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NCC 2022 - NEW COATING PROVISIONS FOR CORROSION PROTECTION ON STRUCTURAL



1) How did the previous iteration of the National Construction Code (NCC 2019) approach corrosion protection?

NCC 2019 defined only two corrosivity zones. It mandated the use of industrial coatings for exterior steel within 1km of breaking surf or 100m from salt water; and stated that, in all other environments, only a scratch and two coats of single pack enamel were required.

2) Was NCC 2019 adequate (in terms of corrosion protection)?

No, it led to corrosion in cases where steel was exposed to salt, between 100m and 1+ km from the coast (depending on coastal conditions); and it didn't address the increased corrosivity that exists in micro-climates (around swimming pools, in highly shaded areas, etc.).

3) How did NCC 2022 change the approach to corrosion protection and structural steel?

It provide 4 corrosivity zones and all coating systems nominated by NCC 2022 require abrasive blast cleaning and application of two pack materials.

4) How do the required corrosion prevention coating systems referred to in NCC 2019 and NCC 2022 differ from each other?

Previously, as per NCC 2019, if a structure was more than 100m from salt water, it was permissible to simply paint over tightly adherent millscale and tightly adherent rust with a single pack enamel paint. Now, with NCC 2022, all options for liquid coatings require abrasive blast cleaning as a means of surface preparation.

5) How can specifiers adhere to NCC 2022 Corrosion Protection provisions?

For building classes 1 and 10, specifiers should nominate corrosion protection to NCC Housing provisions, Section 6.3.9 as the deemed-to-satisfy option. For all other building classes, specifiers must meet AS4100 performance requirements.

6) What needs to change in construction management processes, during the project appraisal stage, to properly meet the ambitions of the NCC changes?

During project appraisal structural drawing and finishes schedules should be checked for compliance to NCC housing provisions.