

## Steel Ceilings, Inc. Glossary of Common Terms

**Anodizing** – An electrochemical process that adds a closed grain of oxidized coating to aluminum as surface protection. This process causes a physical change in the aluminum surface that hardens the surface. It also has anti-corrosive properties. Anodizing can be satin, bright or colored.

**Ceiling Drop** – The measurement from the structure to the finished ceiling, or the length of the hanger wire, rod or strut.

**Coil Perforated** – A process that uses metal in coil form and runs it through a perforating press. The process is linear in nature and can only produce straight, staggered or diagonal patterns. The width of the perforation is limited by the perforating die and perforating press.

**Critical Lighting** – Natural or artificial light may make a ceiling or wall system appear irregular in color or shade, it can also cast shadows in causing the surface of the ceiling or wall to appear uneven.

**Diffuser** – A circular or rectangular grill in a ceiling used for the passage of air from the ducted system. (light fittings can also have diffuser)

**Downward Accessibility** – A ceiling system that allows the components to be lowered to gain entry to the ceiling void.

**Galvanizing** – An electrochemical process for coating steel with zinc to prevent corrosion.

**Gauge** – Industry accepted standards of measuring the thickness of steel or aluminum.

**Hangers** – A suspension member used to carry the weight of a ceiling system. It is usually steel wire, threaded rod or a light gauge framing.

**Hold Down Clip** – A clip used to secure a ceiling panel in place so that it does not shift in the suspension. Typically, it is used to hold down the cut edge of the ceiling unit into a wall molding piece.

**Linear Diffuser** – A long narrow, rectangular grill usually 1” to 4” wide and several modules long in a ceiling used for the passage of air from a ceiling duct.

**Linear Metal Ceiling** – Perforated or non-perforated steel or aluminum that is usually roll formed to make up a ceiling system. Metal planks are usually 2” – 6” in width and attached to a carrying channel.

**Metal Plank Ceiling** – Perforated or non-perforated steel or aluminum that is formed to make up a ceiling system. Metal panels are usually 12” to 24” in width and up to 10 feet in length and attached to the carrying channel.

**Metal Tile Ceiling** – Metal tile ceilings are made of steel, aluminum or other metals and are modular in shape. Tiles can be square, rectangular or trapezoidal. Typically, the edges are formed to fit into, or lay onto a suspension system.

**Mid-Span Channel** – A back to back channel for supporting a security plank ceiling system that are wider than the maximum length.

**Perforated Metal Baffle** – A steel or aluminum unit in filled with acoustical material hung vertically from the structure for sound absorption.

**Perforated Pattern** – The pattern of holes or slots in the metal surface.

**Plain Border** – A non-perforated area on the edges of the panel.

**Plenum** – The space above the finished ceiling. Also known as the ceiling void.

**Point Accessibility** – The ability to gain entry to the ceiling void at any location of the ceiling system.

**Powder coating** – A process for applying a paint onto a metal surface. Typically, a polyester powder is electro statically applied to metal after forming and perforation is complete and baked in an oven until it is bonded to the metal surface.

**Reflective Ceiling Plan (RCP)** – A graphical layout of a ceiling plan shown as if the floor were a mirror. This is usually the architectural sheet that will show reference to sections and details pertaining to the ceiling.

**Room Finish Schedule** – A section or sheet of a set of architectural drawings that designates a finish to be given to the room on the project, and often related the finish heights of the ceilings.

**Stainless Steel 304 Series** – One of the most widely used stainless steels. It possesses excellent combination of strength, corrosion resistance, and fabricates well.

**Translucent Ceiling** – A ceiling system that allows light passage through the surfaces but obstructs the view to the ceiling void.