

# PCCA Position Statement #18

## Dividers

Most systems adhere to the concrete and require dividers to be placed precisely above any concrete joints. To prevent the concrete from cracking and therefore the terrazzo, “ACI 302.1 R.89 Concrete Joint Placement” must be followed. Some of these requirements include:

- Expansion joints are used in large areas of paving to accommodate expansion, primarily due to elevated temperatures during periods of hot weather. They should be provided at maximum 15 metre centres
- Control joints should be provided at maximum 3 metre centres, at any changes in shape (e.g. a narrow path attached to a driveway), at any changes in direction (e.g. around corners, especially where a re-entrant corner may be formed), and at any rigid structures (e.g. access holes, pits, columns) that may prevent movement and increase the risk of cracking.

In addition other dividers can be set to separate colours or as an accent themselves. In these systems the dividers not located over concrete joints are strictly decorative. They do not function as leveling devices or crack preventers.

Dividers vary in width from 3mm to 25mm . Zinc is standard but brass and aluminum and are readily available.

Architects should design structural inset expansion plates between areas where major movement is anticipated. More information can be found under position statement 17.

