

**CLEANING , MAINTENANCE AND PROTECTION
OF COATED ITEMS**

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Cleaning and maintenance are operation which - if well done - could extend the operating life of goods ; viceversa , their unproper execution may result in irreversible damaging of the coated surface .

To obtain a good result and to avoid any problem we recommend to ALWAYS use soft clothes (better if cotton-made) soaked with non aggressive liquids .

It is possible to succesfully use

- _ warm or cold soap solutions
- _ solvent-free cleansing agents
- _ mixtures of ethanol and water

Newspaper or any dry cleaning actions must be avoided .

Aggressive solvents such as MEK , acetone , aromatics , mixtures of acetates and nitro diluent are absolutely not to be used .

Some shades are possible to obtain only by using some pigments having unavoidable tendency to bleed on surface , and which may leave some halo on cleaning clothes . This phenomenon does not seriously affect the quality of the painted article but in order to minimize it we suggest not to use pure ethanol .

In the same way , some metallics effecte are attainable only by the use of particular metallic pigments showing sensitivity to oxidization (not post-treadted or leafing aluminium pigments) .

Oxidization of such these pigments causes a loss of brilliance and metallic effect and it could be generated by exposure to wheathering , by extended or unproper manipulation , as well as by substances of common daily use (among them unappropriate cleansing agents)

This consideration is valid not only for conventional dry-blend metallics , but for bonded versions too .

On metallic products it is absolutely necessary to avoid the use of alkaline (e.g. ammonia or sodium hydroxide) or acid (e.g. hydrochloric acid) substances , even if diluted , because the may attack the metallic pigments end deteriorate the surface finish .

Independently from coating product and with any detergent it might be used , it is necessary to avoid any extended contact by stagnation . Any excess must be immediately removed by dabbing with a soft and clean cloth .

It is always a good practice to previously test the cleaning in a hidden corner of the article .

An alternative system ensuring a good protection to the metallic finish is the application of a powder coating clearcoat layer .

This protects the metallic coating from the action of aggressive agents and avoids the removal of metallic particles from the surface because of the mechanical action done during the cleaning operations .

This precaution allows to maintain for a long time an aspect with no alterations .

In this case too is mandatory to adopt soft clothes and to apply very light mechanical solicitation during the clearcoat cleaning .

Selac clearcoats are available in different chemical natures (Polyester , epoxy polyester , polyurethane) and with different brilliance levels , from glossy to semi-matt .

We remind also the possibility of an antigraffiti version , which has outstanding chemical properties and improved surface hardness .

Except for particular cases the overcoating must be done on a first layer completely cured , in order to avoid any possible interferences between the metallic and the clearcoat layer .

Application of the clear can be done with the standard spraying procedures , by corona or tribo guns .

Usually a reduction of spraying voltage to 40 - 50 KV is recommended in case of corona systems .

The layer of clear may slightly influence the aspect of the metallic finish .

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With outdoor product the application of the clearcoat is usually not necessary , because are used metallic and non metallic powders (typically micas and stainless steel) which are not sensitive to oxidization thanks to chemical nature and to surface treatments received to have better outdoor performances .

We suggest to contact our laboratory in order to define the most suitable coating cycle , taking into consideration the final destination of the finished good .

For further informations about cleaning conditions and techniques , it is possible to refer to some brochures edited by AITAL (Italy) or by national coaters associations .

RECOMMENDATIONS

These informations are given on the base of our best experience as well as the one of specialized laboratories and they are continuously updated , nevertheless the user has the complete responsibility to apply and to experiment the products according its own specific necessities .

This document has the intention to describe and summarize the main properties of arsonsisi products , but in no case it can be considered as a warranty for them . Further informations about application of metallic effects , maintenance of goods coated with homologated polyesters or availability of special versions are mentioned in specific technical integrative notes .