



Technical Guidance

Lintels within coastal sites

Question

What is considered a coastal site where lintels should be austenitic stainless steel?

Considerations

- NHBC Standards 6.1- D9(b) states that lintels used in aggressive environments e.g. coastal sites, should be austenitic stainless steel.
- BS 5628:3 'Code of practice for the use of masonry' Table 1 states that in aggressive environments, such as coastal sites, products in both leaves of an external wall should be austenitic stainless steel.

Answer

Experience has shown that metal components, including galvanised lintels, within areas subjected to regular wetting with salt laden air, are at greatest risk of corrosion.

When specifying metal lintels the term 'Coastal site' should include those sites within 500 metres of the shoreline.