TECHNICAL FLOORING DATASHEET
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Technical Note
Solid Ends to Hollowcore Slabs – September 2026

The standard manufacturing process for hollowcore slabs produces open cores which extend the full length of the units. Should solid ends be required these can be formed at the point of manufacture. Solid ends are normally required for the purpose of fixing masonry support brackets or steel balcony brackets.

When a solid end is formed a weep hole is required in each core to allow water which enters the cores during the construction phase to drain out of from them. If weep holes are not provided, then the water becomes trapped and will over time percolate through the units and cause staining on the finished false ceilings. As such solids ends should only be specified when necessary to reduce the potential for remediation works.

To prevent the spread of flames within the cavity solid ends are often specified to meet the requirements of Part B of the Building Regulations. However, provided that a suitable size cavity fire sock is specified and covers the ends of the cores when correctly installed there is no requirement to provide solid ends.



Photo below –
Solid ends in hollowcore

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MPA Precast represents the UK precast concrete manufacturers and members of the supply chain. We develop and disseminate best practice guidance to promote precast concrete in construction.

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