

INFORMATION BULLETIN 12

# Maintenance Recommendations

STEEL ROOFING AND CLADDING

colorsteel

galvsteel

Zincalume

  
NEW ZEALAND  
STEEL

# Maintenance recommendations

To maximise the life of your steel roofing and cladding and to maintain your warranty, regular washing and maintenance is recommended.

The following maintenance practices will help to ensure the long term performance, durability and aesthetic appeal of your COLORSTEEL® prepainted steel, GALVSTEEL® or ZINCALUME® steel.



## Helping your steel roofing and cladding last longer

All roofing and cladding products are subject to the cumulative effects of weather, dust and other deposits.

Regular washing of steel roofing and cladding products increases the durability by reducing attack from airborne salts and pollutants.

Normal rain washing will remove most accumulated atmospheric contaminants from roofs.

Wall cladding requires manual washing every 3 to 12 months (depending on the local environment and paint system), to prevent build up of dirt, debris or other material that is not otherwise removed by rain washing.

Areas that do not receive adequate rain washing (known as unwashed areas) require more extensive manual washing. These areas include soffits, wall cladding under eaves, undersides of gutters, fascias, sheltered areas of garage doors, unwashed roof areas, and other **high risk areas** like around flues, under television aerials and solar panels or in sites prone to mould, lichen, bird droppings or debris.

External objects such as walkways and platforms, air conditioning units, solar hot water and solar photovoltaic systems all have the potential to create areas on the roof that are sheltered from the rain (unwashed areas) and, as such, additional maintenance of the roof area is required as highlighted in the table.

## Washing your steel roofing and cladding

Roofing and cladding products should be manually washed by either water and a sponge or a soft nylon-bristled brush or by water blasting at pressures of no more than 20MPa.

## When correctly installed and maintained, our products will meet or exceed New Zealand Building Code B2: Durability

The New Zealand Building Code B2 requirement of 15 years durability for roofs and exterior walls will be met, or exceeded if New Zealand Steel's roofing and cladding products are maintained according to the recommendations specified in this bulletin.

## About the code

The New Zealand Building Code durability requirement does not include aesthetic appearance. It requires a durability of of 15 years minimum (with maintenance) for non-structural roofing, including valleys and wall cladding products. This means no moisture penetration due to product failure.

New Zealand Steel's roofing and cladding products are designed to exceed the requirements of New Zealand Building Code B2: Durability. Continued maintenance and over-painting will greatly extend the ultimate life of all roofing and cladding products.

## For more information

The maintenance information contained in this document is intended as a guide. For more detailed information, please refer to our **Environmental Categories, Warranty & Product Maintenance Recommendations** guide.

Please also refer to the manufacturers' recommendations for each proprietary building product.

Where a 50 year durability is required, or where a product is to be used in aggressive internal or heavy industrial environments, please contact New Zealand Steel for advice.

# MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS<sup>1</sup>

PRODUCT		ENVIRONMENT		
		MODERATE	SEVERE	VERY SEVERE
 <p><b>COLORSTEEL</b> <b>maxx</b><sup>®</sup> FOR EXTREME CONDITIONS</p>	<b>Roof</b>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>
	<b>Wall Cladding</b>	Rain washing plus manual washing every year	Rain washing plus manual washing every 6 months	Rain washing plus manual washing every 3 months
	<b>Unwashed and High Risk Areas</b>	Manual washing every 6 months	Manual washing every 3 months	Manual washing every month
 <p><b>COLORSTEEL</b> <b>endura</b><sup>®</sup> FOR ENDURING PERFORMANCE</p>	<b>Roof</b>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Not recommended
	<b>Wall Cladding</b>	Rain washing plus manual washing every year	Not recommended	Not recommended
	<b>Unwashed and High Risk Areas</b>	Manual washing every 6 months	Manual washing every 3 months	Not recommended
 <p><b>Zincalume</b><sup>®</sup></p>	<b>Roof</b>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Not recommended	Not recommended
	<b>Wall Cladding</b>	Rain washing plus manual washing every 6 months	Not recommended	Not recommended
	<b>Unwashed and High Risk Areas</b>	Manual washing every 3 months	Not recommended	Not recommended
 <p><b>GALVSTEEL</b><sup>®</sup></p>	<b>Roof</b>	Rain washing <sup>2</sup>	Not recommended	Not recommended
	<b>Wall Cladding</b>	Rain washing plus manual washing every 6 months. Painting may be advisable depending on location.	Not recommended	Not recommended
	<b>Unwashed and High Risk Areas</b>	Manual washing every 3 months. Painting may be advisable depending on location.	Not recommended	Not recommended



<sup>1</sup> The recommendations provided in this table apply to the standard provisions of the New Zealand Building Code, Section B2: Durability.

<sup>2</sup> If lichen or fungus growth occurs, further maintenance will be required. For identification and recommendations for removal of lichen or fungus, refer to Information Bulletin 3 – *Removal of lichen*.

<sup>3</sup> In industrial environments the type of pollution generated may alter the recommendations contained in this bulletin. Please contact New Zealand Steel for advice.

For more information about  
NEW ZEALAND STEEL  
products call **0800 100 523**  
or visit **[nzsteel.co.nz](http://nzsteel.co.nz)**

Buyers and users of New Zealand Steel products and services must make their own assessment of the products for their own conditions. All queries regarding product specification, purpose or application should be directed to New Zealand Steel, phone **0800 100 523**.

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