



## **Cleaning and Care of Powder Coated Aluminum Products**

Powder coating is one of the most durable color coatings available for a wide range of products and uses. However, to obtain the very best results in overall finish and in longevity, correct product handling and care is essential.

### **Ensure regular cleaning**

As with many coated surfaces, regular cleaning will extend the life of the surface and retain its appearance. Cleaning should be conducted routinely at three month intervals and six months should be considered the longest interval. In industrial or marine locations particular attention should be paid to regular care due to the harsher atmosphere.

- Clean with a diluted solution of mild liquid detergent or TSP and warm water. Automotive based car wash detergents and most standard deck cleaning detergents can also be used. Krud Kutter Multi-purpose (Purple) cleaner also works well. Do not use products like Purple Power. Be sure to read all manufactures directions to make sure it is safe for use on painted surfaces. It is recommended that a small test area be checked first.
- Use a soft bristle brush or cotton rag. Do not use abrasive tools on the coating. After cleaning, rinse thoroughly with fresh water. Ensure that areas that are not normally exposed to rain are washed and rinsed also.
- An electric pressure washer may also aid in cleaning. The use of a pressure washer with greater than 1,500 PSI and/or applied closer than 10" from the surface could damage the powder coat surface.
- Do not use strong solvent type cleaners. Where the use of solvent is required, such as cleaning paint spills, use nothing other than Methylated Spirits. Ensure that the contact time is as short as possible, and rinse the solvent cleaner thoroughly from the surface with copious amounts of fresh water. It is strongly recommended that a small test area be checked first, to ensure that no damage will occur to the whole area.
- Do not use Acetates, Dulon Thinners, Methyl Ethyl Ketone (MEK) or Petrol products. Highly acidic cleaners are not recommended either.
- A mixture of 25% Bleach & 75% Warm Water can also be used on "White" powder coat to brighten the finish. It should be applied by a garden sprayer and allowed to soak no more than 10 minutes. Light scrubbing with a soft bristle brush can also aid in the effects. Rinse with copious amounts of fresh water. Make sure you have no other items that will come in contact with the bleach.
- If you reside in a cold weather climate where ice and snow periodically come in contact with your deck, use calcium chloride or rock salt to melt the ice and snow.