





In service, galvanic action causes zinc compounds to automatically build up at cut edges and scratches by an electrolytic reaction when water or moisture is present. These slow the rate at which the surrounding coating is consumed around damaged areas. This effect is sometimes referred to as the “self-healing” property of coatings containing zinc.

#### **6.4 Comparison of Zinc and Zinc/Aluminum Coatings.**

It is natural with the wide spread use of 55% Aluminum-Zinc Alloy Coated Steel sheet in traditional zinc-coated building applications, the question of comparative cut edge performance should be raised. Unpainted 55% Aluminum-Zinc Alloy Coated Steel will perform in a very similar manner to zinc-coated sheet in the relatively thin range of thickness associated with roofing, wall cladding, gutters and down-pipes.

This has been tested by removing coating of similar thickness from 55% Aluminum-Zinc Alloy Coated Steel and galvanized sheet down to the steel base, using scribe marks ranging from .016” to .16” in width. When exposed to the atmosphere, the differences in the samples are slight, particularly at the thinner scribe marks.

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