



EXPANSION JOINT COVERS MAINTENANCE PROCEDURES

1. Introduction

Expansion joint covers play a vital role in buildings, bridges, and infrastructure by allowing for structural movement while preserving both function and appearance.

CS expansion joint covers are built to be durable and require little to no maintenance. They undergo rigorous testing to meet **ASTM 1399**, which evaluates their ability to accommodate movement and determines the minimum and maximum joint widths for architectural joint systems. While they are designed for longevity, a proactive maintenance strategy helps ensure optimal performance, extending their lifespan and preventing potential issues.

2. Maintenance Objectives

- Ensure structural integrity and safety
- Prevent premature wear and damage
- Maintain aesthetic and functional performance
- Minimize downtime and costly repairs

3. Storing Procedures Prior to Installation

DO NOT LEAVE GOODS PACKAGED AND STORED OUTDOORS.

Proper storage before installation is crucial to maintaining the quality of expansion joint covers:

- If goods must be stored outside temporarily, they should be unpacked and placed on timber supports to prevent direct contact between aluminium components, reducing the risk of moisture staining.
- Store aluminium separately from other metals. Use wood-faced shelving, racks, or bins to avoid cross-contamination.
- Keep stored materials away from caustic substances, nitrates, phosphates, and acids.
- Upon delivery, inspect all materials for signs of moisture, including wet packaging or pallets, to prevent potential water damage.
- Avoid storing aluminium near water sources such as steam pipes, water pipes, or areas exposed to direct weather through open doors or windows.
- If aluminium materials arrive cold, allow them to gradually reach room temperature before opening the packaging. Sudden exposure to air can cause condensation, leading to moisture staining.



4. Types of Maintenance

a. Preventive Maintenance

- **Routine Inspections:** Conduct visual and physical inspections quarterly to detect early signs of wear, corrosion, or displacement.
- **Cleaning:** Remove debris, dirt, and moisture buildup to prevent deterioration.

b. Corrective Maintenance

- **Repairing Minor Issues:** Promptly address minor damages like loose fasteners or minor cracks before they escalate.
- **Replacing Components:** Change worn-out gaskets, seals, or damaged covers when necessary.

5. Inspection Checklist

- Check for visible cracks, tears, or corrosion
- Verify alignment and secure attachment to the structure
- Ensure joint movement is unimpeded
- Inspect fasteners, gaskets, and seals for wear
- Assess fire barrier, water resistance and sealing effectiveness if applicable.

6. Maintenance Schedule

Maintenance Task	Frequency
Visual Inspection	Quarterly
Cleaning and Debris Removal	Monthly or less if required
Fastener Tightening	Annually
Component Replacement	As needed

7. Access and Maintenance Strategy

a. Safe Access Planning

- Ensure maintenance personnel have safe and adequate access to expansion joint covers.



- Utilize scaffolding, aerial work platforms, or ladders as necessary for elevated or hard-to-reach areas.
- Implement safety barriers and warning signs to prevent unauthorised access during maintenance activities.

b. Minimizing Disruptions

- Schedule maintenance activities during off-peak hours to minimise disruptions to occupants and operations.
- Use modular or quick-install replacement parts to reduce downtime.

c. Personnel Training and Safety

- Train maintenance staff on safe work practices, proper tool usage, and hazard identification.
- Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, safety glasses, and harnesses when required.

8. Material Composition and Cleaning Guidelines

The expansion joint cover material is comprised of a thermal plastic rubber and metal. General care and cleaning are achieved using a commercial-grade cleaner and water. In no instance should an acid-based product be used to clean the metal or rubber surfaces.

For heavy cleaning of scuff marks, a commercial-grade spray cleaner can be used for spot cleaning and touch-up (e.g., Fantastik, 409, etc.). For unexposed expansion joint covers, no cleaning is required to maintain performance. Any roof expansion joint covers can be cleaned with mild soap and water. Again, no acid-based products should be used.

For all chemical cleaning products, refer to the respective Safety Data Sheets (SDS) to ensure safe handling, proper usage, and compliance with safety regulations.

For detailed technical specifications, performance characteristics, and installation guidelines, refer to the Product Datasheet and Installation Manual provided by Construction Specialties.

Any additional information concerning our products can be received through our representative or by calling Construction Specialties customer service on 1300 272 602.

9. Documentation

- Maintain detailed records of all inspections, maintenance activities, and replacements.

10. Emergency Response Plan

- Call 000 for emergency response.
- Establish a protocol for addressing critical failures.



- Develop contingency plans for major repairs to minimise disruption.

11. Warranty and Compliance

Failure to follow the outlined maintenance procedures may result in the warranty being voided. Adhering to the maintenance strategy ensures the longevity and performance of expansion joint covers.

12. Conclusion

A well-structured maintenance strategy for expansion joint covers enhances durability, safety, and cost efficiency. Regular inspections, timely repairs, and predictive measures help prevent failures and ensure optimal performance.