**Function of a Control Joint**

**Definitions:**

**Control Joint:**
A continuous un-bonded masonry joint to regulate the location and amount of separation resulting from the dimensional change of different parts of a structure as to avoid the development of excessively high stresses.

**Expansion Joint:**
A separation between adjoining parts of a masonry structure which is provided to allow small relative movements such as those caused by thermal changes, to occur without one part affecting an adjacent part.

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**With Control Joint:**

A control joint introduces a **“CONTROLLED” Crack.**

**Without Control Joint:**

No control joint results in **“UN-CONTROLLED” cracking.**

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**Heat of Day Expands Masonry**

Notch transfers ... lateral ... wall force

Masonry expansion

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**Cool of Night Makes Masonry Contract**

Contraction

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Section IX—CRACK CONTROL—“Function of Control Joints”