

AZ35 VS. AZ50 COATINGS: A FACT SHEET



THE BACKGROUND

Metal roofing panels need the right coating to protect the steel from rusting. “The right coating” isn’t simply the correct material; it’s also using the correct amount of the material. If the coating isn’t thick enough, the metal panel the metal panel is susceptible to corrosion over time. The minimum coating roofs need is AZ50.

WHAT DO AZ50 AND AZ35 MEAN?

The AZ stands for aluminum-zinc – the alloy in the substrate coating of metal roof panels. The number represents the amount of the coating (in ounces) per 100 square feet.

So AZ50 equals 50 ounces of aluminum-zinc per 100 square feet. AZ35, on the other hand, is 35 ounces of aluminum-zinc per 100 square feet.

THE SITUATION

Some manufacturers use thinner coatings – AZ35 – on their metal panels. By cutting corners, they’re selling their roofing systems for less, while often claiming their panels have warranty coverage and meet common building codes.

THE PROBLEM

There are several problems.

- AZ35 coatings aren’t enough to actually protect the roof from corrosion over time.
- AZ35 coatings don’t comply with common building codes, such as IBC/IRC.
- AZ35 coatings aren’t typically covered by supplier warranties. Coverage promoted as 40-years normally applies only to the outer paint layer of painted panels.
- If the metal roof panels corrode, homeowners will need an earlier replacement and roofing contractors can be liable for those costs.

THE SOLUTION

Choose a metal roof with substrate classification of AZ50 Galvalume® or greater. Don’t make any assumptions; ask your supplier to show you their written substrate warranty. If they can’t provide one, you may be purchasing a non-compliant roofing system.

To learn more, visit: UnionCorrugating.com

