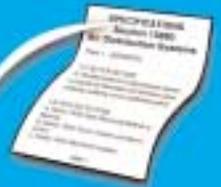


SPECulations

A Periodic Newsletter for Design Professionals
About Innovative Products and Ideas Worthy of Specification Consideration

December
2000
(E2)



This
Issue

DUCTSOX®

DUCTSOX®
Now with LA
City Approval!
RR 5518



DuctSox®
*Ideal for any
application*

A Creative Concept in Air Distribution Systems!

OVERVIEW

Delivering air through inflatable air ducts is not a new idea – the agricultural industry has been ventilating greenhouses this way for decades. *What is new* is advancing the technology so that conditioned air can be effectively and attractively delivered through a similar medium – fabric ductwork.



The DuctSox® air dispersion system is an innovative air distribution solution to exposed metal ductwork. This cost-saving fabric air dispersion system is designed to provide uniform warm and/or conditioned air for commercial, industrial or retail environments.

The DuctSox® system consists of flexible, tube-like diffusers made of a variety of custom engineered polyester fabrics or polyethylene materials. DuctSox® requires very little external static pressure in order to efficiently distribute air into a conditioned space. The key is strategically placed linear vents and orifices which allow the air to be evenly distributed, resulting in a uniformly comfortable environment.

Every DuctSox® system is custom designed and manufactured in Dubuque, Iowa, to meet the criteria for each specific application. There are three series: Comfort-Flow, High-Throw and Low-Throw Series (see page 3).

Custom colors and a variety of suspension options are also available to aid in meeting the architect's design needs. DuctSox® provides ease of engineering design and construction, while recognizing the aesthetic needs of the client. With DuctSox®, the exposed air system can be part of the architectural scheme, rather than just a part of the mechanical needs of the building.

DuctSox® offers many advantages over exposed metal duct systems:

Design Flexibility – Vibrant colors, custom configurations and a wide variety of suspension options.

Condensation Free – Because the fabric is porous, the air surrounding the duct is the same temperature as the supply air. No insulation required.

Quick and Easy Installation – Requires far less labor and hardware to install than conventional metal systems.

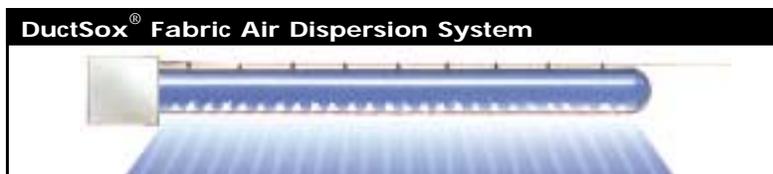
Economical Renovations – Existing metal ductwork often can remain in place during retrofit.

Uniform Air Distribution – Evenly dispersed air keeps employees comfortable and more productive. Hot and cold spots are eliminated in the working environment.

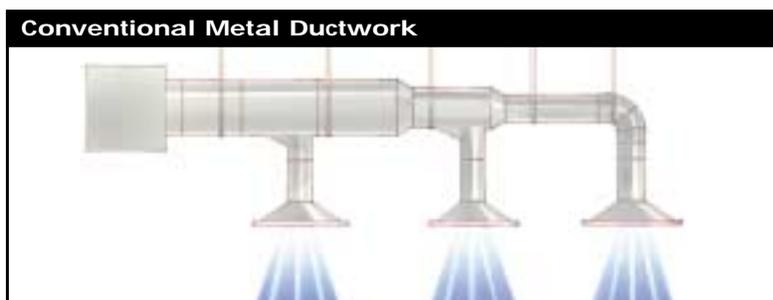
Minimal Maintenance – DuctSox® fabric will never rust or corrode and is easily cleaned.



Uniform Air Flow = Better Air Distribution



- Strategically placed linear vents (Comfort-Flow) or orifices (High-Throw) provide more uniform air distribution.
- DuctSox® can also be custom designed for spot heating and cooling applications.
- Existing systems do not have to be removed for renovation.
- Fabric is less expensive, requires less accessory hardware to install, costs less to ship, and is less likely to be damaged during transit.



- More air released in fewer outlets creates drafts and uneven air distribution.
- Metal ductwork will corrode and is difficult to clean.
- Existing systems must be removed for renovation.
- Metal is more expensive, requires more labor and hardware to install, is more expensive to transport, and is more susceptible to damage in transit.

DuctSox® Can Save 70-80% Over Conventional Metal Duct Systems!

Cost Comparison Metal vs. Fabric / \$/ft

	Stainless	Galvanized	Comfort-Flow	Low-Throw	High-Throw
Uninsulated	\$52.50	\$26.25	\$23.92	\$22.50	\$12.24
Insulated	\$67.90	\$39.38	\$23.92	\$22.50	N/A

Comparisons are based on: actual contractor costs for installation of a complete exposed duct system 20" in diameter and 100' in length; do not include additional costs associated with painting and lift-installation of metal ductwork; labor based on an hourly rate of \$30. **DuctSox® savings are even more dramatic in Southern California where the average journeyman rate is approximately \$48 / hour.**

More Information On DuctSox®



- Comfort-Flow & High-Throw are classified by UL in accordance with NFPA 90-A.
- Low-Throw is USDA accepted.
- Systems are 100% custom made: Diameters from 6" to 60".
- Zip in fittings: Elbows, Transitions, Saddle T's, Y's.
- Variety of suspension systems are available.

