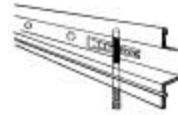


Connolly News



December Quarter
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A publication by Connolly KEY JOINT Pty. Ltd.

If your contact details have changed please phone Connolly KEY JOINT toll free on 1800 335 215 or use the fax back form below

Merry Christmas

Connolly Key Joint would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. This time of year is usually very busy for those in the building industry as they try to have everyone's job finished for Christmas, and a short break is well deserved. Early in the New Year we have some new product developments to be released that will provide a greater choice of jointing methods to contractors and specifiers. CKJ is committed to maintaining its position as the leading supplier of jointing products and will continue to meet your needs through quality service. Once again have a happy and safe Christmas.

TERMITES

These pests continue to be a major problem in the housing industry. With many complaints occurring in the first few years following construction a lot of questions are being raised about the effectiveness of the new chemical barriers. Some industry professionals believe that the best alternatives are physical barrier systems. These use the slab as the main barrier and rely on associated proprietary systems to provide protection to the penetrations, joints and perimeter. While some designers prefer to have a slab with out any joints others adopt the philosophy that it is better to have a protected controlled joint than an unprotected random crack. As unjointed slabs require increased reinforcement and additional thickening beams they can become significantly more expensive to construct. It is important to discuss the method of termite prevention with your structural engineer and client early in the design stage.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

As part of our commitment to product development CKJ recently commissioned a testing program at the Australian Centre for Construction Innovation (ACCI). The purpose of this testing was to investigate the strength capabilities of joints constructed using various profiles of keyed joints

The tests conducted by the ACCI sought to compare the ultimate shear strengths of 150mm thick concrete slab specimens joined across their widths using a variety of joint profiles.. Among the six different profiles tested were samples of the existing products produced by both Connolly Key Joint and Danley Construction Products.

Results of comparative tests between the Danley product and the Connolly product proved what many people have believed in the past. The profile of the joint formed by the Connolly Key Joint is far stronger under loading situations than that of the Danley product. Now scientific testing has proved these beliefs, and comparisons can be made using the quantifiable results obtained. To gain an understanding of the reasons why the two products perform so differently it is best to consider the extract from the report as follows:

"The test programme has shown that when opened to 5mm, joint type D (Danley) consistently shows less shear resistance than others. In elevation, its deep tongue geometry leads to a greater cantilever length for the top lobe with a consequently greater bending stress under a given load. The nearly horizontal tongue slope creates a sharper re-entrant corner at the root of the top lobe - it is likely that this causes a local stress concentration. Although profile E (Connolly) also has a deep tongue, the steeper tongue slope appears to have improved its load resistance when compared with the type D joints."

During these tests the loads achieved by joints constructed using the Connolly product exceeded those produced using the Danley product by 35%. These results clearly show that under a vertical loading situation Connolly Key Joint is far superior to the Danley product. In fact, of all six profiles tested, the Danley product had the worst performance of all. The conclusion to the ACCI report stated;

"Joints of profile type D have a lower shear resistance than all others tested."

These are only some of the reasons why Connolly Key Joint performs better and is the most accepted key joint on the market today. If your clients are concerned about having a long lasting quality finish to their slabs they cannot ignore the results of these

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