

Glossary of Terms

Active Leak	Water penetration through a structure/substrate at a current time.
Capillary Break	A hydrophobic material or non-porous material (such as plastic, metal or glass) or gap between parallel layers of material (often less than 1/16" or 1.5 mm) sufficient to stop capillary action.
Cold Joint	A cold joint is the boundary between concrete steps for example the wall/floor joint.
Concrete	A composite material which consists of aggregates, normally natural sand and gravel or crushed rock bound together usually by a hydraulic binder.
Concrete Soffit	The underside of a building component, usually a flooring section.
Construction Joint	A construction joint is a concrete joint formed in-situ that is used when a new section of concrete is poured adjacent to another concrete section that has already set or interfacing between masonry or other building materials. Construction joints allow for some horizontal movement, while being rigid against rotational and vertical movement. A construction joint is essentially a planned crack and a Crack is an unplanned joint.
Contraction Joint	A contraction joint is formed, sawed, or tooled groove in a concrete structure to create a weakened plane to regulate the location of cracking resulting from the dimensional change of different parts of the structure.
Crack Repair	Methods for repairing cracked walls/floors and ensuring that they are watertight.
Dummy Joint	A dummy joint is a predetermined breaking point. Usually a groove cut into the top half of a concrete slab, sometimes packed with filler, to form a line where the slab can crack with only minimum damage.
Expansion Joint	An expansion joint is a planned joint which is designed to allow two sections of concrete or masonry to expanding and contract.
Floor/Wall Junction	An area where the wall meets the floor/slab in construction.
Firebreak	Firebreak products used to provide fire protection by the sealing of linear gaps, service penetrations, movement joints and other necessary openings in fire separating wall and floors.
Insulating Concrete Form	Insulated concrete form (ICF) is a system of formwork for reinforced concrete usually made with a rigid thermal insulation.



Load-Bearing Wall	A load-bearing wall or bearing wall is a wall that is an active structural element of a building, it bears the weight of the elements above wall. Load-bearing walls are one of the earliest forms of construction.
Kicker	A Kicker is small (5-15cm) step/concrete up stand cast above the slab/foundation/floor to position the coordinates for a column or wall formwork for the next construction level.
Movement Joint	A movement joint is a planned joint which is designed to permit relative movement caused by expansion due to changes of temperature or moisture.
Overlap	Joining sheet edges of adjoining rolls of membrane. Overlapped by the adjoining roll.
Podium Decks	Podium decks are external platforms between and/or attached to building structures.
Post-Applied Membranes	Post-Applied membranes are installed after the concrete pour to provide a watertight seal between the membrane and the concrete.
Pressed Joint	A pressed joint allows for the transfer of pressure, transverse displacement can be avoided with an interlocking geometry.
Pre-Applied Membranes	Pre-Applied waterproofing membranes are a unique system which can easily be applied on blinding concrete for the base slab and to prepared vertical excavation walls (e.g. piled walls, diaphragm walls or similar).
Pre-Cast Concrete	Pre-cast concrete is a form of concrete that is prepared, cast and cured off-site, usually in a controlled factory environment.
Reveals	Reveals are the distance or measurement from the face of a door/window out to the face of the frame on the push side.
Service Penetrations	Service penetrations are created using a cast-in-place sleeve, in a wall or floor assembly, for the purpose of accommodating the passage of a mechanical, electrical or structural service.
Settlement Joint	Settlement joints are joint between adjacent parts of a building, structure, or concrete that permits the adjoining masses to settle at slightly different rates.
Stepoc Block Structures	Stepoc is a system of concrete shuttering blocks that are highly-engineered and dimensionally coordinated.
Waterproofing	Make impervious to water, vapour and water ingress.
Unplanned Movement Joint	An unplanned movement joint can be the cause of shrinkage, creep, thermal movement or to accommodate movement with temperature changes.

