

Cleaning Instructions

ALLBONDS™ PE & FR Aluminum Composite Panels

ALLBONDS™ Aluminum Composite Panels have minimum maintenance requirements. We highly recommend cleaning the surface to maintain the best appearance.

The amount and frequency of dirt accumulation on ALLBONDS™ panels depends, among other factors, upon the building's geographic location, the ALLBONDS™ panel location on the structure, soil type, weather, pollution, and air conditions.

Do not use steel wool, abrasives, or anything likely to abrade the painted surface. Some cleaning chemicals can also damage the surface.

If dirt and stains are water soluble, such as soil, soot, or particles, then a water rinse is the alternative least likely to degrade the painted surface. However, **DO NOT** use a mechanical pressure washer. For areas of heavier or more tenacious dirt deposit, especially those near the grade level, a mild solution of detergent (5%) diluted with warm water is the best cleaning alternative. As with automobiles, streaking will be minimized if ALLBONDS™ panels are cleaned on a mild, overcast day, or in the shade.

More frequent cleaning with water or mild detergents is preferable to using harsher or concentrated cleaning solutions, or abrasive methods at less frequent intervals. Mild detergents are those which do not irritate bare hands. It is preferred that ALLBONDS™ panels be cleaned from bottom to top so that streaking and standing solutions be minimized.

In cases where ALLBONDS™ panels are soiled with non-water-soluble dirt such as tar, oil, paint, graffiti, or sealant material, solvents may be the only effective cleaning alternative.

Common solvent categories are:

Alcohols

- Denatured Alcohol or Ethanol
- Isopropyl or Rubbing Alcohol
- Methanol

Continued:

Petroleum Solvents

- Naptha Spirits
- Mineral Spirits
- Turpentine

Aromatic Solvents

- Xylene
- Toluene

Ketones, Esters

- MEK (methyl ethyl ketone)
- MIBK methyl isobutyl ketone)
- Ethyl Acetate or Nail Polish Remover
- Lacquer Thinner
- **DO NOT use acetone and paint removers on painted ALLBONDS™ panels**

Mildew removal can be accomplished with:

- 1/3 cup detergent
- 2/3 cup trisodium phosphate (TSP)
- 1-quart sodium hypochlorite, 5% solution (liquid bleach)

Apply and rinse immediately with clear water.

Be cautious of pooling of cleaners on any horizontal joint or surface. Remember that hot panels will speed up any chemical reaction and may cause damage to paint more quickly. **Do not** apply cleaners to an area that you cannot rinse prior to the chemical drying. Be aware of your surroundings and always think of safety first: your safety and that of persons using the building.

