

Aluminum verses Steel with Salt Water Residential Application

Steel and aluminum have been used for standing seam roofs for decades. Each metal has it's own unique properties and characteristics. But often the questions is raised "Do I have to use aluminum in a Coastal Setting, the simple answer to this is "Yes".



Steel when it oxidizes will rust and has the potential to deteriorate faster than aluminum.

Aluminum as it oxidizes it forms hard oxidation (or oxide film) on its coating, which hardens to protect the material. This helps preserve the material and make it last in the more corrosive environments.

Aluminum is the most common metal systems installed in the Caribbean Islands, Atlantic Coastline, as well as the Gulf and Pacific coasts.

Both materials are able to be painted with a PVDF paint coating to a specific color.

Things to consider

- **Location**, proximity to the coastline, salt spray corrosion

Some clients may not consider salt spray a problem in brackish rivers.

- **Cost**

Aluminum is about 20-30% more expensive than the steel painted metals

- **Warranty**

Often paint or substrate warranties are voided for steel when it is within the 1500 feet of salt water

Looking for Ultimate Coastal Protection?

Tedlar PVF film from Dupont is applied to select colors of Aluminum substrate for the best in durability, aesthetics, and overall protection.

This film is applied to the surface paint of Dove Gray, Mist Gray, Regal White, Verdant Green, River Blue, Charcoal Gray, Dark Bronze or Matt Black.

This film will prevents fading and chalking, with a 25 year paint warranty. Available in 032 aluminum.



Coated roof edges prior to replacement



During Tedlar® roofing installation