Topic: Locating CMU Control Joints (CJ’s)

Question:
What is the approximate spacing of Control Joints (CJ’s) for reinforced CMU?

Answer:
Using the Empirical Method in NCMA TEK 10-2B, Table 1 calls for a length to height ratio of 1.5 not to exceed 25ft. This assumes you have wire every 16” o.c. The engineering method in NCMA TEK 10-3 has different ratios but still does not exceed 20 or 25 ft.

Kelly L.K. Walker
Architectural Services Director
Masonry Institute of Michigan, Inc.

Supporting Documents:

NCMA TEK 10-2C
Control Joints For Concrete Masonry
Walls - Empirical Method

Click here for Tek Note

NCMA TEK 10-3
Control Joints For Concrete Masonry
Walls- Alternative Engineered Method

Click here for Tek Note