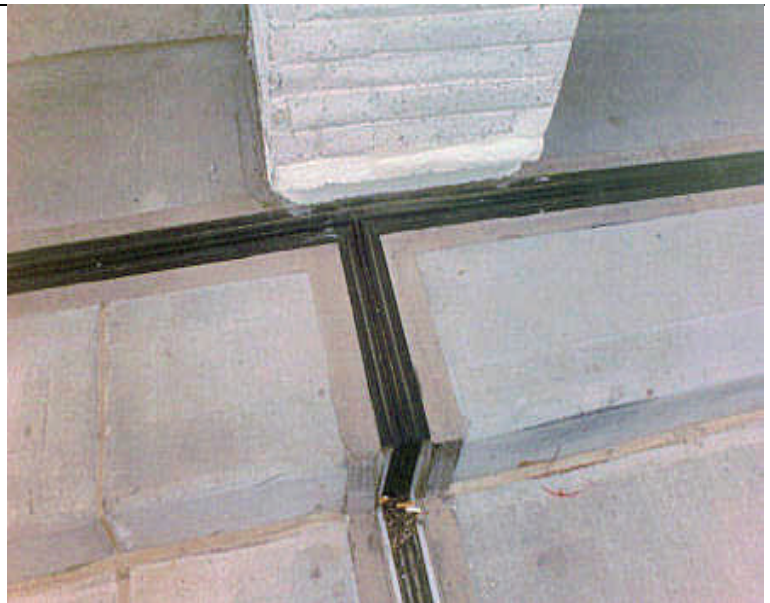


EMS – The Expansion Joint “Matchmaker”

As many readers of EMS NEWS may already be aware, specialized applications are our area of expertise at EMS. This was demonstrated again on a recent project. For the Blue Ridge Mall located in Kansas City, Missouri the architect had two distinct areas that needed expansion joint systems. The sidewalks of the mall area had to be very pedestrian friendly. They had to not only supply sufficient support for foot traffic, they also had to provide a smooth transition for wheel chairs, strollers, bicycles, and other types of pedestrian traffic. The drive lanes around the buildings were primarily designed for vehicle traffic and snow removal activity.

There are several expansion joint systems that meet these requirements *individually*. However, in this application the expansion joints had to transition from the drive lanes to the sidewalks by going up and over a curb (see photo). At these transitions, it is critical that you have a water tight seal, so mating different types of expansion joints can be a challenge.

To meet the architect’s requirements while providing a system that would be acceptable from an aesthetic standpoint, we provided our standard TM-300 aluminum strip seal system for the drive lanes and a specially designed (TMW-300) system for the sidewalks. The TM-300 system incorporates aluminum rails and a replaceable seal. If a portion of the seal is damaged, you simply cut out that section of the seal, splice in a replacement piece, and pop it back into the aluminum rails.



At busy intersections EMS will provide safe and waterproof crossings



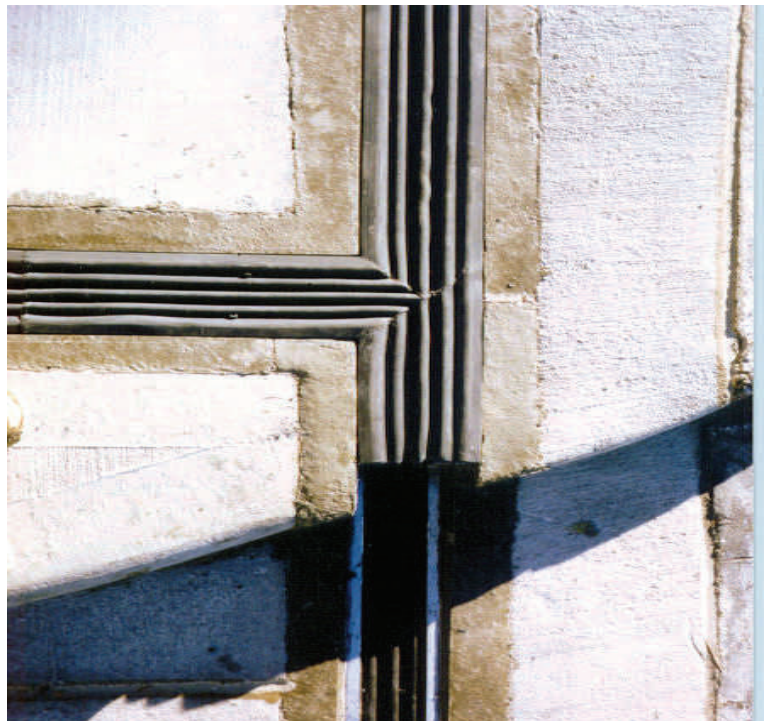
Roadway TM-300 System

Sidewalk TMW-300 system

For the sidewalk areas, we designed a profile (the TMW-300) that has the same configuration for the body of the seal (the inner chambers) as the TM-300, but with heavy duty upper supports that provide a surface that is flush with the sidewalk (when installed) for pedestrian traffic. Similar to the TM-300, the TMW-300 uses an aluminum strip system so if the seal does get damaged, it is easily replaced.

Because the body of the seals has the same configuration, the two types of expansion joint systems were easily spliced together in the field (“matched”) at their transition points (at the curb between the sidewalk and drive lane). As can be seen in the photos, the transition between the two types of systems is virtually seamless.

For more information on our broad range of products and services, or to discuss your specific requirements, contact us. We would love the opportunity to play “matchmaker” for your project.



EMS celebrates the marriage of two types of joint systems

RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED

“The Most Tested Expansion Joints in The Industry”

One Garage, Three Expansion Joint Products

Expansion joint systems provided by EMS, Inc. were recently selected for the new parking garage that is part of the BP Oil and Gas campus at Helios Plaza located in Houston, Texas. The 5-level parking pre-cast garage included over 1,500 feet of expansion joints for three different applications: (1) “straight runs” across the floor (horizontal), (2) isolation of stair towers (horizontal), and (3) elevator towers/walls (vertical).

To satisfy each of these requirements, different types of expansion joint systems were used. For the “straight runs”, a winged seal was used (the EMS CR-series was selected). This type of system requires a block out in the concrete and uses a header material to adhere the seal to the concrete. This expansion joint system is commonly used in the industry, is easy to install, and holds up well to vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

For the stair towers, the floor terminates at a vertical wall. For this application, our JP-series seal was used. This system uses a 2-part epoxy system to adhere the seal to the concrete. Because there are no “wings” on this seal, it is easily installed in the gap between the floor (horizontal) and the stair tower wall (vertical). It provides a very clean finish while allowing expansion and contraction of the joint opening, along with longitudinal movement.

The elevator towers and walls required an expansion joint system that is suitable for vertical applications. Our AR-series seal was used for these areas of the garage. This system is installed using a lube adhesive to attach the seal to the concrete walls. The lube adhesive allows the seal to be easily inserted in the joint opening between the walls, providing an aesthetically pleasing finish for the wall.

As this project shows, there are several aspects to take into consideration when specifying expansion joint systems for a building. It is important to look at all facets (architectural, aesthetics, application (type of traffic), installation, costs, etc.) of specific areas of the structure. One type of joint may not be appropriate for the entire building.

If you are working on a project that has multiple expansion joint locations with various applications, we can help you select the product that would best meet your needs. With over 40 years combined experience in the expansion joint industry, our staff has the expertise needed to provide consultation services in expansion joint selection.



EMS—Self leveling fast cure Polycrete II



CR-400 Seal runs along side of column supports