

STEEL WALLING PRODUCTS – SELECTION GUIDE

TECHNICAL BULLETIN TB-1b

Rev 4, June 2007

This issue supersedes all previous issues

PERFORMANCE OF STEEL WALLING

Like steel roofing, the performance of steel walling can be influenced by a number of factors, including the environment. In the case of walling, the most important factor to be aware of is unwashed areas.

Unwashed Areas

Since walls are vertical surfaces, they can be sheltered from general rain washing, particularly towards the top of the wall, adjacent to overhanging eaves. In these regions, dust and dirt that would otherwise be washed away by rain, tends to build up. This leads to an increase in the time that the material surface is in contact with sufficient moisture to cause corrosion (*ie. time of wetness*). When the build-up of dust and dirt includes marine salts, and/or other pollutants, unwashed area corrosion is further exacerbated.

Design

Modern building design often incorporates large overhanging eaves, verandahs and walkways in combination with COLORBOND® prepainted steel walling. The designer must understand the responsibility inherent in the inclusion of such areas, and either minimise their extent, select the appropriate COLORBOND® steel product for the application or incorporate a stringent regular maintenance routine after construction.

Product Selection & Maintenance

The corrosion effects observed in unwashed areas can be minimised by regular washing with fresh clean water. Table 1 gives an indication of the required maintenance period, plus serves as a guide for selection of an appropriate walling product. Fastener selection should be in accordance with TB-16: Fasteners for Roofing and Walling Product – Selection Guide.

Table 1: Walling Products Selection Guide

| MARINE ENVIRONMENT SEVERITY | DISTANCE FROM BREAKING SURF | DISTANCE FROM CALM WATER | RECOMMENDED WALLING PRODUCT | MINIMUM MAINTENANCE INTERVAL |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Very Severe Marine | 0m - 100m | N/A | COLORBOND® Stainless | 6 months |
| Severe Marine | 101m - 200m | 0m - 100m | COLORBOND® Stainless | 6 months |
| Marine | 201m - 400m | 101m - 500m | COLORBOND® Stainless COLORBOND® Ultra | 6 months 3 months |
| Moderate | 401m - 1000m | 501m - 1000m | COLORBOND® Ultra | 6 months |
| Benign | 1001m + | 1001m + | COLORBOND® ZINCALUME® | 6 months |

*** NOTE:**

This is a guide only. Due to the wide variation in the severity of particular environments, customers should contact their BlueScope Steel Limited state office for assistance in interpretation of the particular locale.

The information and advice contained in this Bulletin is of a general nature only, and has not been prepared with your specific needs in mind. You should always obtain specialist advice to ensure that the materials, approach and techniques referred to in this Bulletin meet your specific requirements.

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