



A common dryer shaft is a life-safety riser, not a 4-inch flex leftover. Commercial dryers: follow the manufacturer; fan motors stay outside the airstream; for multiple dryers the fan runs continuously or is interlocked so it runs whenever any dryer runs; ducts at least 6 inches from combustibles; the dryer-to-wall transition is a single listed UL 2158A duct, maximum 8 feet, and not concealed. Shared multistory shafts: fire-resistance-rated; no dampers in the common exhaust duct; rigid metal, minimum 26-gauge sheet steel, straight — no offsets; fan continuous, on standby power, motor outside the airstream, status monitored; makeup air; a 12 inch by 12 inch cleanout at the base; no screens; dryers only.

Original Masterbuild PE packet from Daily Code Talk on 2024 IMC 504.10–504.11. Confirm the adopted edition. Distinct from 504.1–504.4 dwelling dryer terminations. This is not a shaft design and not a lint-velocity calculator.

- ☐ **504.10 commercial: manufacturer first. Exhaust-fan motors outside the airstream. Multiple machines: continuous fan, or** 504.11 common multistory: rated shaft. No fire or smoke damper in the common dryer duct (penetrations follow IMC 607.5.5 Exception 2). 26-gauge rigid metal, SMACNA, no offsets.
- ☐ **Fan: 503.2 construction, outside the airstream, continuous, standby power, monitored. Makeup air. 12×12 cleanout at the** Do not share the shaft with toilet, kitchen, or house exhaust. Do not “add a damper later for the rating.” Do not bury the 8-foot connector in the soffit.
- ☐ **On the set: tag the shaft “COMMON MULTISTORY DRYER SHAFT PER IMC 504.11.” Show the fan out of the airstream, the** The transition at each machine is a listed UL 2158A single piece, not a note that says “flex.”

The fail we see first

A damper in the common dryer shaft “because the wall is rated.” Lint plus a closed damper is a chimney. If the fan is not on standby power, the first outage turns every stacked laundry into an unvented appliance.

What to send: how many dryers share the riser (or that they are commercial machines), whether any damper is shown in the shaft, a section of the shaft (straight vs offsets), and whether the fan is on standby power.

Send the comments. Not the County guideline.

Folio (does it start with 30?), process or UP number, and the comments PDF. Masterbuild will say which row is actually open.

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+1 (786) 398-6940 · Calendly: 30-minute scoping call



IMC 504.11 · A DAMPER IN THE COMMON DRYER SHAFT IS NOT 504.11

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FIELD PACKET

Not a County form

Masterbuild provides engineering services under a written scope. Not a shaft design. Confirm adopted 504.11. This is not legal advice.