

Firestone Metal Products

Oil Canning Policy

This document is intended to address oil canning to ensure that customer expectations align with product attributes and industry standards.

Oil canning is defined as a perceived waviness in the flat areas of metal roofing, siding and flashing materials. Oil canning is an inherent part of all light gauge cold-formed metal products, particularly those with broad, flat areas. It is therefore unrealistic to expect any architectural metal roof, wall panel or similar wide metal element to be free of oil canning. It is an industry-wide accepted fact that oil canning is an aesthetic issue found in all light gauge metal panels and flashing that does not affect the function or structural integrity of a product. Accordingly, Firestone Building Products (FSBP) will not accept oil canning as a cause for material rejections, nor will FSBP replace material due to oil canning.

FSBP utilizes commercial grade copper, zinc, galvanized steel and aluminum coils produced to industry standard mill production tolerances. While FSBP takes precautions throughout the manufacturing process to reduce and limit the appearance of oil canning, many factors contribute to the appearance of oil canning.

The degree or severity of oil canning varies with individual installations. Material with wide, flat unbroken surfaces, dark colors and/or light gauge metal may exhibit a greater amount of oil canning. Oil canning may also be exacerbated by substrate misalignment, material handling, fastening irregularities, expansion and contraction due to seasonal temperature changes, and other field conditions. However, oil canning can often be managed with prudent profile, gauge and substrate choices.

FSBP recommends that oil canning concerns be addressed in the early stages of a project. In the event of excessive oil canning on a warranted Firestone project, FSBP requests that the contractor stop installation and notify a Firestone Technical Representative. This will allow all parties to review the cause(s) of the oil canning, and explore possible solutions.

For additional information regarding oil canning, please consult the technical resources page of the Metal Construction Association website (www.metalconstruction.org).

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