Making penetration holes using a hydraulic punch

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Making penetration holes for ventilation or services is easily achieved in steel thicknesses up to 3.2mm by using a hydraulic punch. Seek the advice of a qualified engineer if punching large holes in load-bearing studs.

A hydraulic punch has a fast action slip on/off chuck making it quick and easy to use.

Remove the slug by slipping off the chuck.

Use the punch for single C-channel studs, noggins and top plates.

The same hydraulic tool is used to make smaller holes for water pipe and electrical cable.

Larger penetration holes are achieved by fitting a larger mandle into the tool.

A larger pilot hole is required for the bigger mandle. In this case, use a water pipe-size punch or cutter.

A hand punch for light gauge steel is used to create the pilot hole.

Or use the pre-made service holes already provided in the frame studs as pilot holes for the large punch.

Work safely with steel BlueScope Steel recommends safety precautions are taken when working with steel – protect yourself with long sleeves, steel-capped boots, gloves and safety glasses and ensure you have the right tool for the job.

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