

Evaluating Field Adhesion of Installed Elastomeric Sealants

A. Scope

This outline describes field adhesion tests of elastomeric sealants to determine the adhesive and cohesive characteristics of an installed sealant by placing a strain on the sealant. The results of these tests can be used in conjunction with other information to determine the overall performance of the sealant.

B. Procedures

1. Locate test joints where indicated or, if not indicated, as directed by Architect, Engineer or Sealant Manufacturer.
2. Conduct field tests for each application indicated below:
 - a. Each type of elastomeric sealant and joint substrate provided.
3. Notify Architect or Engineer seven days in advance of dates when tests will be conducted.
4. Arrange for all tests to be conducted by an authorized, qualified sealant manufacturer's representative.
5. Test joint sealants by hand-pull method described in Pecora Technical Bulletin #55, methods #1 and #2.

C. Test Frequency

1. Perform 5 tests for the first 1000 feet of joint length for each type of elastomeric sealant and joint substrate. Perform one test for each 1000 feet of joint length thereafter. Perform 3 additional tests for each failed test.
2. Inspect joints for complete fill, for absence of voids, for primer if required, for proper width/depth ratio and back up complying with specified requirements. Record results in a Pecora Field Adhesion Test Form, Bulletin #55.
3. Repair sealants pulled in test area by applying new sealants following same procedures used to originally seal joints. Contractor shall repair tests areas at no additional expense to the owner.