



DURA COAT PRODUCTS INC.  
5361 VIA RICARDO  
RIVERSIDE, CA 92509

TEL (951) 341-6500  
FAX (951) 341-6505

## **CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE DURAPON 70™ PVDF**

Fluoropolymers by their chemical nature are inert. That is to say that their surface will not hold on to airborne contaminants such as air pollution, acid rain and general dirt. Durapon 70™ with Du Pont Teflon™ surface protector factory applied coating is extremely durable and resists staining and is easy to clean. Periodic cleaning will help keep your building and roof looking newer, longer. By cleaning with water and a mild detergent (TIDE) with hoses or pressure spray usually will be adequate. When heavier deposits of dirt or other contaminants are present, it may be necessary to use stronger methods.

Please note that the use of wire brushes or similar cleaning tools that may abrade the surface are discouraged. Also, certain cleaning agents should be tested, in a safe manner, in an inconspicuous area before use on a larger scale.

Hot or cold detergent solutions when used in a 5% solution in water of commonly used commercial and industrial detergents will not have any deleterious effect on a fluoropolymer surface. These solutions should be followed by an adequate rinse of water. Use cloth or soft bristle brush for application.

Mildew may occur in areas subject to high humidity and mildew spores can grow in dirt deposits, even on factory baked finishes. To remove mildew along with dirt, the following solution is recommended:

- 1/3 cup detergent (Tide)
- 2/3 cup sodium phosphate (soilex)
- 1 quart 5% sodium hypochlorite (chlorox)
- 3 quarts of water

Strong solvent and abrasive type cleaners should not be used as they may damage the finish. Chalking compounds, oil, grease, tar can be removed by mineral spirits applied to those areas affected. Always follow the use of mineral spirits with detergent cleaning and a thorough water rinse. Concrete splatter should be removed immediately in order to eliminate staining. The use of acid to remove concrete should be used only as a last resort. Hydrochloric or muriatic acid, diluted with ten volumes of water may assist in removing rust stains. **ACID SOLUTIONS ARE CORROSIVE and TOXIC.**



### Typical Solvent Classes for Fluoropolymer Surfaces.

Most organic solvents are flammable and must be handled safely. It is strongly recommended that you read the manufacturers Material Safety Data Sheet(MSDS). Keep away from open flames, sparks, electric motors. Use adequate ventilation, wear protective clothing and goggles.

The following solvents have no permanent effect on baked fluoropolymer finishes:

- Denatured alcohol (ethanol)
- Isopropyl (rubbing alcohol)
- VM & P Naphtha
- Mineral Spirits
- Kerosene
- Turpentine (wood or gum spirits)

Caution should be used with the following. Limit contact to 5 minutes and test before using:

- XYLOL (Xylene)
- Toluol (Toluene)

These solvents should be used with caution. Limit contact to 1 minute maximum and test before using. Some solvents may remove the coating.

- MEHTYL ETHYL KETONE (MEK)
- METHYL ISOBUTYL KETONE (MIBK)
- ETHYL ACETATE
- BUTYL ACETATE
- LACQUER THINNER

Paint remover and acetone should generally not be used. Proceed with caution in the use of paint removers.

### **Graffiti**

Graffiti presents a special problem because of the many agents used, generally aerosol paint. It is better to use less active solvents progressive to stronger solvents until the stain is removed, thereby using nothing stronger than necessary.



### **The Use of Air Dry Touch Up Paint**

Air dry touch ups are intended to be used for small areas that exhibit slight scratches or marring that may have occurred during handling, transit or installation. Touch up colors can generally be matched at a local automotive paint shop and come in a four ounce bottle with an artist type brush applicator. This type of reparation should not be used for areas that have dents, gouges or larger surfaces that may have defects. The use of an aerosol paint can application should not be used as it will only show chalking effects in about six months or sooner. In the event that air dry touch up is to be used, it is important that the area to be repaired be cleared and cleaned of any surface dirt or oils that may be present on the panel. If necessary, use a mild detergent to adequately clean the area you are fixing. When using the artist brush application only apply to the scratches or mars that are in need of touch up. Air dry touch up paints are not formulated to weather consistently as the finished coating, therefore covering the slight scratches or mars in a limited application is recommended.

For additional care instructions please refer to “VOLUNTARY GUIDE  
SPECIFICATIONS FOR CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF PAINTED  
ALUMINUM AND CURTAIN WALLS”

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