

## **WHITE RUST**

Zinc is a reactive metal, relying on the development of inert complex carbonate oxide films for its excellent atmospheric corrosion resistance.

When freshly galvanized steel is exposed to pure water (rain, dew, condensation), the zinc will react with the water to form zinc hydroxide, a characteristically bulky white deposit.

If the zinc surface remains wet and cannot get access to good air circulation (the main source of carbon dioxide to form the stable oxide films), the water will continue to react with the zinc and can severely damage the coating at worst and result in unsightly staining at best.

The main white rusting problems arise where water can be trapped and air circulation is poor.

From: INDUSTRIAL GALVANIZERS CORPORATION