



Qualanod recommendations for cleaning and maintaining of anodized aluminium

General

A simple maintenance programme based on a realistic appraisal of local conditions ensures a maximum useful life for anodized structural components at reasonable cost.

Brief recommendations are given below.

Interior applications

Interior parts can normally be kept clean by wiping them periodically with a soft cloth. If they have not been cleaned for some time, a neutral cleaning fluid and soft cloth can be used, followed by rinsing in clear cold water. They can then be polished with a soft, dry cloth to make them look like new.

Exterior applications

In practice, the frequency with which structural components exposed to the atmosphere should be cleaned depends on the kind of parts and the aggressiveness of the environment.

For external architectural applications where the decorative appearance and protective function are particularly important e.g. porches, entrances, shop fronts, etc., weekly cleaning is recommended. In this case, i.e. with regular cleaning, it is possible to use clean water and chamois leather and then wipe the parts down with a soft dry cloth.

Window frames, windowsills and facades should be cleaned regularly, the frequency depending on the aggressiveness of the environment and the construction of the facades. This is best done with a neutral, synthetic cleaning fluid and a cloth, sponge, chamois leather or soft brush. Then rinse with clear water and rub slightly to dry.

Stubborn dirt can be removed with slightly abrasive cleaning agents or bonded fibres covered with fine neutral polishing powder.

If a preserving agent is applied to the structural components after cleaning, care should be taken that only an extremely thin water repellent film remains. This should not yellow, not attract dust and dirt nor have iridescent effects. Waxes, Vaseline, lanolin and similar substances are not suitable.

Multi-purpose cleaners should meet the same requirements.

Soda solutions, alkalis and acids should always be avoided. Abrasive materials, metallic cloths, wire brushes, etc. should never be used.