R-SERIES

EDITION
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HOW STEEL STUD QUALITY AFFECTS YOUR CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SUCCESS

RONDO®

www.rondo.com.au

INTRODUCTION

Have you considered how your choice of steel stud affects important factors such as:

1. **Site safety** – Is your chosen steel stud designed with safety features that dramatically decrease the exposure to injury?

2. **Project efficiencies** – Does your chosen stud have features and benefits that assist in faster installation?

3. **The workmanship of your project** – When installed, do these studs stack up as a system that your reputation can stand on?

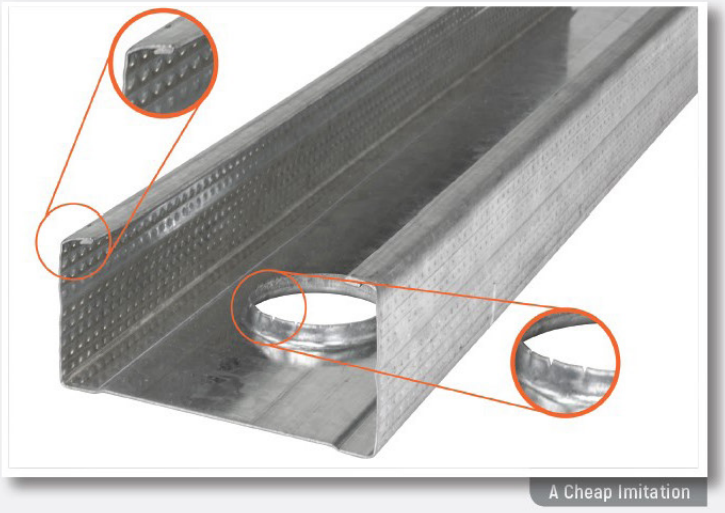
4. **Compliance to NCC** – Does your steel stud comply with the NCC requirements? Is it even tested at all?

IS YOUR STEEL THE REAL DEAL?

With more and more light gauge steel products hitting the market in Australia, it is important to know how to spot inferior products, especially those that are imported from overseas.

Vigilance and knowledge on how to select the right steel stud can mean the difference between a safe, profitable, quality project, and a costly project, that lacks quality and is exposed to risk.

#TheRealRondo



A Cheap Imitation

LETS BUST SOME COMMON MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT INFERIOR LOCAL AND IMPORTED LIGHT GAUGE STEEL PRODUCTS

'It looks nice and shiny so it must be high quality' – looks can be deceiving. The coating and profile are generally not comparable to higher quality versions.

'It feels nice and sturdy' – Overseas manufacturers can reduce the thickness of the coating and increase the thickness of the steel to give the illusion of quality and strength, however the coating is the first and last line of defence against corrosion.

'These cheaper ones will save me some money on this project' – cheaper studs usually mean an increase in costs related to labour, injury, and poor workmanship.

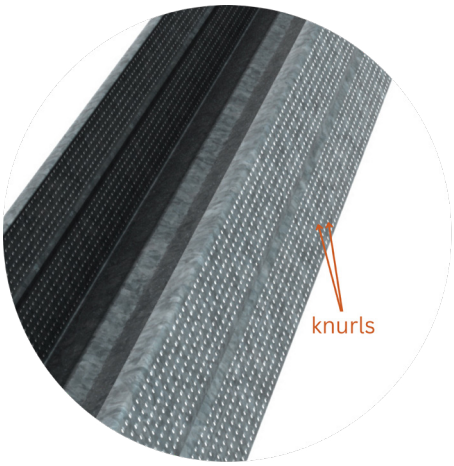
'They provide a warranty, so I'm covered' – Not all warranties are created equal. Consider the terms of the warranty, its limitations, and its ability to be enforced.

HOW CAN THE CLEVER DESIGN OF A STEEL STUD MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

When selecting the right one, a cleverly designed and manufactured stud can tick off important factors. When compared to other Steel Stud brands on the market, our Rondo Steel Stud possesses several superior features that provide additional protection, efficiency, and peace of mind. **These include:**

Folded hems, for added protection and strength - the edges are folded along the entire length of the Rondo steel stud, protecting hands from potentially serious cuts and injury. Our high-tech roll-forming technology allowed us to be the first to introduce a hemmed stud profile back in 2009, which not only improved site safety, it also increased stiffness of the stud, preventing unwanted rotation.

