



**BISON PRECAST**

a Forterra brand

# TECHNICAL GUIDANCE NOTE

Separating wall built off hollowcore slab - 20 November 2017

This technical note gives advice on Robust Detail requirements for building separating walls on top of hollowcore slabs.

Robust Details do not have a specific standard detail for separating walls when built off a hollowcore slab. However, advice is given in Appendix A2 of their handbook on the requirements for building separating walls off a raft foundation. Guidance from Robust Details is that this principle can be applied to upper floors.

Subsequently the requirement is that the slab must have a minimum mass of 365kg/m<sup>2</sup>, which equates to a thickness of 152mm. Hence A200 hollowcore slab with the cores filled in would meet this first requirement. At present no tests have been performed on hollowcore slabs with solid infill sections supporting separating walls. As such no definitive advice can be given on whether the entire length of the slab has to be solid or if a certain width local to the separating wall will suffice. However, it would appear logical that the entire length would need to be solid, which is not practical to achieve unless the span is short such as slabs bridging an entrance walkway at ground level for example.

The separating wall needs to be built off Monofloor® Bridgestop® HP Acoustic Membrane in accordance with the details given in appendix A2 or similar approved.

The finishes to the floor slab need to be in accordance with E-FC-4 for example, i.e. a resilient layer with 65mm minimum sand:cement screed laid on top.

The above is intended as a guideline and it is strongly recommended that the developer contact Robust Details with their specific non-standard designs.

The other option available to the developer is that they can undertake post completion tests to satisfy part E of the Building Regulations.

Note that the requirements set out in E-FC-2 are specific to concrete framed buildings only and do not apply to masonry construction.

Figure 1 - Summary of Robust Details requirements in Appendix A2

