

replaced using the materials supplied. Any damage to the gasket or beads may necessitate replacement to retain the weather performance of the product. (Refer to Supplier)

## 5. GLASS QUALITY AND VISUAL INSPECTION

Stand in the room no less than 2 metres away from the IGU and look directly through them.

- For toughened, laminated or coated glasses, stand no less than 3 meters away.
- Do so in natural daylight, but not directly towards the sun and with no visible moisture on the surface of the glass.
- Where it is not possible to stand at the right distance then stand as far away as you can from the IGU.
- Exclude 50mm wide band around edge of the glass from the check.
- Glass must be viewed at 90 to the window

What to expect when viewed as described Flat transparent glass, including laminated or toughened (tempered) or coated glass is acceptable if the following are neither obtrusive nor bunched:

- bubbles or blisters
- fine scratches not more than 25mm long
- minute particles.

The obtrusiveness of blemishes is judged by looking through the glass, not at it, under natural light. It must be understood that the glass used in double glazing is a processed glass, and so as a consequence, blemishes are to be expected.

Insulating glass units with optical defects such as smears, finger prints or other dirt on the cavity faces of the glass, or extraneous material in the cavity are unacceptable, except in some cases where small particles of desiccant can be seen.

Toughened glass may show visual distortions which are accentuated by reflections in double glazing. Such surface colourations and patterns do not indicate a change in physical performance.

Laminated glass may have a few more blemishes due to it being made of several layers.

Low emissivity coating may produce transient visual effects. In some lighting conditions the coating may look like a transparent film or produce a haze, ie a cloudy look to the surface. When light coloured objects such as net curtains are placed close to the glazing they may look slightly darker.



## CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE (ALUMINIUM)

a) In areas within the direct influence zones of salt water, industrial chemical plants, blast furnaces or other aggressive emission sources, the window should be cleaned at least every three months. In a relatively cleaner environment every six months should be sufficient.

In carrying out regular maintenance outside, the internal surfaces are frequently neglected. After a period of time, grime and deposits from tobacco smoke, coal and oil fires, etc., can discolour the inside of the window frame

and it is recommended that these should be cleaned at least once per year.

- b) Procedure
- (i) Wash down with clean warm water containing a non-alkaline liquid detergent (in a concentration which can be handled safely with bare hands) using a non-abrasive cloth, sponge or soft bristle brush. This will remove grime, grease and any excess chalking. All ridges, grooves, joints and drainage channels where salt or other deposits can collect should be well washed out, thus preventing corrosion sites from occurring!

- (ii) Rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- (iii) Dry using a soft cloth or leather.

c) Where a reduction in gloss is observed, chalking is evident or excessive staining has occurred, then an approved renovating cream may be carefully applied with a nonabrasive cloth.

Note: T-Cut or similar automotive paint restorer may be used provided it is not too abrasive!

Care must be taken not to abrade sharp corners of section or aris of beads too heavily where the paint film is normally thinner, and it should be remembered that this operation should not be carried out too frequently. Polish with a soft cloth to restore gloss and colour uniformity

d) For extra protection a wax polish can be applied once or twice a year again polishing with a soft cloth to restore glass.

### **(PVC-U)**

PVC-U profile, whether white self finish or woodgrain laminated, requires minimal maintenance. Occasional cleaning with soap and warm water is all that is normally required.

The laminated woodgrain effect finish is resistant to normal household agents, e.g. ammonia water, petrol, alcoholic drinks (←45% vol alcohol),

non-abrasive cleaners and water. It is not resistant to organic solvents, paint thinners and removers which is also applicable to white self finish material.

## **2. REPAIR (ALUMINIUM)**

a) Blisters and corrosion sites may originate from areas where mechanical damage or scratches have penetrated the paint coating through to the aluminium, or from cut bar or butt ends, mitres, drill holes or drainage slots, where the aluminium is unprotected (see part 3c).

b) Procedure:

- (i) Use fine grade 120-360 grit abrasive paper to remove corrosion products and any non-adherent paint.
- (ii) Wipe with white spirit or approved cleaning solvents.
- (iii) Ensure surface is absolutely dry before applying a thin priming coat. Allow 20-30 minutes to 'flash off' using a fine brush.
- (iv) With a fine brush again, touch in the damaged and primed area with an air drying paint. It should be recognized that the air drying paint will not possess the same weathering properties as the stoved organic coating, but nevertheless will give a reasonable amount of protection. Their use should of course be confined only to small areas of damage.

### **(PVC-U)**

In the event of an incident causing damage to the surface area of the profile then:-

a) For white self finish profile, use 400 grade fine paper. Jif or similar household cleaner can be used to remove small scratches and dents, working on the damaged area using a circular motion until indent is removed. Finish polish with Jif and sisal brush.

b) For wood grain laminated finish use suitable touch-up paint to camouflage scratch.

## **3. POINTS TO BEAR IN MIND WHEN SPECIFYING ORGANIC COATED ALUMINIUM**

a) No organic paint coating, whether polyester or acrylic (or indeed if the substrate if PVC-U) is 'maintenance free' and that especially when installing in coastal districts or areas with high industrial pollution, advice should be given at the time of installation regard the frequency and nature of cleaning maintenance needed.

b) Modern organic finishes which we apply to architectural aluminium are practically identical to the types used on motor vehicles and therefore require a similar degree of care and attention which people typically lavish on their car bodywork. The frequency of cleaning relates directly to the decorative standard which the householder wishes to maintain and

also the particular environment where the units are situated.

c) All paints 'chalk' to some extent in service and a reduction in gloss level will occur.

The original finish can be easily restored using the procedure in 1c.

### **1 REPLACEMENT OF DAMAGED COMPONENTS**

If damage occurs, the furniture and fittings can be readily replaced by releasing the fixing screws and changing the fitting.

### **2. WINDOW HARDWARE MAINTENANCE**

The friction stays and locking mechanisms should be lubricated periodically to minimize wear and to ensure smooth operation.

Care should be taken to avoid applying lubricant to the friction pads as this will impair their braking action. The resistance of the pads can be adjusted, if necessary, with the brass screws provided in each pad.

### **3. DOOR HARDWARE MAINTENANCE**

Hinges and locking mechanisms should be lubricated periodically to minimize wear and to ensure smooth operations.

### **4. REPLACEMENT OF BROKEN GLASS**

Windows and Doors can be re-glazed and the gaskets and weatherstripping