

This new bridge forms part of the A45 Daventry Link Road at Dodmoor in Northampton, where the wing-wall joints and the parapet joints with the precast elements provided a challenge for the engineers. These joints had to be able to accommodate the anticipated high levels of movement, but the site measured widths of the joints varied from around 25-30mm up to around 100mm. The potential movement, including movement in different planes, their variable form and dimensions, were too much for any 'normal' preformed joints, or extruded, gun-applied, so-called 'mastic' joint sealants to be used. This is clearly evidenced in the inset picture, where the specified extruded sealant was already seen to be failing under this loading. Additionally, the wing-wall joints were to be back-filled with a watertight seal.

Following previous experience with difficult and complex movement jointing requirements, the Balfour Beatty engineers discussed the situation with NCC and the Emseal BEJS System was identified as an ideal solution. Emseal BEJS is available in different widths that can also be precompressed further for ease of installation, it is fast and easy to install, plus importantly requires no invasive mechanical fixings.



