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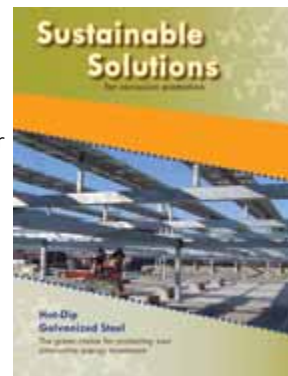
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cover story

Renewable Energy is Large Part of Green Movement

Whether you are watching TV, reading a magazine, or just commuting to work, it seems everywhere you look you are inundated with messages about being green or going green. The increasingly popular green movement seems to touch every industry, from automobiles to home appliances. The construction and building industry is a major player in the green movement, with demand for green construction increasing at a dramatic rate. One major aspect of becoming a greener nation includes finding renewable sources of energy.

The recent presidential campaign is a strong indication of the population's interest in energy. Besides the economy, energy and infrastructure were two of the most important topics debated during the campaign. With the historic election behind us, new President-Elect Barack Obama will be responsible for steering the future of this nation's energy resources. Both Obama and Congress have shown significant interest in regulating energy and mandating renewable energy resources. [> MORE](#)



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Protect Steel Extend Service Life Enhance Design

ask dr. galv

Q: I have received finished galvanized steel from my galvanizer with a varied appearance and a lot of dark spots. I know galvanized steel is usually specified for corrosion protection rather than aesthetics, but should I be worried about the service life of my steel?



A: The appearance of newly galvanized steel depends almost entirely on the chemistry of the steel. Differing chemical compositions in the steel can create galvanized coatings with different appearances. Although the appearance might be different from one galvanized article to another, or even on the same article, the corrosion protection and service life are not directly related to the appearance.

Galvanized coatings are created by a metallurgical reaction between iron in the steel and zinc from the galvanizing kettle. This reaction is catalyzed by silicon and phosphorus in the steel. Silicon is added as a deoxidizer and phosphorus is an impurity in the steel. Most steel is made from scrap iron and this is the origin of the phosphorus impurities in steel. [> MORE](#)



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