

THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Intradepartmental Memorandum

TO: Borough Superintendents

DATE: October 31, 1967

FROM: Thomas V. Burke
Director of Construction

SUBJ. Suspended Ceilings

Because of collapses recently of suspended ceilings, the addition of loads to existing ceilings must be restricted.

1. Where an existing ceiling is supported by wood hangers, the weight of the ceiling shall not be increased by any means unless new hangers are installed in compliance with section C26-461.0 Admin. Code. Furring strips, acoustical tile, gypsum board or ventilating ducts shall not be permitted on such existing ceilings unless the hangers are made to comply with section C26-461.0 Admin. Code.
2. No alterations to an existing ceiling supported by wood hangers shall be permitted unless the entire ceiling be made to comply with section C26-461.0 Admin. Code.
3. In buildings other than class 1 and class 2 buildings, where it is proposed to install a new suspended ceiling below an existing suspended ceiling, the existing suspended ceiling shall be removed completely before installation of the new ceiling. Installation of the new ceiling shall comply with the requirements of section C26-461.0 Admin. Code.
4. In class 1 and class 2 buildings, where it is proposed to install a new ceiling below an existing ceiling, it shall be required that the new ceiling be supported directly from the ceiling purlins, adjacent to the hangers. Not more than one existing ceiling may be permitted above a new ceiling. All but one ceiling must be removed before installation of a new ceiling. Existing hangers shall not be used for new ceilings unless found to be in sound structural condition.
5. This directive shall be effective immediately and shall apply to all ceilings installed hereafter.
6. This directive shall supersede the memorandums of December 1, 1966 and June 21, 1967, on this subject.

Signed

Thomas V. Burke
Director of Construction

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