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POLYCARBONATE CLEANING AND MINOR SCRATCH REPAIR

This instruction is to be used as a guide in cleaning or repairing minor scratches in polycarbonate (Makrolon®). It will discuss important details to follow and should be read in its entirety before proceeding.

Periodic cleaning of polycarbonate (Makrolon®), using correct procedures with compatible household cleaners, is recommended to prolong the service life of the material.

General purpose polycarbonate has a relatively soft surface that mars easily with wiping action. It provides superior protection against unintentional chemical attack. However, the use of abrasive, gritty cleaners and/or hard cleaning implements (e.g. hard brushes, scrapers, squeegees) should be avoided to eliminate the possibility of scratching the surface coating.

COMPATIBLE CLEANERS

The following cleaning agents are compatible with polycarbonate (Makrolon®) products when used according to the manufacturer's recommendations:

- Top Job, Joy®
- Palmolive Liquid®
- Windex® Ammonia free

[Top Job and Joy are registered trademarks of Proctor & Gamble, Palmolive is a registered trademark of Colgate Palmolive, Windex is a registered trademark of Drackett Products Company]

The following cleaning techniques are based on standard industry practices.

GENERAL CLEANING:

- 1) Thoroughly pre-rinse with warm water to loosen and wash away surface material, grit and grime.
- 2) Using a soft microfiber cloth or moist non-abrasive sponge, gently wash with a mild diluted soap or detergent.
- 3) Rinse thoroughly with lukewarm clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

REMOVING HEAVY OILS AND TARS:

- 1) Thoroughly pre-rinse with warm water to loosen and wash away surface material, grit and grime.
- 2) With a 50/50 isopropyl alcohol-water mixture, gently rub the area with a soft non-abrasive cloth.
- 3) Immediately rinse thoroughly with lukewarm clean water. To prevent water spots, thoroughly dry the glazing with a dry soft cloth.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

Do not use abrasive cleaners.

Do not use high alkaline cleaners (high pH or ammoniated).

Do not use benzene, gasoline, acetone, or carbon tetrachloride.

Do not leave cleaners sitting on polycarbonate for periods of time; wash off immediately.

Do not apply cleaners under direct sunlight or at elevated temperatures.

Do not clean your polycarbonate with any unapproved cleaners. When in doubt, seek guidance. Using scrapers, squeegees, razors or other sharp instruments may permanently scratch your polycarbonate.

Always avoid dry rubbing/cleaning your polycarbonate, as sand and dust particles clinging to the exterior of the glazing may scratch its surface.

An Anti-Static Canned-Air Ionizer can reduce electrostatic charge buildup on polycarbonate, consequently reducing dirt and dust buildup that would hinder cleaning.

REMOVING SCRATCHES FROM POLYCARONATE (Makrolon®)

Deep scratches and gouges made by sharp objects such as keys, screwdrivers, and knives cannot be repaired. Fine scratches may be reduced in severity or cosmetically hidden by using a buffing compound such as NOVUS 2 Plastic Fine Scratch Remover, followed by a cleaning and polishing agent like NOVUS 1. Other products that may be used are Johnson Paste Wax, Mirror Glaze plastic polish(m.G.M10 – Mirror bright Polish Co., Pasadena, CA), and Plexus* (B.T.I. Chemical, Aguora, CA). It is suggested that a test be made on a sample sheet or a small area with the product selected and that the polish manufacturer's instructions be followed.