

INFORMATION SHEET

CLEANING OF VARNISHED SURFACES

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Recommendations

Following recommendations regarding the cleaning and maintenance of varnished surfaces of ceiling islands and grid ceilings should be paid attention to:

- only clear water, if necessary with little additives of neutral or alkaline detergent should be used.
- with the aid of a soft cloth or an industrial cotton an additional cleaning effect can be achieved.
- the panels and the cleaning detergent should not have a temperature of more than 25°C during the cleaning process.
- greasy, oily or sooty substances can be removed with aromatic free benzene hydrocarbon contents as well as residues of glue, silicon rubber or adhesive tape. This kind of dirt should be removed promptly.

After each cleaning process the surface should be rinsed with clear water immediately, in order to avoid a long exposure time and the concentration of the cleaning detergent by evaporation of the containing water.

Warning notices

It is also important to follow the following warning notices:

- do not use abrasive cleaning detergents (polish) or scratching cleaning aids (steel wool)
- do not use acid or superalkaline cleaning detergents
- do not use organic solvents which contain ester, ketone, alcohol, aromates, glycol ether, halogenated hydrocarbons or anything similar
- never use cleaning detergents which contain unknown ingredients
- do not rub the surface too strong as it might change the gloss level

When in doubt, the effect of a cleaning detergent as well as of the cleaning aids should be tested on a sample panel where the different incidence of light should be viewed and examined on reams (e.g. smut of dirt).

Reference

Further references on cleaning of aluminium panels can be achieved by

- Aluminium-centre advisory and information service, Duesseldorf
- Association for the cleaning of metal facades, Nuremberg
- American Architectural Manufacturer's Association, USA

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CLEANING OF THE REAR SIDE

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Dirt

The dirt on the rear side of the panel is similar to the dirt on top of cupboards or pendant lamps. Generally it does not have any influence on the functioning of the cooling and heating process.

Depending on the use of the room, movement of people, supply of fresh air and spatial geometry the extent of dirt and its distribution vary. A general statement on the frequency and intensity of cleaning is therefore not meaningful. Both rather comply to the individual cleaning requirements and accordingly security regulations with regard to the use of the room.

Cleaning

With a suitable brush extension for the vacuum cleaner, the rear side of the panels can be vacuumed.

According to the height of the hanging and the distance to the wall or neighbouring ceilings it is wise to hinge out the ceilings for better accessibility. In general this can not be done by normal cleaning staff as one has to consider the hinge mechanism, the weight of the ceiling panel as well as the direction of the opening. The safety ropes and service pipes should also be not harmed during the hinge out. It might be necessary to adjust the ceilings again later on.

Acoustic fleece – applied optionally – is not water resistant and can not be wet cleaned. Too strong rubbing can harm the fleece and should therefore be avoided.

Air discharge unit

For air discharge units mounted onto ceiling panels applies the VDI-guideline 6022 on mechanical ventilation plants. An air conditioning plant is rated as clean, when surfaces touching the air are well-swept and no moisture can be measured. Therefore periodic technical inspections and maintenance are necessary. Also a hygiene control at short notice (self-monitoring) by the operating staff and additional hygiene controls by experts (monitoring from outside) should be conducted.