



ArcelorMittal
DOFASCO | HAMILTON

TagTough™

Frequently Asked Questions

TagTough™ steel features a factory-applied coating that is difficult to tag and washes easily.

For the first year following installation of TagTough steel, taggers will find it very difficult to apply their paints to the surface. Tagging will require more time and more paint product, which often causes the paint to sag. Even if taggers are persistent, in most cases TagTough steel is easily washed off using only water and a pressure washer. As TagTough steel weathers, the ability to remove graffiti could vary depending on exposure conditions, and additional removal measures may be required.

Q. What is TagTough Steel?

- A. TagTough is a three-coat factory-applied prepainted steel comprised of a corrosion inhibiting primer, a PVDF colour base coat and a fluoropolymer based clear coat. The basecoat provides the colour and the graffiti-resistant clear coat works as a barrier of protection against most graffiti materials, including spray paints and markers.

Q. How does TagTough steel work?

- A. During the first year following the installation of TagTough steel, most graffiti products applied to the surface will simply slide off. For example, most commercial spray lacquers will bead on contact and will not adhere, thus requiring taggers to apply several applications of spray paint. This feature will inevitably deter taggers from working on the surface.

Q. How should walls protected by TagTough be cleaned?

- A. Most graffiti will be removable by pressure washing, generally without the use of commercial cleaners (always ask for recommendations from your ArcelorMittal representative before

using commercial cleaners on painted surfaces). Sections of paint over-spray are most difficult to remove and may require additional wiping using a household scrub sponge. Some permanent markers may leave a permanent stain. Blast cleaning and heavy duty abrasive sponges or cleaners are not required and should NOT be used as these will damage the clear coat surface. For a full demo of graffiti cleaning on TagTough steel, please watch the video on ArcelorMittal Dofasco's website.

Q. Is there any time limitation to remove the graffiti marks?

- A. For best results, cleaning should be initiated as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours after the first application of graffiti.

Q. Which kind of cleaner or detergent should be used to remove graffiti?

- A. It is recommended that only cold water be used to remove graffiti from TagTough steel within the first year of installation.

As TagTough is exposed to weathering after a few years of exposure to atmospheric conditions, additional removal measures may be required, including the use of commercial cleaners that have been tested and approved by ArcelorMittal. **WARNING!** Many graffiti cleaners are available on the market. The effect of these chemicals on coating performance cannot be guaranteed and the use of unapproved chemicals will void any available product warranties.

For more information on recommended cleaning procedures for TagTough, please refer to the "TagTough Guidelines for Graffiti Removal" document which can be requested from your ArcelorMittal representative or found by visiting our website at <http://dofasco.arcelormittal.com/what-we-do/products/tagtough.aspx>

Q. Will TagTough steel's coating be removed while washing off graffiti?

- A.** No. Unlike conventional field applied protection systems, the graffiti-resistant property of TagTough steel is an integral part of the coating and is not a sacrificial layer. As a result, repeated cleaning according to ArcelorMittal guidelines will not affect the graffiti resistance functionality of the TagTough coating. However, the coating is susceptible to scratching and abrasion that may diminish the graffiti-resistant property over time.

Q. What are the touch-up paint instructions for TagTough?

- A.** Due to the hydrophobic properties of the coating, touch-up painting for repair is not possible.

Q. Is TagTough available with other paint systems (Silicon Modified Polyester, Perspectra Plus Series™, Exterior Polyester)?

- A.** No. The fluoropolymer system used for TagTough is not compatible with other paint systems. TagTough steel is only available with PVDF colours (10000 Series, Elite/Metallic).

Q. Will the TagTough steel colours be exact matches to the current PVDF/10000 Series colours?

- A.** Yes. TagTough steel colours will match standard 10000 Series colours or custom colours. However because of the clearcoat application, there may be some slight gloss changes. A colour match sample from ArcelorMittal's coil coater must be approved by the customer prior to accepting the order. Note that lower and higher gloss colours are not available with TagTough.

Q. Are TagTough steel's weathering and corrosion compromised by the graffiti resistant coating?

- A.** No. The overall PVDF technical specification is not affected by the graffiti-resistant clearcoat. ArcelorMittal Dofasco's testing data (QUV, SST, T-bend, etc.) is similar or better than the PVDF system without the clear coat.

Q. What is the performance specification for TagTough?

- A.** Please consult the "Performance Specification sheet for TagTough which can be acquired from your ArcelorMittal representative or found on the ArcelorMittal Dofasco website at: <http://dofasco.arcelormittal.com/what-we-do/products/tagtough.aspx>

Q. Can steel coated with TagTough be embossed and roll formed?

- A.** Yes. However in order to maximize the graffiti resistant property, TagTough is recommended for flat panels or standard roll-formed profiles. Embossed or micro-ribbed designs should be avoided.

Q. Have the available backwashes and backers changed for TagTough?

- A.** No. The selection of backwashes and backers has not changed.

Q. Can a strippable film be applied on TagTough?

- A.** Yes. Most high adhesive strippable films will work on TagTough.

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