

zinc + aluminium + magnesium

Coated steel products for corrosive environments.



High corrosion resistance | High scratch resistance | Concrete compatible | Attractive finish



Better protection and lower cost than post hot-dip galvanising.



ZAM<sup>®</sup> coating is a blend of zinc, aluminium (6%) and magnesium (3%) that provides far greater corrosion resistance than hot-dip galvanised coatings.

#### New coated steel standard

In 2011, Australian Standards conducted a review of AS1397 to take into account the new generation of metallic coatings for steel building products. The revised document AS1397:2011 has been retitled "Continuous hot-dip metallic coated steel sheet and strip – Coatings of zinc and zinc alloyed with aluminium and magnesium".

Included in AS1397:2011 are Type ZM coatings, which are hot-dip zinc coatings containing 5% to 13% aluminium and 2% to 4% magnesium, with  $\leftarrow$  1% minor additions of control elements. Type ZM coatings have superior to high corrosion resistance, with good galvanic protection and scratch resistance.

ZAM® coated steel complies with the Type ZM coatings requirements of AS1397:2011. The Stramit® range of structural steel purlin sections and Condeck HP® composite decking are available in ZAM® coated steel. Load tables in the respective Stramit Technical Bulletins are appropriate for use with the ZAM® coated steel products.

## ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel advantages

- + New generation coating technology
- + Vastly improved corrosion resistance
- + Suitable for severe environments
- + Faster delivery than post-galvanised steel
- + Replaces need for higher coating weights
- + Raw edge protection
- + Concrete compatible
- + Scratch resistant
- + More economical than post-galvanised steel
- + No reduction in product performance
- + Attractive, satin matt finish

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel is a technologically advanced hotdip coated steel, complying with the requirements of Type ZM Coating Class in AS1397:2011. ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel allows new installation possibilities in corrosive environments, with potentially lower material costs and shorter project lead times.



ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel is a 21st century material developed by Nisshin Steel of Japan, a world leader in steel making technology and a major manufacturer of coated and stainless steel in the Asia-Pacific region.

The combination of Nisshin technology and Stramit Building Products expertise makes this partnership a leader in the field of corrosion-resistant steel products.



ZAM® purlins used for roofing of water reservoir

Salt spray test – 2500 hours

ZAM®



#### Longer design life

The ZAM<sup>®</sup> coating provides a longer useful lifetime, offering higher corrosion resistance with a smaller coating weight compared with traditional corrosion resistant steel products.

ZAM® coated products can replace stainless steel and aluminium in some applications.

## New installation possibilities

The superior corrosion resistance of ZAM® coated steel makes it ideal for applications where structural sections are likely to be subjected to severe or corrosive conditions. Typical applications include:

- + Marinas and boat sheds
- + Farming and horticultural sheds
- + Refineries and industrial environments
- + Pool and spa areas
- + Exposed composite slabs

## Wide range of structural products

Stramit<sup>®</sup> products that can be roll-formed from ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel include:

- + Z and C section purlins
- + Downturn lip purlins
- + Lapped downturn lip purlins
- + Top hats and battens
- + Floor framing
- + Formwork decking

The ZAM<sup>®</sup> coating enhances the corrosion resistance of Stramit® products without affecting their strength, durability and reliability.

## **Quality finish**

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel has a bright, uniform appearance that ages to a satin-like metallic finish. The metallic lustre provides a more aesthetically pleasing finish than other galvanic coatings.

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel can be treated like galvanised steel. It can be welded, touched up using zinc-rich paint and, if required, post-painted or decorated in the same way as galvanised steel.

## Compatibility

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel is not resistant to bimetallic corrosion. It should not be installed in contact with copper or be subject to run-off from copper products.

## **Durability statement**

A Nisshin Steel Statement of Durability is available from Stramit Building Products giving coating and steel specifications. A Performance Statement is also available confirming that ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel has at least three times the life of galvanised steel for similar coating thicknesses.

#### **Specification**

To ensure appropriate quality products are used in construction, comprehensive specifications from relevant Stramit<sup>®</sup> Product Technical Manuals should be included in the design documentation, including reference to ZAM<sup>®</sup> material.

