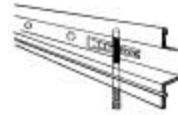


Connolly News



March Quarter
2002

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

New Privacy Guidelines

Connolly Key Joint is totally committed to providing the people with whom we deal with very high levels of service. As part of this we have developed a Privacy Policy in accordance with the recently introduced national guidelines. Briefly these are as stated below. We will:-

- Respect the privacy of the people we deal with
- Only collect data that is relevant to our operations
- Take reasonable step to keep all data secure
- Not disclose details unless required to by law
- Attempt to keep accurate, complete and current records only
- Destroy all data when no longer required
- Delete contact details if requested to by the contact.
- Information is collected by personal contact or through publicly available sources
- Contact will be deleted from our records upon request

A full copy of our complete privacy policy is available on request.

NEW COLOUR

Due to popular request our permanent key joint capping is now available in Sandstone as well as Terracotta and Black.

Joints In House Slab and AS2870

Although AS2870 does not include any joints in the standard designs that it contains, Clause 3.1.1 (c) states that the standard designs **“shall not apply to slabs containing permanent joints, e.g. contraction or control joints”**. So in fact AS2870 does not preclude the use of joints in slabs it simply does not apply to those slabs.

Furthermore, a slab designed with joints to control shrinkage cracking is considered to be good engineering practice in other slab applications so why should it not be considered good practice for house slabs. Clause 1.1 of AS2870 states that the **“Standard shall not be used to prevent the use of locally proven designs, or alternative designs in accordance with engineering principles”**. This clause recognises the fact that other designs are acceptable if designed correctly.

In the past there has been a reluctance to incorporate joints into slabs for fear of penetration by termites. However, research has shown that only 4.7% of termite entry points are through joints as opposed to 20.2% through cracks in the slab. With the majority of houses now using the slab as a physical termite barrier, all proprietary barrier systems have developed installation methods to protect key joints. Surely it is far better to have a protected joint than an unprotected crack.

Some engineers believe that it is better to design a slab using locally proven designs and the adherence to sound engineering principles rather than being limited by the prescriptive standard details of AS2870.

Hence the adequacy of AS2870 is questionable in that it fails to encourage adaptable and functional design.

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