

## Multiple Expansion Joint Problems Solved at a Wastewater Treatment Plant

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### **Application:**

Clarifier system at a wastewater treatment plant.

### **Problem:**

A wastewater treatment plant became concerned about the condition of their expansion joints connected to one of their



clarifiers. The expansion joints were delaminating and showing fabric reinforcement around the bellows. They reached out to a Holz Distributor to assist them in finding a long term solution that would eliminate these problems in the future.

### **Solution:**

Our Outside Field Representative and local Distributor traveled to the plant to evaluate the existing expansion joints. During the evaluation, they identified three significant issues. First, the expansion joints' covers were manufactured using a rubber compound that was not resistant to the outdoor UV light, causing them to delaminate. Second, during the initial installation, the hardware was installed backward allowing the threaded portion of the bolts to contact the body of the joints creating tears. Lastly, the piping system had settled over time, causing the flanges to become misaligned, further causing stress on the existing joints. Holz recommended replacing all of the problem joints with our 320 style engineered hand built joints. The new joints could be installed correctly and would be custom sized with offsets to fit the misalignments in the system. Also, they would include an EPDM cover that would prevent further deterioration from UV light.