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Saudi Arabia's Unicoil introduces energy-saving PPGI

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Saudi Arabian flat steel re-roller and coater Unicoil has developed an energy-saving pre-painted steel product, the company said on Tuesday December 8.

The pre-painted galvanized iron (PPGI) material is the first steel product of its kind to be made nationally and throughout the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) nations and the wider Middle East, the company noted.

Most pre-painted steel products are used for the walls and rooves of industrial hangars, storage warehouses and workshops.

Because of the climate in Saudi Arabia, white pre-painted steel is the most widely used, given its proven properties of low heat absorption compared with darker colours. This reduces heat radiation into buildings, Unicoil said.

The function of the new Energy-Saving Colorite material is based on solar reflection and energy absorption properties that minimise heat penetration into pre-painted steel structures, it added.

"These two mechanisms ensure that the majority of sunlight is reflected back and that heat penetration is minimised, thereby reducing the power requirements for air-conditioning in large buildings, and directly and effectively reducing energy consumption," it said.

Unicoil produces 400,000 tpy of pickled and oiled coil, 340,000 tpy of cold rolled coil (CRC), 250,000 tpy of hot dipped galvanized coil (HDG), 210,000 tpy of colour coated coil (PPGI), and 18 million linear metres per year of pre-painted corrugated coils at its plants in Jubal and Jeddah.