BEFORE YOU START INSTALLING EAVE OR SOFFIT LININGS, IT’S IMPORTANT TO MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE CORRECT MATERIALS, FASTENERS, TOOLS AND SAFETY EQUIPMENT FOR THE JOB.

MATERIALS
Confirm eave or soffit linings and support structures are suitable for the building and wind classification. This is an important step in ensuring you select the correct bearers and fastener spacing to suit the eave span you’re working on.

FASTENERS
Choosing the right fasteners when fixing eave linings ensures the best finish, once eaves are painted.

Fibre Cement Boards (FCB) used for eave or soffit linings are available in a range of thicknesses, with 4.5mm and 6mm being the most common. Button, wafer, flat and low profile headed fasteners, are suitable for any thickness FCB, but countersunk heads should only be used on boards with thickness of 6mm or greater.

Drive Head
Several drive head layouts are available, the most common being Phillips or Square. Some fixers find square drive head screws easier to work with when installing soffits and eaves overhead due to their greater ability to retain the screw while its lifted to the soffit board.

RECOMMENDED FASTENER TYPES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HEAD TYPE</th>
<th>FIBRE CEMENT BOARD THICKNESS</th>
<th>DRILL POINT</th>
<th>STEEL FRAMING BASE METAL THICKNESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low profile or flat headed</td>
<td>4.5mm or 6.0mm</td>
<td>Needle</td>
<td>0.55mm – 0.75mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metal Self Drilling</td>
<td>0.55mm – 1.6mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Button</td>
<td>4.5mm or 6.0mm</td>
<td>Needle</td>
<td>0.55mm – 0.75mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metal Self Drilling</td>
<td>0.55mm – 1.6mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wafer</td>
<td>4.5mm or 6.0mm</td>
<td>Needle</td>
<td>0.55mm – 0.75mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metal Self Drilling</td>
<td>0.55mm – 1.6mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Countersunk</td>
<td>6.0mm</td>
<td>Needle</td>
<td>0.55mm – 0.75mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Metal Self Drilling</td>
<td>0.55mm – 1.6mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 For thicknesses outside this range please seek manufacturers’ recommendations.
FASTENERS (CONTINUED)
To avoid issues with FCB surface cracking, mushrooming around the head of the fasteners, or incorrect drive depth, seek FCB or fastener manufacturers’ technical recommendations. Also check FCB board manufacturers’ technical literature for spacing and placement of fasteners.

Fasteners used must be compatible with TRUECORE® steel, offer similar corrosion resistance to the frame and comply with BlueScope guidelines (see Technical Bulletin TB-34 Steel Building Frames).

TOOLS
Measuring tools and stringline can assist in ensuring eave linings are installed at the correct height and level.

Cutting tools, such as score and snap knives, hand guillotines, fibre cement shears and dust reducing circular saws can all be used to trim linings to the correct length and width.

A driver or impact driver with the correct drive bit can be used to fasten FCB. If using an impact driver, an extended driver bit will assist in giving you a clear view whilst installing the fastener and improving driver reach; ensuring fast fixing with minimal exertion.

SAFETY EQUIPMENT
Manufacturers of FCB strongly recommend the use of dust extraction or respiratory filters when drilling and cutting into FCB. Refer to FCB manufacturers’ technical literature for guidance on the correct Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), tools and advice for safely cutting and drilling FCB.
Installer to place bearers, hangers or battens flat and level. Batten out areas with light gauge metal furring channel. If using timber battens, ensure battens are isolated from the frame.

Eave and soffit support structures and fascias should be straight and true to provide a flat surface ready to receive the lining.

Typical eave or soffit linings are 4.5mm and 6mm in thickness and can be supplied in a variety of pre-trimmed lengths or large sheets that can be trimmed to length on site.

Once trimmed, position the eave or soffit lining in place before fixing. The eave lining should slot nicely into the groove on the reverse side of the fascia, plus almost finish flush with the opposing surface.

Whilst the board is supported, install sufficient fasteners to support the weight of the board. Finish by installing the correct fastener spacing to affix the board permanently into position.

Drive fasteners to a depth that provides a flush finish. Overdriven fasteners may result in stripping of the fastener, weakening of the fixing point or damage to the lining materials.

It’s important to read each manufacturer’s technical specification to determine the best method for joining and finishing eave linings, as methods vary between eave lining or soffit products.

Once all lining is installed correctly, fit storm molding or beading where required.

Now your eaves and soffits are installed ready for painting to be applied.

WORKING WITH TRUECORE® STEEL

INSTALLATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT TRUECORE.COM.AU OR CALL BLUESCOPE STEEL DIRECT ON 1800 738 576