

## SOLUTIONS FOR HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE BUILDINGS

## Expansion joint solutions that accommodate the safety requirements and daily rigors of medical facilities

Choosing the right expansion joint systems for hospitals, clinics, and other patient-care structures is crucial to avoid unsightliness, noise, damage, and even danger. The selection criteria must involve more than joint size, expected movement, and pedestrian traffic. Loading requirements for equipment such as gurneys, x-ray machines, and other mobile medical equipment is an important consideration for hospitals and medical office buildings. Other overlooked criteria include sanitation, sound transmission, fire ratings, moisture, and aesthetics.

















The HDTH (Heavy Duty Twin Hinge) system is our most robust indoor floor cover. It is able to withstand high loads per wheel from gurneys, beds, x-ray machines, floor

sweepers, pallet jacks, and even forklifts (Class 2). It has been engineered with "no bump" across floor transitions, and can accommodate multi-directional movement. An EPDM water barrier is recommended to divert moisture from collecting or spreading. If a fire rating is required, we recommend the extremely versatile and easy-to-install MetaBlock fire barrier.



For areas with heavy traffic and wider joint requirements, the NBR system is perfect. It is a "No Bump" product, flush with the surrounding floor. Its cover includes a

recessed plate that can accommodate flooring within it to match the adjacent flooring. An EPDM water barrier is recommended to divert moisture from collecting or spreading from spills, mop water, etc. The MetaFlex<sup>®</sup> Pro fire barrier is recommended for a fire-rated floor.



The WD wall and ceiling system has a very low profile with no exposed fasteners, is easy to clean and maintain, and is capable of multidirectional

movement. It can be painted to match color, and is available in stainless steel, which is required for sterile rooms. When paired with our BBSW foam, the joint becomes airtight, watertight, dust proof, insulated, and sound transmission resistant (STC rating of 50).



Our popular FCWW face seal is an effective approach to exterior wall joints. It's a simple design with highperforming silicone/ santoprene face, no exposed fasteners, a

secondary water barrier, flexible movement, can be firerated, and is now available in up to 36" nominal joint size.



The needs of a hospital roof can be accommodated by the LPR with a MetaFlex<sup>®</sup> Pro fire barrier. The LPR is comprised of protective aluminum framing, comes

standard with waterproofing features (barriers, gaskets, and drainage assembly), and permits up to ±100% movement (expansion, contraction and shearing). The LPR accommodates transitions to multiple directions while maintaining water tightness. The MetaFlex® Pro fire barrier matches the movement capacity, providing seamless compatability, with up to 3-hour fire rating.

## Why an L-Rating?

Expansion joint fire barriers that carry an L-Rating, such as Balco's Metaflex Pro, are imperative for healthcare building types. Hospitals and other medical buildings have occupants that are often incapable of evacuation and other selfpreservation measures during emergencies and therefore require protect-in-place methods. For this reason, wall assemblies listed as smoke barriers are often required throughout the building to contain dangerous gases during a fire. When expansion joints penetrate these barriers, they must also be protected.

Products with a third-party-tested and listed L-Rating should always be used in these applications. This not only certifies that they meet code requirements of IBC 715.6 (<5CFM of leakage per UL 2079), but also that they are manufactured in an as-tested manner. International Firestop Council Guidelines state that engineering judgments should only be used in applications where a tested product is not available.

## **Balco's Barriers:**



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