

METALWORKS™ Installation and Maintenance

GENERAL

Product Description

MetalWorks is a collection of metal ceiling panels and suspension systems marketed by Armstrong World Industries. The collection consists of steel and aluminum ceiling panels with a variety of edge details.

Installation instructions

Armstrong MetalWorks™ ceilings are interior finishes and conditions during the installation should reflect this. Armstrong recommends during installation that relative humidity should not exceed 99%, within a temperature range of 0 to 49 degrees Celsius and with the absence of any “standing water”. Conditions following completion should be maintained as such.

Because of the risk of soiling, the installation of ceiling tiles should only take place after the completion of any work generating large amounts of dust. The wearing of clean gloves is recommended for installation work. The ceiling installer is responsible for the satisfactory installation of the ceiling and adherence to industry best practice and in accordance with AS/NZS2785:2000 (Specific “custom” MetalWorks Ceiling Installation Instructions may also be available).

Ceiling tiles should only be stored in a dust-free and dry area. It is important to ensure that the tiles are not subjected to any mechanical influences, such as damage caused by the underlying surface. Ceiling tiles delivered on pallets should be stored in their original packaging until they are installed. Where this is not possible, care should be taken to ensure that cartons are stored with the designated side facing upwards. The installation company is responsible for the careful storage of tiles.

Cutting Options

Cutting procedures will be similar regardless of panel material or edge configuration. Two different types of equipment are recommended for cutting these metal panels. Each has its own set of advantages and limitations and will be presented in order of preference based on speed.

CAUTION: Cut edges of metal parts can be extremely sharp! Handle metal carefully to avoid injury. Always wear safety glasses and gloves when working with metal.

Electric Shears or Nibblers

These electric shears resemble a drill motor attached to a pair of scissors blades. There are actually three blades; one movable centered between two stationary. When used, the tool removes a strip of material about 8mm wide. They produce a clean cut, and is quicker than using aviation snips.

Procedure: Mark the cut line on the face of the panel. Use aviation snips to remove a section of the edge material on the waste side of the cut line. This step is required to provide access to the face for the shears. Cut the panels face up.

NOTE: To prevent scratching the face of the panel, observe the direction that the 8mm band of waste material takes as it coils up in front of the cut. Position successive panels so that this coil moves across the scrap portion of the panel.

Aviation Snips

Both left cut and right cut aviation snips will be required for notching operations and for cutting holes for penetrations through the panel face.

Procedure: Notching Snips are used as needed to cut through the edge detailing on panels to provide clearance for shears or to ease corners. Application will vary depending on edge detail.

Penetrations Cutouts

Procedure: Penetrations are created by first drilling or punching a hole near the center and then cutting in a spiral pattern to the finished size and shape.

Exercise caution during this procedure as the hand will be in close proximity to the cut edge of the panel.

Backloading

Unless approved, Armstrong metal ceilings are designed to support only their own weight plus that of Soundtex acoustical scrim or other light weight insulation. All mechanical services must be independently supported. Contact Armstrong for more information on B15 acoustical solutions and support trays for services.

Maintenance

Ceiling tiles may be cleaned at any time. However, any maintenance work on suspended ceilings should only be carried out after the technical functions of the ceiling installation have been carefully checked. In cases of doubt, the relevant Armstrong sales office should be contacted.

In the case of damage to individual ceiling tiles, these can be exchanged within the systems. In such instances, especially after extended periods of use, colour variations may occur when individual tiles are replaced.

Armstrong – paint coatings

Armstrong ceiling tiles in general are electrostatically paint coated or finished with a polyester powdercoat.

Cleaning of Armstrong METALWORKS™ metal ceilings.

The frequency of cleaning will depend upon the function and usage of each area and the efficiency of the air conditioning/heating system. This period can only be determined after handover and occupancy. Although the ceiling materials are provided with durable paint finish, abrasive or strong chemical detergent should not be used. A mild detergent diluted in warm water applied with a soft cloth, rinsed and finally wiped off with a chamois leather will maintain the ceiling in good condition. Oily or stubborn stains if not removed by washing can be wiped off with white spirit but care is necessary to avoid affecting the gloss level of the paint finishes.

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