Another perSPEctive...



By Dave McIntyre

Open ceiling architecture – a design trend we're seeing more and more today. From restaurants to supermarkets, classrooms to assembly halls, office buildings to high tech centers – open ceilings are the rage. And there's a good reason for it – today's open ceiling designs not only look good, but save a bundle compared to suspended ceiling designs.

Delivering conditioned air through exposed ductwork in open ceilings is, however, a tricky proposition. Stratification, drafts and noise are common complaints, not to mention the unsightly industrial visage that armor clad ducting imposes on an interior space.

The DuctSox® air dispersion system lets you take open ceiling architecture to a higher level of comfort and design. Comfort is improved by providing completely uniform air distribution; design is enhanced by the pleasant appearance and color choices DuctSox® offers.

A couple months ago this column observed the demand for products that deliver conditioned air more efficiently, more effectively, and with considerably more style and grace than the products of yesterday. The DuctSox® air dispersion system responds perfectly to that call – it's new, it's innovative, it's exciting, and above all else, it performs better. Please call us for a personal demonstration today.

DuctSox® – For Any Application

Comfort-Flow series was developed specifically for comfort heating and cooling applications. The system combines an air-permeable washable fabric with DuctVent linear mesh diffusers. The UL Classified fabric is available in six standard colors or an infinite variety of custom colors and silkscreen options. The linear mesh diffuser vents can be continuous or intermittent when active and inactive sectioning is required.

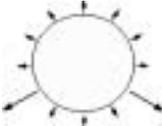
Comfort-Flow is ideal for all HVAC installations. Typical applications include, markets, restaurants, retail establishments, theaters, libraries, gymnasiums, auditoriums, aquatic facilities, manufacturing facilities and office areas. A large variety of innovative suspension systems are available to make DuctSox® installation fast and easy in every application.

Comfort-Flow Series Features:

- Uniform air delivery through fabric and linear vents
- Gentle air flow release is ideal for heated and cooled environments
- Variety of suspension options
- Hygienic, easy to clean
- Easy installation / attachment
- Lightweight, flexible construction
- Fabric fittings available

Comfort-Flow Series

Comfort-Flow
For heating and cooling commercial and retail applications.



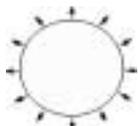
- Air Porous Fabric
- Linear Mesh Vents
- Gentle, linear flow
- Heating & Cooling
- Also available in:

New TufTex – Non-porous, coated, polyester fabric

Red
 Blue
 Green
 Black
 White
 Gray

Low-Throw Series

Low-Throw
For pharmaceutical, electronics and refrigerated environments (such as food processing).

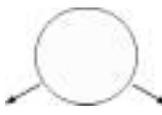


- Air Porous Fabric
- Cooling & Refrigeration
- Low outlet velocity
- Anti-microbial fabric option

White

High-Throw Series

High-Throw
For heating and cooling industrial & warehouse applications.



- Non-Porous Fabrics
- Circular Orifice or Linear Mesh Vents
- Impact, direct flow
- Heating & Cooling
- Also available in:

New TufTex – Non-porous, coated, polyester fabric

Clear
 Blue
 Black
 Gray
 White

BENEFITS TO THE DESIGNER

Custom Engineered – DuctSox® systems are factory designed and manufactured for each job. Custom configurations and colors offer complete design freedom.

Design Flexibility – With diameters from 6" to 60" and a wide variety of fittings, DuctSox® systems are capable of handling any HVAC application.

Acoustically Friendly – DuctSox® systems eliminate diffusers and balancing dampers. In addition, DuctSox® fabric material is naturally sound absorbent, which means airborne noises are attenuated and ambient room noises cannot reflect.

More Options – DuctSox® is attractive and complimentary to most interior designs. It gives the engineer the option of employing an exposed air delivery system to reach distant areas and zones which might be difficult or impossible to reach by conventional means.

Low Discharge Velocities – DuctSox® delivers continuous, uniform, comfortable airflow the entire length of the exposed duct run. High discharge velocity grilles and diffusers that are uncomfortable and noisy are a thing of the past.

Easy Retrofit – Existing metal ductwork often can remain in place during renovations.

BENEFITS TO THE OWNER/CONTRACTOR

Visually Pleasing – With vibrant colors and a variety of suspension options, DuctSox® offers a solution to conventional metal systems. Custom colors allow continuity with the interior design.

Draft Free Air Distribution – Evenly dispersed air keeps employees comfortable and more productive. Eliminates hot and cold spots in the working environment.

Reduced Noise – No hiss or roar of air through metal ducts, no balancing dampers to chatter and no reflected ambient noise – DuctSox® transforms acoustically hard spaces into soft attenuated environments.

IAQ Friendly – Never pay for expensive duct cleaning again. If DuctSox® gets dirty, just take it down, launder it and re-install it. IAQ concerns rinse down the drain!

Minimal Maintenance – DuctSox® fabric will never rust or corrode, never dent or scratch, never need paint or sealing, and is easily cleaned.

Faster Installation – DuctSox® systems are so lightweight and portable that two men can easily install a 60" diameter system from start to finish. All sections zip quickly together – no welding, no sealing and no tools.

Self Balancing – DuctSox® evenly distributes air its entire length – no diffusers or registers to install, adjust or balance.

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