



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE FIXING OF ALUMINIUM PANELS

Orientation of the panels

Mill direction

Special care must be extended to the orientation of the panels as a function of the mill line direction. A panel oriented parallel or orthogonal with the mill direction will present two different shades.

It is recommended to use sheets protected by a film with arrows to indicate mill direction.

Vertical orientation recommended

It is recommended to install the panels vertically and not horizontally or oriented with an angle less or equal to 45°. It is important to avoid design allowing the accumulation of liquid, fluid on the surface. It is also important that panels can be washed by rain water.

Ventilation

Panels must be installed to permit good aeration or ventilation of the surface to avoid concentration of humidity, local chemical variations, etc. The creation of openings is not recommended.

Dilatation joint – Fixing points

Aluminium is a metal that is a good heat conductor and can be sensitive to temperature variations. The metal can have the tendency to retract and/or expand due to the effect of temperature variations. A dilatation joint must be foreseen between each panel to permit these dimensional variations.

The fixing system should be compatible with the potential dilatation of aluminium sheets.

Galvanic corrosion

To avoid galvanic corrosion between the pre-anodised aluminium with another metal, the pre-anodised aluminium panels cannot be put directly in contact with another metal (like galvanised steel, stainless steel, copper...) without protection (insulation).

This remark is particularly important for the fixing of the panels - avoid bolting with stainless steel bolts without protection, riveting with rivets in another metal etc.



Fixing of panels

Aluminium is a light metal (density of aluminium is one third of the density of steel) and could be sensitive to influences like wind. To avoid detachment of the panels from the wall cladding under strong wind, the panels require to be solidly fixed on the exteriors of buildings.