Knurls, for better control and efficiency - cleverly positioned for better contact with screws, our knurls cradle the needlepoint of the screw, minimising slipping and sliding of the screw when pressure is applied. This allows for faster installation and helps to prevent damage to nearby plasterboard and potential injury.



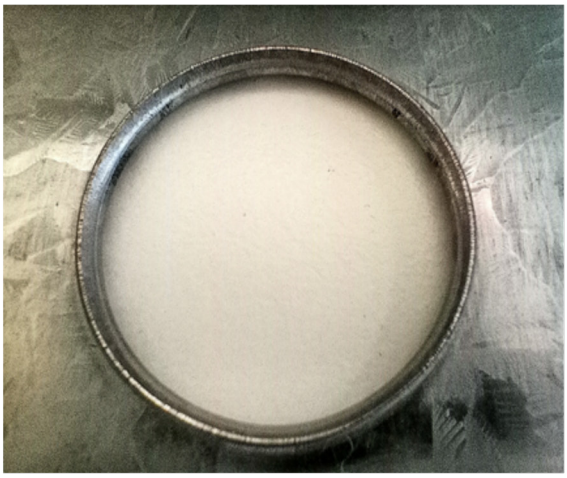
Boxed Stud Arrangements - Our stud profile has been designed to perfectly lock into each other, creating the best boxed stud profile for door and window openings.

Bellmouth service holes - punched into all 0.5-0.75 BMT Rondo Steel Studs, our bellmouth service holes ensure that cables and pipes can be fed through without risk of cuts or injury to installers. The flanged service holes are located at 600mm spacings, including an extra service hole 150mm in from the top for cabling.

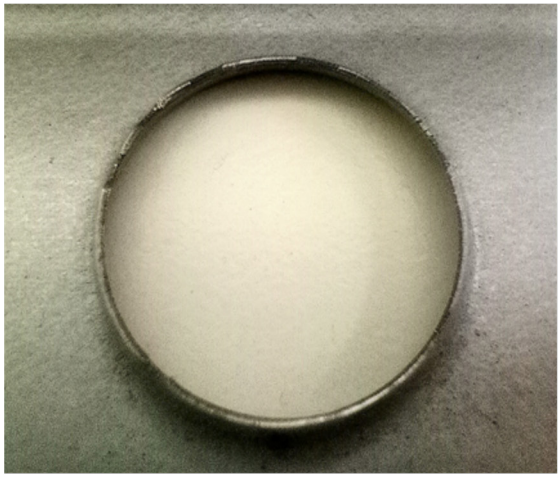
Further protection is provided post-construction, where the bellmouth's smooth finish prevents cables and pipes from being damaged during building movement.

This can prevent electrical wires from being stripped of their insulation, potentially electrifying the wall. Similarly, bellmouth service holes can help prevent damage to water pipes, preventing costly water leaks within the walls.

Let's take a closer look at a comparison of a Rondo bellmouth service hole vs an inferior brand, both of which are currently sold on the Australian market.



Smooth edges of the Rondo Steel Stud bellmouth service hole



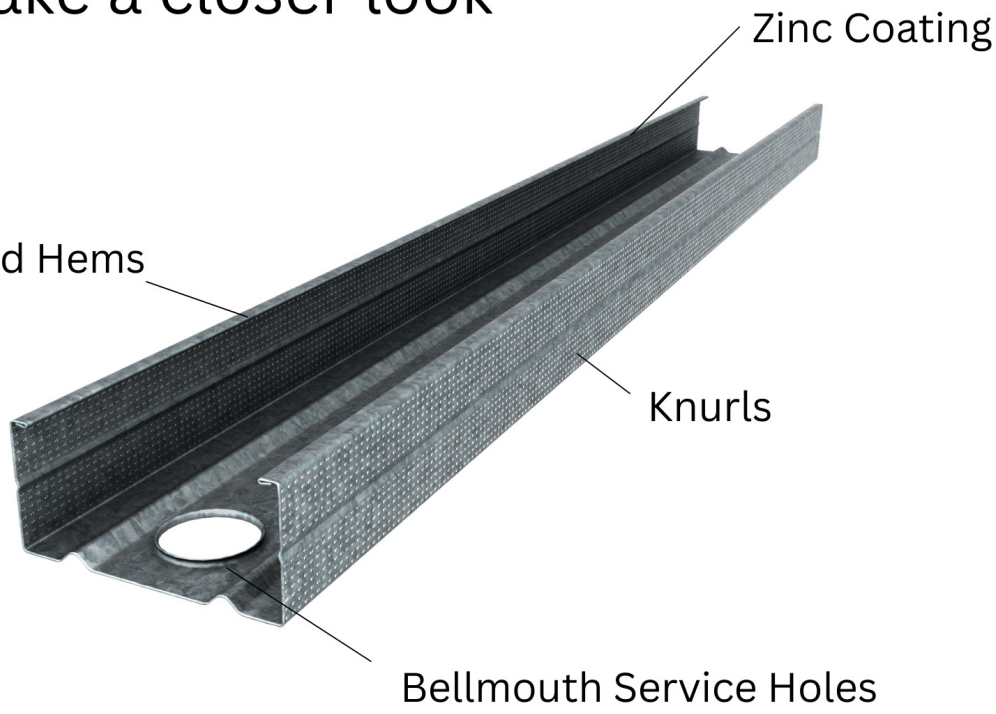
Rough, sharp edges of an inferior Steel Stud service hole

