

MIXING LYSAGHT® PRE-PAINTED STEEL BUILDING PRODUCTS WITH PRODUCTS FROM OTHER SUPPLIERS

INTRODUCTION

Lysaght utilises 100% Australian-made COLORBOND® steel in the manufacture of its range of premium pre-painted roofing, walling, fencing and rainwater goods products. As such customers can be assured of always receiving products of a consistent quality, designed for Australian conditions and manufactured to applicable Australian Standards.

PERFORMANCE OF PRE-PAINTED BUILDING COMPONENTS

A common misconception concerning pre-painted steel cladding and associated products is that if two (paint) coatings start out the same colour, then these two coatings will be of equivalent colour throughout their service lives.

Unfortunately, this is not generally the case and significant visual and performance issues can rise from mixing LYSAGHT® pre-painted steel building products with the 'same- colour' pre-painted product from other sources.

These problems relate to the development of a 'differential appearance' over time when painted products from different sources are mixed on a single installation. It should be noted that colour difference does not have to be large to be noticeable and may be quite objectionable.

DIFFERENT PAINT SYSTEMS

Different suppliers may utilise different pre-painted steel feed in the manufacture of their steel building products.

The different paint systems used by various manufacturers can result in a differential appearance because of a number of factors such as:

1. the use of different pigments in two paint systems of the same colour. Close matches to a colour are often achieved with a variety of combinations of pigments and these different combinations may weather to quite different colours over time.
2. the basic organic resins used in different paint formulations will not be identical and will therefore impart different durability and properties in terms of gloss and colour retention and the onset of chalking.
These differences will probably result in differential discolouration, which can occur rapidly or may only be apparent after long-term exposure.

It is therefore particularly important that LYSAGHT® steel building products manufactured from COLORBOND® steel should not be mixed with another pre-painted steel supplier's product on the same installation.

At some stage the colours of the different products will diverge and differential appearance will result.

The use of an alternative product with possibly inferior durability will naturally exacerbate the problem.

Rectification of differential appearance is a costly procedure and will at least involve overpainting the entire installation.

WARRANTY

Lysaght and BlueScope warrant⁽¹⁾ certain performance aspects of LYSAGHT® building components manufactured from pre-painted COLORBOND® steel.

BlueScope DO NOT warrant the comparative performance of building components manufactured from COLORBOND® steel against pre-painted steel from another supplier/ manufacturer.

Specifically, BlueScope will not guarantee the long term visual consistency of structures where product has been mixed with those of another supplier/manufacturer.

METALLIC PAINT SYSTEMS

LYSAGHT® roofing and walling products manufactured from COLORBOND® Metallic steel owe their unique appearance to the inclusion of mica flakes in the paint system. These paints are inherently variable in appearance due not only to the physical shape of the pigment particles but also their behaviour during the application process.

When the paint is applied during the coil coating process, the final directional orientation of these pigments cannot be controlled. This results in slight visual variations from one production run to another, even if the same batch of paint is used.

Therefore when utilising LYSAGHT® cladding products manufactured from COLORBOND® Metallic steel it is essential to order the full requirement for any large areas in a single order (ie all of the roof, or single wall etc) as mixing of different batches on the same area could result in significant visual variability.

USE OF FLASHINGS

Visual differences can occur not only from mixing sheets of roofing and walling materials from different sources but also from the use of different flashing materials.

Lysaght recommends that both cladding and flashings requirements are ordered from Lysaght to ensure supply of both products manufactured from 100% Australian made COLORBOND® steel.

STOCK TURNOVER

Care should also be taken if it is intended to use old LYSAGHT® steel building products of the same colour as new materials.

This is because the paint formulations used may have changed as part of the continuous performance improvement programs for the COLORBOND® steel used to manufacture LYSAGHT® cladding and building products.

PROJECT BEST PRACTICE

To ensure long term visual consistency of the completed building:

- Avoid mixing LYSAGHT® pre-painted steel products with those of another manufacturer
- Ideally, order full project requirements in a single order from Lysaght
- On larger projects try to order the full requirement for any large areas in a single order (ie all of the roof, or single wall etc)
- Do not mix product "left-over" from previous projects into any new project (see Stock Turnover)
- When storing and handling product on site follow best practice guidelines (PAB07 - General care, safety & handling of LYSAGHT® cladding products)

POWDER-COATED COMPONENTS

It should be noted that complementary powder-coated accessories are often used with COLORBOND® steel to provide aesthetic solutions for products that cannot be manufactured from COLORBOND® steel. Examples in the LYSAGHT® range include Half Round Gutter external brackets, or FIRMLOK® beam connectors. Care should be taken in ensuring that complementary components are sourced from the same supplier as the COLORBOND® steel components.

Product sourced from multiple suppliers, whilst sometimes claiming to "match" genuine COLORBOND® steel colours can exhibit not only differences in colour at time of installation but will almost certainly exhibit a differential colour performance during exposure over the life of the building. It is recommended a sample of these materials is obtained prior to installation to check the initial colour consistency, whilst advice should also be sought from the manufacturer about long term colour performance.

Lysaght powder-coated accessories are designed to complement the COLORBOND® steel componentry but some differential paint colouration is inevitable over time and cannot be avoided. Generally, in these smaller components the differential is small and has a minimal aesthetic impact. However, care should be taken when selecting larger powder-coated or painted building components such as flashings, rainwater goods and penetrations etc, as these larger components will exhibit a greater aesthetic variation over the life of the building.

FOR YOUR NEAREST SUPPLIER VISIT:

WWW.LYSAGHT.COM

FOR SALES ENQUIRIES CALL 13 30 38

FOR TECHNICAL ENQUIRIES CALL 1800 641 417

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