# Corrosion protection



# The ultimate in corrosion resistance

The ZAM<sup>®</sup> coating is a blend of zinc, aluminium and magnesium. The small quantities of magnesium (3%) and aluminium (6%) combine to form a protective barrier on the surface of the coating over time.

The fine, strongly attached barrier creates a two-layer structure on the surface of the steel, suppressing corrosion of the coating layer and enhancing the corrosion resistance of the product.

With a corrosion resistance at least 3 times that of zinc galvanised slit steel sheet for the same coating mass, ZAM<sup>®</sup> products can be used in environments subject to extremely corrosive conditions.



# Mechanism of corrosion resistance on cut and face

Excellent corrosion resistance is achieved on cut end parts by the sacrificial anti-corrosive effect of the coating.

Initially, cut edges may display signs of red rust, but this will change colour over time as the protective mechanism converts the red rust to a grey-black, highly corrosion resistant coating.

Example of change of colour tone of cut end-face after outdoor exposure test. (Thickness: 3.2mm; coating weight: 150/150 g/m<sup>2</sup>; post-treatment: chromate 50 mg/m².)

The colour tone and the speed at which the tone changes vary depending on the exposure environment (region, installation location, orientation, etc.).

Change of colour tone of cut end-face

Initial period of exposure



Δ

# Salt environments

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel has better resistance to red rust in salt spray conditions than hot-dip galvanised steel.

The graph shows the estimated lifespan of ZAM<sup>®</sup> products in salt-prone outdoor installations, compared with hot-dip postgalvanised zinc coating.

**Durability of flat parts – salt spray test** 



An investigation of long-term corrosion resistance using salt spray tests showed that ZAM® material has better durability (red rust resistance) than conventional galvanised steel and rivals that of 55% aluminium-zinc alloy coated steel.





Thickness 3.2mm, coating weight 120/120 g/m<sup>2</sup>

**Durability of cut parts (end face)** 

Above are the results of a salt spray test on cut end faces of ZAM<sup>®</sup> material and conventional galvanised steel sheeting.



Thickness 1mm, coating weight 120/120 g/m<sup>2</sup>

# Durability of processed parts (bent edge)

This salt spray test above shows the excellent corrosion resistance of the ZAM® coating on processed parts.



# Animal and farm environments

# Industrial pollution

Excellent resistance to ammonia and humidity make ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel products suitable for animal barns, composting sheds and other farm buildings with harsh, damp environments and corrosive conditions caused by animal excreta. The ZAM® coating has higher corrosion resistance than zinc hot-dip galvanised steel in a sulphur dioxide (sulphurous acid gas) atmosphere, such as humid chemical environments.

Lower coating loss in ammonia environment

Lower coating loss in sulphur dioxide environment

Corrosion loss of  $\mathsf{ZAM}^{\texttt{0}}$  and post hot-dip galvanised products in sulphur dioxide tests

Coating loss of ZAM<sup>®</sup> and galvanised steel after immersion for 24 hours in 5% ammonia water





Test conditions: Sulphur dioxide concentration 100 ppm; testing temperature 40°C; relative humidity 98% or more.



ZAM® framing on greenhouse



ZAM® roofing purlins at waste recycling centre



# Concrete compatibility

# Scratch resistance

ZAM<sup>®</sup> coated steel is compatible with concrete, making it the ideal material for steel formwork decking. ZAM<sup>®</sup> material has a harder coating layer than both hot-dip galvanised steel and hot-dip zinc/aluminium alloy coated steel.







Test conditions: Corrosion loss measured after immersion for 24 hours in 5% ammonia water.

High scratch resistance



Minimum load required to produce visible scratching from sapphire test needle

In acidic and alkaline aqueous solutions, ZAM<sup>®</sup> material exhibits similar corrosion behaviour to zinc-based coated steel sheet.

**Coating loss from concrete contact** 

Vortar extraction liquid (pH11.5)



This harder coating gives ZAM<sup>®</sup> material better scratch resistance and allows it to be used in applications subject to repeated wear.

#### Less handling damage

The ZAM<sup>®</sup> coating also provides greater resistance to damage during transport and erection.







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