An appropriate zinc coating for protection - Rondo's steel studs have a zinc coating of Z275 (275 grams of zinc per m2) which ensures that the steel has an optimum zinc coating that will continue to sacrifice itself to protect the base metal. The more zinc applied to the product, the longer the base steel will be protected.

Samples of several imported steel products were sent to an independent laboratory, and we found the zinc coating in the steel studs was equivalent to Z100.
Galvanized and Zinc/Aluminum steel coatings are part of the "active" group of coatings, meaning the coating is designed as a sacrificial barrier to prevent corrosion of the steel substrate.

Sometimes, a manufacturer can reduce the coating thickness but increase the base metal thickness to reduce costs, which makes the product feel stronger, and give the illusion that it is higher in quality than it is.

Let's take a closer look



112 64mm Wall Stud

WHAT ABOUT COMPLIANCE TO THE NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION CODE (NCC)?

The design of the steel stud systems in all buildings in Australia needs to comply with the NCC Section B, for structural adequacy.

This is achieved using the AS/NZS4600 design code, also referenced within the NCC. Within AS/NZS4600, numerous steel grades are specified including the relevant Australian or New Zealand Standards of acceptance and compliance.

The design code is complex and requires intimate knowledge and experience to interpret and master. It can take years to develop these skills, not to mention the additional codes relating to the imposed actions on the building.

Recent failures of building parts have highlighted the need for vigilance in this area, and good design practice starts with understanding the local conditions, products, and compliance requirements.

HOW CAN YOU BE SURE YOUR STEEL IS THE REAL DEAL?

Checklist	Rondo Steel Stud
• Ensure the product is coming from a manufacturer with a good reputation.	✓
• Make sure the warranty provides adequate coverage and is enforceable under Australian consumer law.	✓
• Don't stop at comparing just steel prices. Compare gauge, grade, zinc coating, profile, features, and after sales support. You often get what you pay for.	✓
• Check for marking on the steel (or on packaging) displaying B.M.T and Grade, which manufacturers should be upfront about.	✓
• Where possible, always support Australian made.	✓

THE RONDO QUALITY SIGNATURE

All Rondo studs come with clearly identifiable ink jetting, that marks our brand and product details. Look for the ink jetting on your Rondo studs to ensure that the product is genuinely Rondo.

AT RONDO WE HAVE TAKEN EXTRA MEASURES TO ENSURE WE PROVIDE THE BEST PRODUCTS, WITH A KEY FOCUS ON SUSTAINABILITY

We have developed a multi-product Environmental Product Declaration (EPD). The certification process took several years, and we are proud to be able to provide access to it to all our customers.

The Rondo EPD captures the family of products sold by Rondo which are used to create the framing within walls and ceilings.

The Rondo EPD provides to a customer the Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) data for over 300 products and 53 product families (e.g., stud, track, clips etc).

As Rondo sells products as part of a system, the Rondo EPD will allow the customer to source the LCA data by selecting the required part numbers that make up the system within one EPD.

As a member of the Australian Steel Institute, Rondo's business operations are audited annually in terms of our environmental management.

Findings from our audit this year concluded that Rondo has 'a very solid EMS culture, awareness and commitment' and that we are 'demonstrating best practice and well positioned to influence its supply chain as an industry leader'.Rondo was awarded with a "PLATINUM" band achievement, which is a strong indication to the industry of our commitment to environmental performance and our leadership in this area.

A WARRANTY YOU CAN COUNT ON

Let's face it, the one thing better than a 10-year warranty is the confidence of knowing that you may never need to use it!

Rondo's 10-year warranty offers the peace of mind that you need, and our product quality ensures that the likelihood of needing to claim is minimal.

