Ductwork at a Building Movement Joint: Inspection Guide

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Project	Location	Status

Date	Completed by

Applicable Design Detail

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
1	☐	Locate the approved ductwork movement-joint detail applicable to this crossing. Record missing or conflicting requirements and obtain designer clarification before accepting the affected work.		

Joint Location

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
2	☐	Verify that the flexible joint is positioned relative to the building movement joint as shown in the approved detail.		

Product Identification

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
3	☐	Match the installed flexible joint's product identification to the specified product or documented approved substitution.		

Documented Movement Capacity

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
4	☐	Compare the manufacturer's documented movement capacity in each required direction, including any stated limits on simultaneous movements, with the project-specified demand. Refer missing or conflicting information to the designer before acceptance.		

Installed Length and Initial Position

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
5	☐	Verify the installed joint length and initial position against the approved detail and manufacturer's instructions. Refer discrepancies between those documents for clarification.		

Flexible Material Condition

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
6	☐	Inspect the flexible material for tears, punctures, abrasion, or other visible damage. Record any surfaces that cannot be inspected.		

Joint Attachments

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
7	☐	Verify that the joint attachments match the manufacturer's specified fastening or clamping arrangement.		

Support Locations and Attachments

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
8	☐	Verify support locations and attachment points on each side of the movement joint against the approved support detail.		

Duct Weight Support

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
9	☐	Verify that duct weight is carried by the specified supports rather than by the flexible section, unless the approved design and product documentation expressly permit that loading.		

Rigid Movement Restraints

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
10	☐	Check that no rigid connection, brace, hanger, or accessory bridges the building movement joint in a way that restrains the movement required by the approved detail.		

Movement Clearance

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
11	☐	Verify that surrounding structure, services, and finishes remain outside the required movement envelope shown in the approved detail. Refer missing clearance requirements to the designer rather than assuming the available space is sufficient.		

Connection Perimeter Seals

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
12	☐	Visually inspect the full perimeter of both flexible-joint connections for continuous sealing without visible gaps or detached edges. Record any portions that cannot be inspected.		

Material Seam and Corner Seals

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
13	☐	Where flexible-material seams or corner seals are present, inspect them for openings, separation, or other visible loss of seal continuity.		

Sealing Material Compatibility

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
14	☐	Use product identification and installation records to verify that installed sealing materials match the specification and the flexible-joint manufacturer's compatibility requirements.		

Finishes Across the Flexible Section

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
15	☐	Verify that sealant, tape, insulation, and jacketing across or around the flexible section are installed to preserve movement as required by the approved detail and manufacturer's instructions.		

Required Leakage Test Results

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
16	☐	Where the project requires leakage testing covering this joint, verify that the test records identify the relevant duct section and meet the project's acceptance criteria. Do not treat a visual seal inspection as proof of leakage-test performance.		

Inspection Record and Open Items

No.	Done	Check / Requirement	Result	Notes / Evidence
17	☐	Record the crossing location, inspection evidence, unresolved defects, and inaccessible areas before concealment. Keep affected checks open until clarification, corrective work, or access permits verification.		

Comments / Follow-up

Checklist guidance

Ductwork crossing a building movement joint needs more than a flexible connector. The connector, its installed position, adjacent supports, and surrounding finishes must work together as detailed. This guide supports the approved checklist by explaining the evidence needed to assess movement accommodation and air-seal continuity without assuming that appearance alone proves performance.

1. Gather the approved crossing and support details, applicable specifications, installed-product documentation, and relevant installation and test records.

2. Use the approved checklist at the identified crossing, comparing the installed arrangement with the applicable documents rather than relying on appearance alone.

3. Record evidence and access limitations alongside the affected checks, keeping visual observations separate from documented capacity and test results.

4. Refer missing or conflicting design information for clarification and record corrective work needed for observed defects.

5. Close affected checks only when the necessary clarification, corrective work, or access allows verification.

Tick the box when complete. Record Not done or N/A in Result and note any follow-up.