

Hydromechanical Grease Interceptors

A hydromechanical grease interceptor (HGI) (also known as a *grease trap*) is a flow-based grease interceptor that is usually installed in ground or above ground, inside or outside of the facility, and has a typical capacity of less than 250 gallons. FSEs generally prefer HGIs over gravity grease interceptors (GGIs) because HGIs are less expensive to install, can fit in smaller spaces, and can be easier to maintain. A typical conceptual HGI design is illustrated in Figure 1-2, *Conceptual Design of a Typical Hydromechanical Grease Interceptor*.

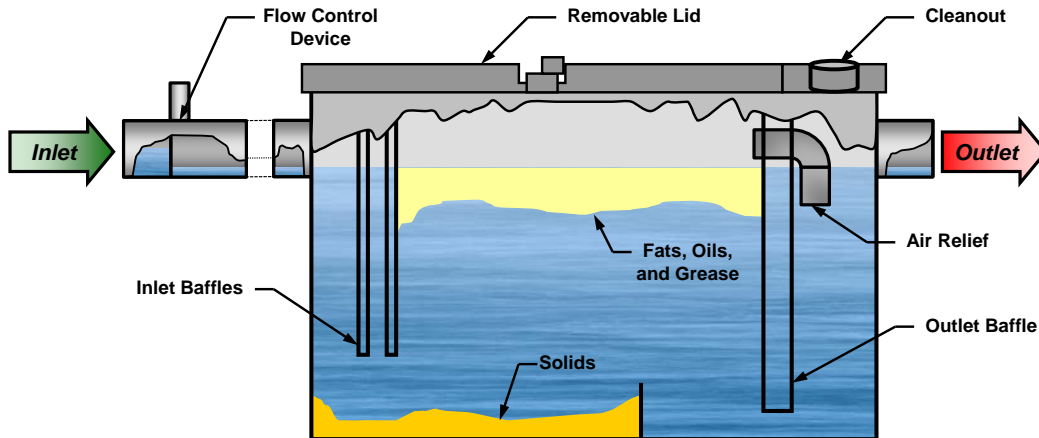


Figure 1-2 - Conceptual Design of a Typical Hydromechanical Grease Interceptor

Sizing Reviewed and Approved by City's Building Division

The City's Building Division will review and approve the sizing and installation of HGIs. This is accomplished by requirement of the permittee, by the appropriate Building Department, for the City's approval prior to issuance of the building permit.

The sizing requirements for HGIs are established in Chapter 10, section 1014.2 of the California Plumbing Code. Regardless of the sizing method, HGIs are sized based on flow rate and the pounds of FOG that they can store. Typically, HGIs have a flow capacity of 20 to 50 gallons per minute (gpm), store 40 to 100 pounds of FOG, and are 15 to 60 gallons in volume. Flow-control fittings/devices must be installed upstream of HGIs to control the wastewater flow to match the certified flow rate of the HGI. If this flow-control device is not installed, the HGI may not perform properly when the flow exceeds the certified flow rate.

HGIs are tested and certified to ASME A112.14.3 or PDI-G101 standards at the HGI's specified maximum flow rate. The City requires that HGIs be certified to these standards before HGIs can be approved for use in the City's service area. Plan-check approvals are required to ensure that one or more HGIs are connected to the significant grease-waste drains (e.g., pot sink, pre-rinse sink, work station).