We are confident that our products will perform to our exacting specifications, because, who has the time to go back!

RONDO BUILDING SERVICES PTY LTD

WARRANTY

THIS WARRANTY IS ISSUED:

TO: ....

PROJECT: ....

RONDO REF: ....

This warranty is provided by:
Rondo Building Services Pty Ltd ABN 69 000 289 207
57–87 Lockwood Road, Erskine Park, NSW 2759 Australia Tel: +61 2 9912 7300

OTHER RIGHTS

The benefits given by this warranty are additional to other rights and remedies that you may have under laws relating to our products. Our goods come with guarantees that cannot be excluded under the Australian Consumer Law (contained in Schedule 2 of the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth)). The following statement applies where the product is supplied to a 'consumer' under the Australian Consumer Law. You are entitled to a replacement or refund for a major failure and compensation for any other reasonably foreseeable loss or damage. You are also entitled to have the goods repaired or replaced if the goods fail to be of acceptable quality and the failure does not amount to a major failure (Consumer Guarantees).

The remainder of this document does not impose any limitation on, or precondition to the exercise of rights in accordance with, the Consumer Guarantees.

LODGING A WARRANTY CLAIM

To make a claim under the warranty, please contact the Rondo authorised distributor from whom you purchased the product. Otherwise, you may send details of your warranty claim directly to Rondo by post

Warranty Claims, Rondo Building Services,
PO Box 324, St Marys, NSW 1790 Australia

All claims under this warranty must be received by Rondo within the applicable warranty period. Once your claim is received, a representative of Rondo will determine whether your warranty claim is valid and, if it is, will inform you how Rondo will honour it. Any costs you incur in making this warranty claim are your responsibility and not covered by this warranty.
After you lodge a warranty claim, Rondo may, before providing warranty service, require that you provide proof of purchase, respond to questions designed to assist with diagnosing potential faults and follow Rondo's procedures for obtaining warranty service. You must respond to all requests promptly and at your own expense.

GENERAL WARRANTY STATEMENT

Rondo Building Services Pty Ltd (Rondo) warrants all Rondo branded products against defects in materials under normal use for the period from the date of purchase specified below:
• All Rondo products: ten (10) years, with the exception of
• Rondo EXTREME® PVC Finishing Sections: fifteen (15) years.
In addition, Rondo warrants that the Rondo KEY-LOCK®, DUO®, DONN® and XPRESS® Suspended Ceiling Systems will remain structurally sound for a period of fifteen (15) years from the date of purchase.
If you submit a valid claim, Rondo will, at its option:
(i) Repair the product;
(ii) Replace the product with a product that is at least equivalent to the original product in function and quality; or
(iii) Refund the purchase price.
When a product or component is replaced or refunded, any replacement item becomes your property and the replaced item becomes Rondo's property.

This warranty is subject to the exclusions and conditions below. Where an additional warranty has been issued by Rondo, the terms of that additional warranty prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.

WARRANTY EXCLUSIONS

This warranty does not apply to products that:
• Have been damaged prior to installation;
• Have not been purchased from Rondo or a Rondo authorised distributor;
• Have been altered, modified or changed after purchase;
• Are special, tailored or custom made and have therefore not been systems tested by Rondo; or
• Have not been stored or installed in accordance with Rondo's then current installation guidelines (such as spacing, allowable loads and the like) and environment specifications (including outdoor use of products designed for indoor use only) published and updated from time to time on Rondo's webpage, or specific designs prepared by Rondo's engineers. For further information, view the Rondo Professional Design Manual at www.rondo.com.au/designmanual

This warranty does not apply to any damage, defect or fault caused by:
• A product that has received maltreatment, inattention or interference;
• Improper or inadequate maintenance of the product;
• An application of or to the product that is not fit for purpose;
• Another product(s) affixed or attached to, or installed or integrated with, a Rondo product covered by this warranty;
• The fitting or use of components not supplied, manufactured or approved in writing by Rondo;
• A component that was not manufactured or supplied by Rondo, including the failure of such a component;
• A failure to use or maintain the product in accordance with the manufacturer's or Rondo's instructions or recommendations (including servicing recommendations);
• Repair, maintenance, installation, commissioning or service of the product which is not carried out in accordance with manufacturer's instructions or recommendations;
• Instances where all recommended preparation and/or treatment processes have not been carried out;
• Fasteners that do not have durability and corrosion resistance at least equal to the product that they are fastening (e.g. the use of non-stainless steel fasteners with a stainless steel bead); or
• Normal wear and tear.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR OUTDOOR USE

