

Impact of hail damage to COLORBOND® steel and ZINCALUME® steel

INTRODUCTION

This Technical Bulletin provides a general description of the typical effects of hail stones on COLORBOND® prepainted steel and ZINCALUME® aluminium/zinc/magnesium alloy-coated steel.

Generally, steel roofing (minimum 0.42mm base metal thickness) is structurally robust in the event of interaction with hail stones. The roof sheeting will absorb the energy of the hail stones and remain structurally sound. However, it is possible for indentations to occur on COLORBOND® steel and ZINCALUME® steel along with loss of the paint topcoat (in the case of COLORBOND® steel).

INDENTATIONS

Generally, indentations from hail stones do not affect the life of a roof made from COLORBOND® steel or ZINCALUME® steel.

The only potential areas of concern will arise from:

- Low pitched roofs with significant hail indentations occurring within the pans leading to ponding and dirt accumulation which may promote corrosion.
- Roofs where sheet overlaps have been significantly deformed, the anti-capillary effect can be lost and water could be drawn into the sheet lap resulting in corrosion.

In the event of ponding due to indentations or damage to sheet overlaps, the affected sheets should be replaced as soon as practicable to maintain the life of the roof.

Loss of the paint topcoat from the COLORBOND® steel surface, arising from impact of hailstones, will be an aesthetic issue only. The loss of paint topcoat will have no appreciable effect on the corrosion performance of the COLORBOND® steel roof.

As per: [Technical Bulletin TB-2 Overpainting and restoration of exterior BlueScope coated steel products](#), the use of touch-up paint to repair damage or scratches to the painted surface is not recommended.

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