



September 16, 2005

To: STEELOX Customers,

Please allow me to give you a quick update on the STEELOX product line. We are estimating the new roof panels to be available in January 2006, along with the necessary accessories, with the STEELOX wall panel to follow by March or April.

We are preparing to produce both the LRX and PRX panel profiles, with one slight change. While the female leg will be exactly like the STEELOX profile, the male leg will be like the current BattenLok profile allowing us to continue to use the BattenLok clips. We will also produce the "one fastener" clips similar to STEELOX. This amalgam of the two profiles has several advantages:

- The look of the new panel, once installed, will be exactly like the STEELOX profile.
- The existing seamers used by STEELOX contractors will continue to work on this new panel.
- The wind uplift resistance will be much stronger which will allow for more economical purlin spacing in high wind areas.

We are also working on a STEELOX roof manual, which will show many of the standard STEELOX details.

As many of you know, the STEELOX SLX wall panel and MBCI's ShadowRib panel are very similar. We are going to change the face of the ShadowRib panel to match the STEELOX profile. However, to keep from having to switch to a larger coil width, we are leaving the panel depth at the ShadowRib dimension. This equates to about 1/8" less than the STEELOX panel depth.

We have completed extensive testing on the traditional STEELOX panel attachment methods to the girts. These included the rib bolt/nut, the #18 fastener in prepunched holes in girts, or with the J clip and the rib clip. Only the rib bolt/nut attachment method yielded enough resistance to negative wind to satisfy current code requirements.

Since it seems unreasonable to expect erectors to field drill girts 16" on center, we have developed a clip that can be installed from the outside of the building. It will require attaching the clip to each girt and then installing a lap tek through the vertical legs of the panels to hold them together. The wind resistance of this clip is excellent.

As we continue to develop and test the new product line, we understand that you have immediate needs. Please feel free, to call your local MBCI plant and talk to a sales person. If you do not know where the nearest MBCI plant is located, please log onto www.MBCI.com and click on the "locations" link at the top of the page. If you have a technical question, please e-mail me at kbuchinger@ncilp.com or call me at 281-445-8005. For those of you who plan to attend MetalCon in Chicago this year, please stop by the MBCI booth and say hello. We would love to talk to you about STEELOX or any other MBCI products and discuss how we can be of service to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Buchinger".

Ken Buchinger
Vice President

Corporate Warranties & Certifications

www.mbc.com www.steelbuilding.com www.metaldepots.com www.metallic.com