

**CLEANING, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PROCEDURE FOR ORGANIC
PAINT COATINGS (ACRYLIC AND POLYESTER) ON ALUMINIUM AND PVC-U
WINDOWS, DOORS AND ARCHITECTURAL PRODUCTS**

In compiling these guidelines we would also draw your attention to a publication by the Council for Aluminium in Building, 191 Cirencester Road, Charlton Kings, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL53 8DF (Tel No: 01242 578278).

“Guidance in the handling, care, protection, fixing and maintenance of aluminium windows and doors.”

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12/08/08

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1. CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

(ALUMINIUM)

- a) In areas within the direct influence zones of salt water, industrial chemical plants, blast furnaces or other aggressive emission sources, the window should be cleaned at least every three months. In a relatively cleaner environment every six months should be sufficient.

In carrying out regular maintenance outside, the internal surfaces are frequently neglected. After a period of time, grime and deposits from tobacco smoke, coal and oil fires, etc., can discolour the inside of the window frame and it is recommended that these should be cleaned at least once per year.

b) Procedure

- (i) Wash down with clean warm water containing a non-alkaline liquid detergent (in a concentration which can be handled safely with bare hands) using a non-abrasive cloth, sponge or soft bristle brush. This will remove grime, grease and any excess chalking. All ridges, grooves, joints and drainage channels where salt or other deposits can collect should be well washed out, thus preventing corrosion sites from occurring!

- (ii) Rinse thoroughly with clean water.

- (iii) Dry using a soft cloth or leather.

- c) Where a reduction in gloss is observed, chalking is evident or excessive staining has occurred, then an approved renovating cream may be carefully applied with a non-abrasive cloth.

Note: T-Cut or similar automotive paint restorer may be used provided it is not too abrasive!

Care must be taken not to abrade sharp corners of section or aris of beads too heavily where the paint film is normally thinner, and it should be remembered that this operation should not be carried out too frequently.

Polish with a soft cloth to restore gloss and colour uniformity.

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