

Handling & Storage

There are several small actions that our customers can take to help ensure the quality of Steelscape coils and cut-to-length products while being handled and stored at their facilities and job-sites. It is safe to assert that all of the information presented here can be used for handling and/or storage of all Steelscape steel, regardless of the application.

Coil & Cut-to-Length Steel

- We highly advise that coils not be triple-stacked horizontally or vertically. There is a significant safety hazard with triple stacking as well as an increased chance that the coils at the bottom will flatten. If a coil flattens it will be difficult to load onto a mandrel and also runs a high risk of having dents from foreign objects pressed into the outer diameter. The best way to store coils horizontally, is one high.

- Steelscape offers VCI impregnated packaging materials for our customers benefit. Basically, these materials are designed to help inhibit corrosion when the steel is subjected to wet environments. We recommend that these materials be left in place until it is planned for use.

- In our experience it is wise to leave space around skidded coils during storage. This will minimize the possibility of damage due to inadvertent contact between skids and coils.

- When picking up an unskidded coil with a traditional forklift there is a significant chance that the steel wraps at the inner diameter will be damaged unless some precautions are taken. The preferred forklift configuration utilizes a boom or ram, rather than individual forks. If individual forks have to be used it is wise to consider incorporating a radius on the outer edges of the forks to spread the point of contact to a wider area.



Double stacked, vertical skidded coils properly stored in a controlled environment.

- When storing steel, it is important that it be protected from the elements. Ideally inside storage should be utilized. Prepainted and/or Bare steel coil and sheets are subject to premature corrosion failures prior to installation, if they are not handled and stored properly on the job site.

Steel sheets and coil must *always* be carefully inspected upon delivery. The steel must be received in weather resistant packaging. The steel must be examined for mechanical damage, rips and tears in the packaging and the presence of water. Rips and tears in the paper wrapping should be repaired using water-resistant tape.

- Excessive storage periods or poor storage conditions often result in water intrusion in between steel sheets. Prolonged exposure of sheet to wet conditions can cause paint blistering and substrate corrosion.

- When water or water vapor is available along the sides of the sheet and/or coil, it may penetrate between the sheets by capillary action. If proper precautions are not taken during transport, water may be present between the sheets or strip upon delivery. Ambient humidity and temperature cycles will also promote water intrusion into stored steel through condensation. Finally, rain and snow are other potential sources of water that can cause storage corrosion of prepainted and/or bare steel.