

## GENERAL MAINTENANCE RECOMMENDATIONS POLYESTER POWDER COATED PRODUCTS

### CLEANING OF THE POLYESTER POWDER COATING (PPC)

As with any organic coating, in order to retain the aesthetic qualities and the expected long term durability of the powder coating, it is important that the coating is cleaned regularly.

The frequency of cleaning depends upon the environment in which the coating is in service.

For areas of “normal” urban environment we recommend a maximum period of 18 months between cleaning operations, unless any undue soiling is apparent on the coating. In which case cleaning should be more frequent. In areas of high pollution, marine and swimming pool environments, cleaning should be carried out every three months.

Cleaning of the powder coating is an important part of the routine maintenance of any building. It is for this reason that we advise that only companies who specialise in this type of work are used for large cleaning operations.

#### **Cleaning of Small Areas**

The powder coating can be cleaned by using a solution of mild detergent in warm water. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth, sponge or natural bristle brush. Abrasive materials should be avoided as they will damage the coating. If the coating has become heavily soiled it may be difficult to remove this soiling using only a mild detergent.

In order to overcome this problem, several commercially available cleaners have been tested. Some of these are listed below,

- Ajax Cream
- Liquid Gumption
- Flash ( in water )
- Ajax Liquid ( in water )

Should oil or grease deposits exist, then strong solvents must not be used to remove these. White Spirit and RITEC “clean all” have both been tested and approved for use.

Whilst tests show that products of this type may be used successfully in the removal of heavy surface deposits, particular care must be exercised in their use to avoid any scuffing of the powder coating.



It is recommended that in all cases, such products are reserved for heavy soiling and should only be tested on small areas of the soiled powder coating first to assess their efficiency. After application all detergents and cleaners must be thoroughly rinsed away with water.

### **Removal of Alkaline Deposits**

Powder coated material are often installed in close proximity to concrete based construction materials. Rainfall can cause alkaline substances to leech from those materials and deposit themselves on the surface of the coating (this usually occurs when the concrete is new). By using the correct process, alkaline deposits should be able to be removed without damaging the coating.

**Visible effect of alkaline deposits** - hard glaze / powder deposit.

**Method of removal** – the use of specialist cleaning contractors is recommended.

**Warning** Extreme caution should be taken when using strong brick / glass cleaners. When it is necessary to use these materials, which are available in varying concentrations, all adjacent powder coated areas must be protected.

### **DISCLAIMER**

**THE INFORMATION GIVEN IS BASED ON DATA OBTAINED FROM RELIABLE SOURCES AND IS BELIEVED TO BE CORRECT. HOWEVER NO WARRANTY IS EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED.**

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