

Polyester coatings are resistant to many elements found in the environment such as air pollution, acid rain, and general airborne dirt. However, if the need to clean or remove deposits from your coating does arise, a variety of methods for removal of surface deposits are available. Two precautions: (1) do not use wire brushes, abrasive, or similar cleaning tools which will mechanically abrade the coatings surface, and (2) certain cleaning agents listed below should be tested in an inconspicuous area before use on a large scale.

GROUP A: HOT OR COLD DETERGENT SOLUTIONS

A 5% solution in water of commonly used commercial (non-industrial) detergents will not have any deleterious effect on a painted surface. These solutions should be followed by an adequate rinse of water. Use a cloth or a soft bristle brush for application.

GROUP B: SOLVENTS

Most organic solvents are flammable and/or toxic, and must be handled accordingly.

Read the manufacturer's Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on solvent used. Keep away from open flames, sparks and electrical motors. Use adequate ventilation, protective clothing and goggles.

Solvents that may be used to remove on-water soluble deposits such as tar, grease, oil, paint and graffiti from polyester surfaces include:

Alcohols

- Denatured alcohol (ethanol)
- Isopropyl (rubbing alcohol)

The above alcohols have no permanent effect on polyester surfaces.

GROUP C: PETROLEUM SOLVENTS AND TURPENTINE

- VM&P naphtha
- Mineral spirits
- Kerosene
- Turpentine (wood or gum spirits)

The above solvents have no permanent effect on polyester surfaces.

GROUP D: AROMATIC AND CHLORINATED

- Xylol (Xylene)
- Toluol (Toluene)

The above solvents should be used with caution on a polyester surface. Limit contact of the polyester surfaces with solvent to five minutes maximum and test in an inconspicuous area before using.

GROUP E: KETONES, ESTERS, LACQUER THINNER, AND PAINT REMOVER

- Methyl isobutyl ketone (MIBC)
- Ethyl acetate (nail polish remover)
- Butyl acetate
- Lacquer thinner
- Paint remover

The above solvents should not be used on a polyester surface.

GRAFFITI

Graffiti presents a special problem because of the many possible agents used, generally aerosol paint. It is best to try soap and water first, then the solvents. If none of these are satisfactory it may be necessary to resort to touchup, repaint, or replacement.

CHEMICAL SOLUTIONS

Mildew: In areas subject to high humidity levels, dirt and spore deposits can permit mildew growth to occur. The following solution is recommended to remove mildew when necessary:

- 1/3 cup dry powdered laundry detergent (such as Tide)
- 1 quart sodium hypochlorite 5% solution (such as Clorox)
- 3 quarts water

Rust Stains: Hydrochloric, citric, or muriatic acid, diluted with ten volumes of water, may assist in removing rust stains from polyester surfaces. Limit contact to five minutes. Oxalic acid solutions or acetic acid (vinegar) may be used for the same purpose. Flush with water. **Caution:** Acid solutions are corrosive and toxic. Flush all surfaces with copious amount of water after use.

WARRANTY

Misuse or abuse of any of the cleaning agents listed above will result in a voiding of warranty for the surface affected.

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