

Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma Publishes New Roofing Guide

Is a Standing Seam Metal Roof Limited in Span, Strength, and Design?

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Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma has published new educational guidance addressing two common questions about structural standing seam metal roofing: whether the panels can be installed without a solid roof deck and how their allowable span is determined.

The guidance is intended to give Oklahoma property owners, builders, and contractors practical information to review before a standing seam roofing project is framed or panels are ordered.

How Far Can Structural Standing Seam Metal Roofing Span?

There is no single span distance that applies to every structural standing seam roof. The allowable distance between supports depends on the specific panel system, its tested load capacity, and the requirements of the building.

Wind uplift and snow loads are also important. A roof in an exposed location may have different design requirements from a roof on a smaller, sheltered building. For projects involving metal roofing in Tulsa, OK, the applicable building requirements and project conditions should be reviewed before support spacing is established.

What Determines Standing Seam Roof Span?

The panel and supporting structure work together to determine allowable span. Important factors include the steel gauge, seam height, panel profile, clip type and spacing, and the size and spacing of the purlins.

Reliable span information comes from the manufacturer's tested load tables for the specific panel system. These tables allow the project team to compare the panel specification with the required design loads rather than relying on a general span estimate.

Joe Beiler, Owner of Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma, said, "The panel needs to match the building it is going on. Reviewing the framing plan and the approved panel specifications before production helps make sure the order matches the project."

Can Standing Seam Metal Roofing Be Installed Without a Solid Deck?

Some standing seam systems are designed to span open framing, while others require a solid substrate. The difference depends on whether the project uses a structural or architectural panel system.

According to the National Roofing Contractors Association, structural panels can span joists or purlins without a continuous roof deck. Architectural panels need a continuous or closely spaced substrate.

Structural panels can therefore be considered for applications such as shops, barns, agricultural

buildings, and some commercial structures where the roof is supported by purlins. Architectural panels are commonly installed over a solid substrate in residential applications.

The distinction should be established during project planning because the framing and roof assembly need to be compatible with the selected panel system.

Does Panel Length Affect Standing Seam Roof Performance?

Panel length is separate from the structural span between supports. A long panel can run from the ridge toward the eave without requiring an end lap, but its length does not determine how far it can safely span between purlins.

Long panels also need to accommodate normal expansion and contraction as temperatures change. Standing seam systems use concealed clips that allow the panels to move while remaining attached to the structure.

Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma can form panels to the required length at the job site. Custom-length production can reduce the need for splices and help limit the handling of long panels during transportation.

What Should Be Confirmed Before Ordering Standing Seam Panels?

Before production, project teams should have the final roof dimensions and approved panel specifications available. The order should reflect the selected gauge, profile, finish, panel length, and framing requirements.

The company supplies 24-gauge and 26-gauge standing seam panels. Customers can arrange delivery to the job site, shipping to their location, or pickup in Fairland. The company does not install the panels so that customers can select their own roofing contractor.

This approach allows the panel order to be prepared around the project's final measurements rather than using standard panel lengths that may not fit the roof.

About Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma

Standing Seam Board & Batten of Oklahoma is a standing seam metal roofing supplier based in Fairland, Oklahoma. Founded in 2021, the company serves the Four State Area with standing seam metal roofing, board and batten metal siding, and custom metal trim.

The company supplies materials for residential, agricultural, and commercial projects and offers 24-gauge and 26-gauge standing seam panels in custom lengths. Its standing seam roofing products carry a 40-year manufacturer paint warranty.

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