The only Rondo metal products that are designed and warranted for outdoor use are the following products in the Rondo EXANGLE® Range: EP32, EP50, EP17, ER11, P01S & SR02. Whilst these products have been coated with a highly effective corrosion resistant material, or made with corrosive resistant stainless steel, the products may still be susceptible to corrosion in highly aggressive environments. The use of the below products is not recommended, and this warranty does not apply, in the following applications:

EP32, EP50, EP17, ER11	SR02, P01S
• Within 1km of breaking surf. • Within 100m of calm, open saltwater locations (e.g. harbours). • Within 500m of areas of heavy industrial emissions.	• Within 100m of breaking surf. • Within 100m of heavy industrial emissions, or fossil fuel combustion.
• Areas exposed to prevailing winds that contain salt or regular industrial emissions. • Where continuous or cyclical moisture is present, such as retaining walls, planter boxes or garden beds unless protective waterproofing measures have been applied in accordance with Rondo's published specifications. • Environments which contain bore water or soils with high chloride content.	

ADDITIONAL WARRANTY COVERAGE & CONDITIONS

....

AUTHORISED BY: ....

SIGNED: .... DATE: ....

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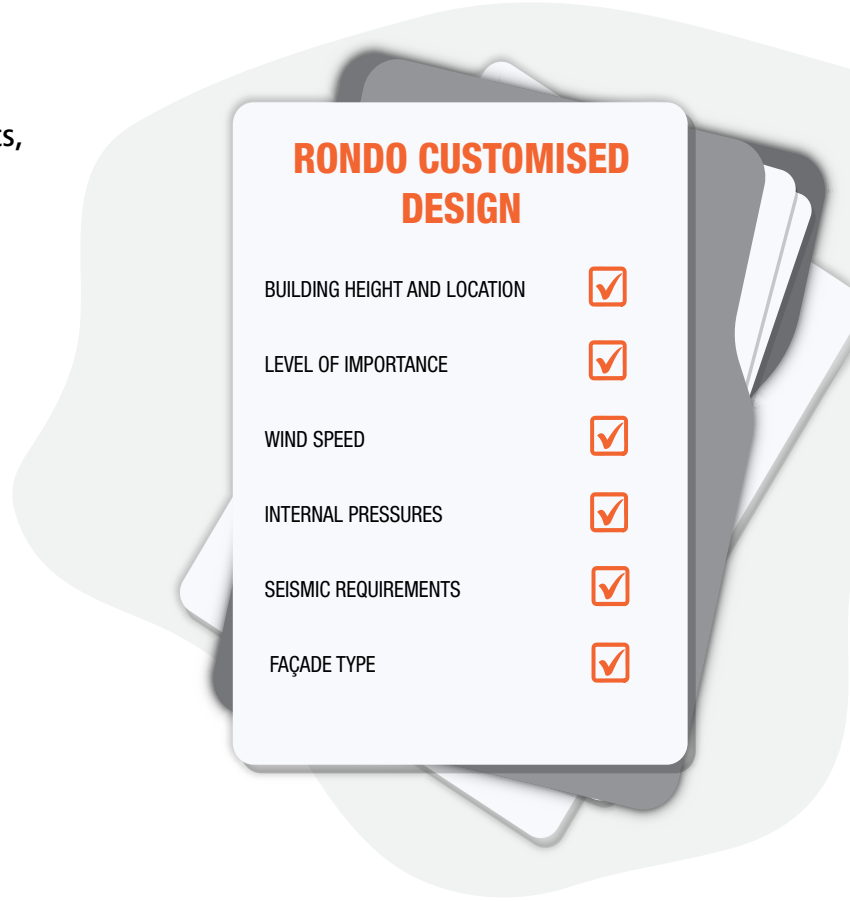
DOES YOUR PROJECT REQUIRE A COMPLIANT WALL OR CEILING DESIGN?

Rondo Design Engineers offer complimentary design services, focused on providing the very best design outcome that supports an optimised, value engineered result, compliant and customised for each individual project.

Whilst it may take a few extra days to have a fully customised and compliant design using the correct internal pressures, it can be years of rework costs, liquidation damages and rebuilding of reputations if a failure occurs.



Requesting a Rondo design for the first time?
Submit your request here
or visit: https://www.rondo.com.au/support/technical-enquiry-form

RONDO®

we're behind the best buildings

www.rondo.com.au

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