

## **Part II - Method Statement for Repair and Maintenance of Powder Coated Facades**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Various climatic conditions put extreme strain on the exterior coating. Scheduled maintenance is vital in maintaining the aesthetic appearance of a coating. The maintenance schedule is dependent upon local factors and must be handled and adjusted as per local environmental conditions.

## **2. Periodical Cleaning and Routine Maintenance**

### **2.1 Coated Articles Exposed To The Outside**

Deposits of salt, grease, dirt and stains have a very detrimental impact on the durability of the coating and must be cleaned on a regular basis. The coated articles which are exposed in a maritime site, or highly polluted/dusty areas, aggressive stains make coating surface and the gloss fade away. Further, accelerate degradation of the coating's surface through corrosion, reduce the coating's years of service.

We recommend a baseline cleaning schedule of the coated and exposed surface once every 3 months. However, those surfaces that are exposed to seaside, dusty, dirty and polluted environments should be cleaned every 1 month or so.

We recommend the usage of a mild non-abrasive household neutral detergent (pH 5 to 8), diluted with water. Presence of abrasive materials or solvents in the cleaning chemical or detergent will accelerate the deterioration and degradation of the coating.

### **2.2 Coated Articles Used Indoors**

We recommend the usage of plain neutral water to clean indoor surfaces. If at all required, a mild non-abrasive household neutral detergent (pH 5 to 8) diluted with water can also be used. Presence of abrasive materials or solvents in the cleaning chemical or detergent will accelerate the deterioration and degradation of the coating.

## **3. RESTORATION THROUGH RUBBING AND POLISHING**

All coatings will experience change in gloss and colour over time. The rate of change is a function of the powder coated system (Aluminium substrate, pretreatment process and powder coating) and the environment to which the coated aluminum is exposed. In those parts of the world where climatic conditions are harsh the degradation process is faster.

The degradation of a coating generally occurs on the outer layer. Laboratory tests have shown that if the correct cleaning, rubbing and polishing process is adopted, the degraded top layer is removed and the coating can nearly regain its original properties

We recommend the following rubbing and polishing method:-

### **3.1 Rubbing**

Before we rub the article, we must remove ordinary dirt, oil, rust and grease sitting in the article by using a mild non-abrasive household neutral detergent (pH 5 to 8) diluted with water.

The rubbing solution is applied on a lint-free cloth or tack and wipe the coating gently by hand, or with a machine. Increase in frequency of wiping will enhance the result.

Remove the applied solution with a clean cloth.

### **3.2 Polishing**

Once rubbing is done, it is advised to polish the coating with a polish compound to elevate the gloss and enhance its aesthetic appearance.

Apply the polish compound on a lint-free cloth or tack and wipe the coating gently by hand, or with a machine.