Excerpt from the Messe Frankfurt Technical Guidelines

In order to ensure that sprinkler protection is not impaired, stands on the exhibition levels must always be open at the top.

Ceilings – sprinkler-compatible – without compensatory measures:
Ceilings are to be considered open when no more than 50% of the floor space (each individual square metre) is covered. Sprinkler-compatible ceiling materials with a mesh size of at least 2 x 4 mm or 3 x 3 mm are permissible (no smoke outlet). Tarpaulins are to be hung horizontally and only in one layer. Tarpaulins should not be allowed to sag.

Sprinkler-compatible ceiling materials – examples:

Requirements for ceiling materials:
All stand ceiling materials must comply with building materials class B1 of DIN 4102, and/or class C of EN 13501-1, i.e. they must be flame-retardant and cannot drip while burning or generate toxic gases. A copy of proof of compliance must be kept at the stand.

Ceilings – closed – with and without compensatory measures:
Up to 30 m² of contiguous ceiling space may be covered for one stand without any additional measures being necessary, as long as this does not exceed 50% of the stand area. In order to ensure that multiple ceiling areas taken together do not exceed the maximum size of 30 m², a distance of at least 1.50 m from the edge of the stand is to be maintained at all times. It is also possible to have multiple ceiling areas of up to 30 m² each within a single exhibition stand, as long as a minimum distance of 3.00 m is maintained between each ceiling area. If the placement of multiple ceiling areas contiguously (including across multiple stands) results in a total area of greater than 30 m², suitable compensatory measures are required (please see Item 4.4.1, Table 1 “Fire protection requirements for single-storey exhibition stands with closed ground-floor ceilings and two-storey exhibition stands with open first-floor ceilings”).
The installation of corresponding compensatory facilities (1. Fire alarm system, 2. Wall hydrant, 3. Visual/acoustic alarm, 4. Automated smoke extraction system, 5. Sprinkler system) is to be performed by companies authorised by Messe Frankfurt and entails a fee.

A permit is required for closed ceilings larger than 30 m². Plans are to be submitted to Messe Frankfurt Venue GmbH’s Technical Event Management department for approval by no later than six weeks before the start of the event.

All requirements relating to the installation of closed ceilings can be found under Item 4.4.1, Tables 1 and 2, of the Messe Frankfurt Technical Guidelines.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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