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WALL AND CEILING BUREAU

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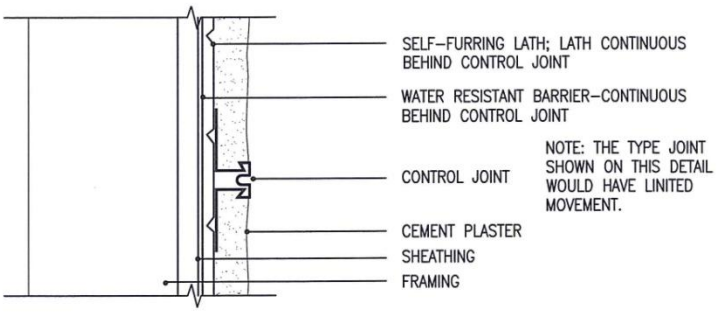
# TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## Lath & Plaster Control Joints over Continuous Lath

The ASTM C1063[1] compliant method for installing control joints is to do so prior to the lath installation, thereby providing discontinuous lath terminating into the joint. ASTM C1063 does not, however, explain that to do so, you must have backing at either side of the vertical joint to properly secure the discontinuous ends of the lath and the flanges of the accessory. On horizontal applications (soffits/ceilings), additional backing is not required where the joint spans perpendicular framing members spaced not greater than 16 inches on center.

Framing members/backing shall be specified by the architect or designer and installed where indicated on the plans. Where backing is not provided for and cannot be added for scheduling or other issues, vertical control joints are surface-applied to the face of continuous lath with tie wire. Not only has this proven method been practiced for decades, The Wall and Ceiling Bureau, Northwest Wall and Ceiling Bureau and The Technical Services Information Bureau endorse this installation. Detail J4 is provided courtesy of the Northwest Wall and Ceilings Bureau's "Stucco Resource Guide".




J4 – Horizontal or Vertical Control Joint

Control Joints will provide stress relief from minor movement, such as that associated with hydration during the first 21 days following the initial plaster application. Control Joints are not intended to be a substitution for an expansion joint, where accommodation of structural movement is required. Control joints also provide for better quality work as they serve as a screed for leveling of the cement plaster creating uniform plaster thickness.

[1] Standard Specification for Lathing and Furring to Receive Interior and Exterior Portland Cement-Based Plaster