



**METAL
DESIGN
SYSTEMS**

DESIGNED FOR
A PERFECT FIT.

Visual Acceptance Parameters

For surface imperfections and panel stiffener read through.

At Metal Design Systems, Inc., we strive to provide flawlessly finished wall cladding products. Unfortunately many factors can contribute to imperfections in the finish and surface. Manufacturing irregularities, shipping, fabrication handling, and installation can all lead to surface defects. These cladding products are also at risk to damage after they are installed by factors beyond control of the contracted party.

Metal Design Systems, Inc., agrees with and adopts the parameters set forth in the Metal Construction Association (MCA) document titled “Visual Acceptance Parameter for Metal Composite Material (MCM) Panels and Panel Systems” for all of the cladding products we provide. The document is available for viewing and download at <http://www.metalconstruction.org/Tech-Resources>. We perform visual inspections of the sheet goods prior to processing and fabricated panels just prior to final crating. Any panels found to have “defects” as defined by the MCA paper are rejected and remade with new material.

The use of panel stiffeners is often times determined by panel size, wind loads, building code and architectural specifications. While we take special care in the application and adhesive methods used to apply stiffeners, occasionally read through is unavoidable. Many factors also contribute to read through including color and gloss of the panels, ambient temperatures and surface temperatures at viewing time, lighting conditions and cloud cover. Fortunately, most read through occurrences are temporary and will diminish when temperatures near the level at which they were assembled.

Surface Defects

Summarizing the paper, surface defects are to be identified using the method described in the American Architectural Manufacturers Association (AAMA) 2605 Section 4.2. A visual inspection shall be made from a distance of 10ft and viewed perpendicular to the plane of the panel. Imperfections identified by this method should be indicated to the installer for possible remediation.

Panel Stiffener Read Through

Defects associated with read through shall also be identified in the same method described above. Only stiffener read through that can be identified from a 10' distance, viewed perpendicular to the surface of the panel shall be considered a defect. Read through that can only be identified from and angular perspective shall not be considered a justifiable cause for rejection.

The methods and descriptions here are considered to be industry-wide guidelines for visual acceptance of metal wall cladding.

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