

MAINTENANCE OF COLORBOND® PREPAINTED STEEL ROOFING

TECHNICAL BULLETIN TB-4

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MAINTENANCE

The paint system on COLORBOND® pre-painted steel sheet is a highly durable and decorative finish. Simple maintenance of this finish by regular washing with fresh, clean water will not only enhance life but also maintain attractiveness for longer periods thus protecting your asset. Applications where the paint finish is automatically washed by rainwater do not usually require this maintenance, eg. roof cladding. Maintenance cleaning of COLORBOND® pre-painted steel products is therefore required whenever the finish is not washed by rain. Examples of applications requiring maintenance cleaning include soffits, wall cladding under eaves, garage doors, and the underside of eave gutters. Washing should be done at least every six months and more frequently in coastal areas where marine salt spray is prevalent and in areas where high levels of industrial fallout occur. Care should be taken to prevent the accumulation of salty deposits or industrial dirt.

CLEANING

Establish a regular routine for washing COLORBOND® pre-painted steel products. Often garage doors can be washed with clean water at the same time as your car is being washed. Guttering and eaves can be hosed down when windows are being cleaned. COLORBOND® steel fencing can be hosed down while watering the garden or hosing down pathways.

In cases where the regular maintenance referred to above does not remove all the dirt which may have adhered to the surface of the paint,

the following procedure should be carried out:

1. Wash the surface with a mild solution of pure soap or non-abrasive dish washing kitchen detergent in warm water. Application should be with a sponge, soft cloth or soft bristle nylon brush, and should be gentle to prevent shiny spots. The COLORBOND® steel surface should be thoroughly rinsed with clean water immediately after cleaning to remove traces of detergent.
2. For advice on grease, oil or deposits not removed by soap or detergent contact a BlueScope Steel Limited state sales office. Never use abrasive or solvent type cleaners (turps, petrol, kerosene, paint thinners) on COLORBOND® steel surfaces.

If cared for in accordance with these instructions, your COLORBOND® pre-painted steel products will give many years of low maintenance life.

PRECAUTION

To avoid the possibility of corrosion, it is advisable not to allow metals other than aluminium, galvanized steel, ZINCALUME® zinc/aluminium alloy coated steel or zinc to come into direct contact with COLORBOND® steel.

Although highly corrosion resistant in their own right, compatibility considerations rule out the use of stainless steel and stainless steel capped fasteners for use with COLORBOND® and Ultra in severe and moderate coastal environments (refer TB-16 - "Fasteners for roofing and walling selection guide").

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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