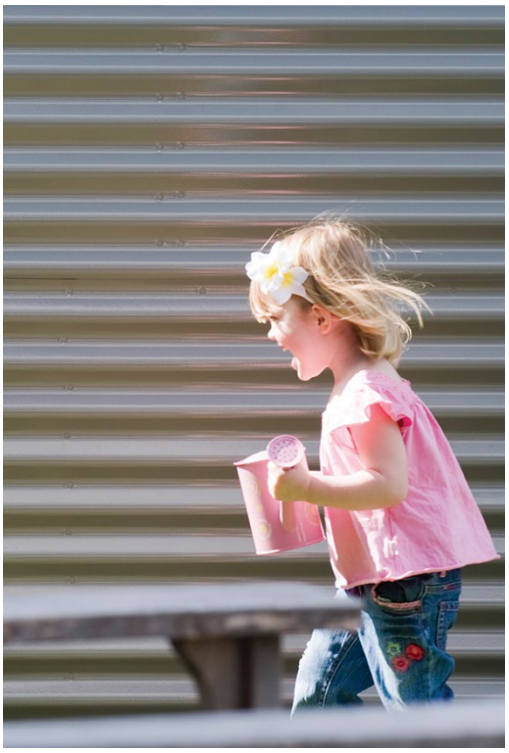
Coated Steel - Prepainted
Data Sheet

November 2025 - This literature supersedes all previous issues

AQUAPLATE® steel

General description

AQUAPLATE® steel (AQW/AQB), developed by BlueScope, is a laminate consisting of a zinc-coated formable steel and a specially formulated polymer film, designed to meet the AS/NZS 4020:2018 requirements necessary for the storage of drinking water.



Typical uses

Water storage tanks. Tank material is suitable for potable rain, town, bore or other freshwater sources. For alternative uses, or to determine if warranties apply, please visit steel.com.au or contact Steel Direct for advice.

Australian and International standards

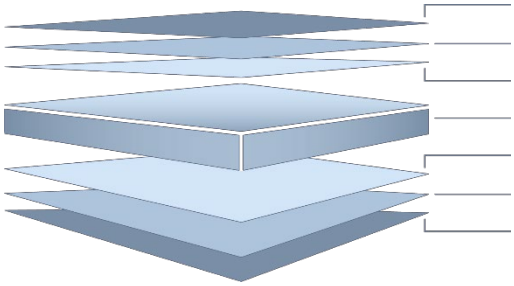
Substrate - AS 1397:2021
AS/NZS 4020:2018
ISO 9001:2015 Quality System certified

Preferred substrates

Z275 G300S steel (painted or double-sided laminate). Z450 G300S steel (Galseal) {Refer Note 4}.

For substrate properties please refer to the relevant Metallic (Z) Coated steel datasheets or AS 1397:2021

Please refer to current price list or BlueScope State Sales Office for availability of colours and dimensions.



Polymer Film (200µm thick), Available in Potable Grey ONLY
Custom Formulated Adhesive (7-12µm)
Conversion Coating
Galvanized Steel Substrate
Conversion Coating
Backing Coat (Galseal, 5µm). An Exterior Manufactured Articles prepainted reverse paint finish is also available. (Film thickness according to AS/NZS 2728:2013)

Product attributes

Property	Test & Evaluation Method(s)	Results
Flexibility		
T-bend	ASTM D4145-10 (R2022)	1T or less
Resistance to abrasion		
Scratch	AS 2331.4.7-2006 (R2017)	Paint Film: Typically 2000g
Resistance to humidity		
Cleveland (500 hours)	ASTM D4585/D4585M-25; AS/NZS 1580.481.1.9:1998 (R2013) (Blisters); AS 1580.408.4-2004 (R2019) (Adhesion)	Laminate: No loss of adhesion, no blistering. Paint Film: Undercut from score ≤2mm. Blister density: ≤3. Blister size: ≤S2. No loss of adhesion or corrosion of base metal.
Resistance to chemicals		
Exposure	None	See Notes 5 & 6.
Resistance to temperature		
Exposure	None	Maximum continuous services temp of 65ºC

Important notes

1. The polymer film is not resistant to prolonged exposure to sunlight and tanks should be covered to prevent degradation of the film. The polymer film has been developed for storage of drinking water. Other substances should not be stored without prior consultation with Steel Direct.

2. Specific end uses may attract a warranty when using this product, depending upon location. To find out more, please refer to the BlueScope website, or contact your nearest BlueScope Sales office for advice. Terms and conditions apply.

3. This Product Data Sheet should be used in conjunction with BlueScope Technical Bulletin TB 3 – 'AQUAPLATE® steel for water tanks'.

4. For most products, the metallurgical ageing process which is inherent in the paint stoving cycle will result in some loss of ductility compared with unpainted product. However, minimum strength levels designated by relevant standards will still be applicable.

5. Improper storage or use of non-approved roll-forming lubricants may cause paint blushing, and may adversely affect colour and long term durability. Product in coil or sheet pack form must be kept dry. If the coil or sheet pack becomes wet, it must be separated and dried (refer AS/NZS 2728:2013 Appendix L, and also Technical Bulletin TB 7 – 'Care of BlueScope coated steel products during transport and storage'). Contact Steel Direct to obtain advice on appropriate rollforming lubricants.

6. AQUAPLATE® steel lining can withstand spillages of, but not prolonged immersion, of the following chemicals:
   Alkalis of all concentrations, Mineral acids of all concentrations, petrol, kerosene, mineral turps, alcohol, aqueous solutions of inorganic compounds.
   The product should not be permitted to come into contact with:
   Low molecular weight organic acids (such as acetic, lactic, formic and stearic acids), aromatic hydrocarbons (e.g., toluene), chlorinated hydrocarbons (e.g., 1,1,1-trichloroethane), ketones (e.g., MEK), esters (e.g. cellosolve acetate).

Aquaplate®

The information contained in this datasheet is provided by way of general information about this product only, and has not been prepared with your specific needs in mind. We recommend that you seek BlueScope Steel Limited's advice as to the suitability of this product for the purpose(s) for which you propose to use it. To contact BlueScope Steel Limited for advice about your proposed use of this product, please contact Steel Direct. AQUAPLATE®, BlueScope and the BlueScope brand mark are registered trade marks of BlueScope Steel Limited. © 2025 BlueScope Steel Limited ABN 16 000 011 058. All rights reserved.