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Does Magnum Board Corrode Metal?

Many common to market building materials come with the ability to corrode metals such as galvanised fastenings and uncoated steel. Common to market examples are fibre cement boards and treated timber. With these products the corrosive aspect is understood and managed via the manufacturing process, independent testing, and installation procedures. Independent assessment of the corrosion ability in Magnum Board has it matching with fibre cement boards and treated timbers.

It is important to involve only independently tested building products when constructing a built environment. It is important to follow correct installation procedures. Independent testing brings complete understanding of manufacturing procedures and product composition. Independent testing ensures the product categories in which building materials can be installed within do not place the building material in harm's way. Technical documents ensure correct procedures are followed. Magnum Board is independently tested and approved for use within exterior and interior categories. Magnum Board is fully supported by independent testing and technical documents.

A lack of education connected to (MgO) has led to numerous entities considering themselves experts in the field of (MgO). Much of what they think they know of (MgO) corrosion abilities entered via a report connected to a project in Denmark. The product involved was not Magnum Board. The Danish report did not contain a brand name or state the products manufacturer. Of most importance it did contain any evidence of the (MgO) product being manufactured for use in exterior categories. No mention of independent testing. No mention of composition. No mention of technical document. No mention of adherence to correct installation procedures. No mention of how the product found its way into construction projects in the absence of these minimum requirements in a country with robust consenting and building product compliance practices in place. The Danish report was lacking all the requirements of importance to establishing accuracy. The result was a report that had all (MgO) based board products considered the same. That could not be further from the truth.

MgO Boards are manufactured for use in multiple categories, involving multiple compositions. The same applies to fibre cement boards, plywood, particle board and plaster board. Install any of these board products within performance categories outside of what they are constructed to be installed within and they will fail.

The Danish report had many intelligent building material evaluation companies considering all (MgO) boards to be the same. They forgot about the protection mechanisms in place to prevent installation of building materials in the wrong categories. They forgot not to engage generic references to building materials. They forgot all board products are manufactured in various compositions for installation in various performance categories. They forgot Plaster Board, Cement Board, Plywood, Particle Board and MDF are generic descriptions for products that have individual performance categories and specific manufacturing entities. If the same lack of attention to detail shown in Denmark was connected to Plaster Board, Cement Board, Plywood, Particle Board and MDF, the same outcome would have been achieved.

Magnum Board is manufactured in one high-quality, high-performance composition inclusive of what is called a chloride burning process. The process ensures the low level of chloride involved has been encapsulated to establish performance that allows the product to be installed in wet areas. HBB's decision to involve a chloride based (MgO) was made on the bases (MgO) boards without chloride do not provide sufficient structural and wet area performance.

HBB have engaged with New Zealand building material evaluation entities to ensure what they thought they knew about (MgO) from the Danish report did not place their reputation as trusted industry commentators in harm's way. It is a matter of education.

HBB have always worked on the bases evidence speaks louder than words. HBB would be happy to provide access to all Magnum Board independent test documents on request.