flame Spread rating of 25 or less, so it is approved for use in non-combustible buildings.

The use of System 15 is limited by specific building height restrictions.

Building Height Restrictions

| Building Type | System 15 DWV (Low Buildings) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Commercial - Office, Banks, Theatres, School, Retail, | Less than 36m (Less than approx. 11 storeys) |
| Residential - Apartments, Condominiums, Hotels | Less than 18m (Less than approx. 7 storeys) |
| Care Facilities - Hospitals, Assisted Living Facilities | Less than 3 storeys |
| When installed in mixed-use buildings, the most stringent height restriction applies. | |



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System 15 DWV is not approved for use in tall buildings, air plenums, ducts, or vertical shafts