Making penetration holes for ventilation or services is easily achieved in all steel framing thicknesses by drilling with tungsten carbide cutters. Seek the advice of a qualified engineer if drilling large holes in load-bearing stud.

1. To drill a penetration hole in a boxed stud, first locate the centre point for the hole on one side of the stud and drill.

2. Use a lubricant to assist with cutting and extend the life of the cutter.

3. Once the first side is penetrated, push through to locate the pilot hole on the other side.

4. Using the pilot hole, drill back from the other side to complete the hole.

5. Drilling back-to-back C-channels is simple.

6. First, locate the centre point.

7. Then drill until both wall thicknesses are penetrated.

8. Hole cutting creates swarf. Remove swarf to avoid risk of corrosion. For a professional result, clean up any swarf on the surface of the metal. Use a magnet to efficiently remove swarf from the base plate.