

CORROSION

PERFORATED COATED STEEL

TECHNICAL BULLETIN CTB-20

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This issue supersedes all previous issues

BlueScope Steel Limited do not supply perforated metallic coated steel and prepainted steel products. Material may be purchased from our various distributors who utilise a third party to perforate the sheeting to meet the customer specification for interior use, within an air conditioned environment. However, perforated material is not recommended for external applications.

Placing a large number of holes or perforations in the material dramatically increases the cut edge area.

The consequent performance of perforated material is directly related to the base steel thickness, metal coating type, selected hole size, the number of holes per square metre and the type of environment the material is to be exposed to.

Exposure of the material in an exterior unwashed environment will accelerate the rate of corrosion and undercutting at the perforation. A large number of holes which are closely positioned will lead to undercutting

and/or delamination of the coating in a short period of time. Should the panel be chosen to regulate air flow in a breeze way situation, the modification of the air flow parameters will often lead to the deposition of entrained particles about the area of the hole. This will increase the time of wetness and exacerbate any unwashed corrosion mechanism that is relevant to the position of the panel. In exterior unwashed environments BlueScope Steel do not recommend COLORBOND® prepainted steel or ZINCALUME® zinc/aluminium alloy-coated steel for perforated panel feed. This particularly relates to those products requiring a large number of small, closely spaced perforations or material that has a base metal thickness greater than 1mm.

COLORBOND® Stainless and powder coated galvanized substrates are a more appropriate choice for those environments which are exposed to aggressive unwashed area conditions.

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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