



## Reynolux® coil-coated aluminium

### Maintenance guidelines

Arconic's coil-coated aluminium and aluminium panels all come with similar coatings designed for high-range aesthetic appearance and minimum maintenance.

We do recommend cleaning the surface to maintain the best appearance. The act of cleaning comprises all dirt-removing operations, which aim at restoring the surface's original appearance as far as possible, as well as preventing the prolonged presence of aggressive agents found in the atmosphere (which can cause corrosion or permanent stains).

Although cleaning is a costly operation, the financial value of this operation must be compared with the value of the facade, both in terms of aesthetics and protection.

These recommendations intend to assist architects, contractors, owners, building managers, etc., who are concerned with the care and maintenance of painted, architectural aluminium. The information contains suggested methods as support to establish safe cleaning and maintenance procedures for an outdoor application: from roofs to facades.

**CLEANING FREQUENCY:** A frequent and regular cleaning is recommended. The frequency depends on the aggressiveness of the atmosphere in the area where the painted element will be used (building's geographical location, local soil type, weather, pollution, air conditions, etc.) coupled with the owner's attitude regarding the surface appearance.

**As a general rule,** the aggressiveness of the atmosphere on coil-coated aluminium depends on two main factors: degree of humidity (i.e. the length of time humidity stagnated on the surface) and pollution (i.e. the presence in the air of industrial fumes (especially sulphur dioxide), coal, etc.).

**SAFETY:** personal safety and protection is the top priority. Always ensure that protective equipment is worn: eye and skin protection, boots and gloves. Be aware of your surroundings.



#### A. General guidelines before cleaning

The act of cleaning should be done on a mild, cloudy day and always starts with the mildest cleaning method first. If unsure, test the cleaning agent and method in an inconspicuous area and always follow manufacturer recommendations for mixing and diluting cleaners. Do not apply cleaner where you cannot rinse immediately prior the chemical drying.

• **Choice of equipment:** The cleaning should be manual or using special machines. If automatic wall cleaning equipment is to be used on a building, please follow the manufacturer's instructions. A test should be made on an inconspicuous area before cleaning to insure that the procedures will not have detrimental effects on the coating.

• **Choice of products and relative usage guidelines:** Cleaning agents depend on the site location and on the degree of contamination. Only water based mild cleaning agents should be used for cleaning coil-coated aluminium and aluminium panels. The wrong detergent can indeed affect the substrate, as well as the protective of the layer, and thus cause irreversible damages to the facade. In cases where the facades are soiled with non-water soluble dirt, solvents may be the only effective cleaning alternative.

#### EQUIPMENT – Do NOT use:

Steel or wire wool, abrasives, or anything likely to abrade or scour the painted surface

Dirt	Product to use	How to use this product
Water soluble	Water rinse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use moderate pressure combined with a physical rubbing with soft, wet brushes, sponges or cloth.</li> </ul>
Non-water soluble	Mild detergent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If safe for bare hands, should be safe for coated aluminium.</li> <li>Use with brushes or sponges.</li> <li>Rinse with water and dry.</li> </ul>
	Stronger detergent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should be spot tested and could necessitate appropriate gloves.</li> <li>Same use as the one above.</li> <li>Rinse with water and dry.</li> </ul>
	Mild solvent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Follow the manufacturer recommendations.</li> <li>Should be spot tested.</li> <li>Use appropriate protective equipment.</li> <li>Use a clean cloth to apply and remove.</li> <li>Wash the remaining residue with a mild detergent, rinse with clear water and dry.</li> </ul>

#### PRODUCTS – Do NOT use:

- Acid or alkaline detergents
- Organic solvents
- Detergents of unknown chemical composition
- Cleaners that contain abrasives
- Bleach



**ARCONIC**  
Innovation, engineered.

## B. Cleaning

Make sure that the detergent and the facade are “cold” (max. 20 °C) and not exposed directly to the sun. The washing operation must be carried out gradually, from bottom to top. However, it is important to know that excessively frequent cleaning (or excessive rubbing) can do

more harm than good. You also should never mix cleaners as it can result in poison gas emission. Follow the guidelines according to the selected products above.

## C. After cleaning

Surfaces must be carefully and systematically rinsed with clear water, working from top to bottom, in order to remove the cleaning product residue. Wipe dry if possible. The excess of rinsing water must be dried

off with a sponge, squeegee or wash-leather, to remove the minerals residues from the rinsing water.

### Finishing touches and touch-up:

This procedure is specific for repairing very small areas, which were damaged during erection or handling, like scratches or minor defects. Minor scratches can be retouched with air-drying paint and an artist brush. Minor deformations can be corrected with car body filler prior painting. However, we recommend testing on a standard size sample before undertaking any large scale coating process. For bigger surfaces, please contact your Arconic sales representative.

- ✓ Surface must be clean, dry and free of contaminants.
- ✓ Wash down with a mild detergent solution.
- ✓ Rinse with clean water and make sure that all cleaning agent is removed.
- ✓ Dry carefully.
- ✓ Clean lightly the small area with a cloth impregnated with Xylol or Toluol.
- ✓ Wait for drying.
- ✓ Ambient air and surface temperatures should be above 10 °C.
- ✓ Prepare touch-up paint following the supplier advice on the instruction leaflet.
- ✓ Apply touch-up paint delicately with a small artist brush on the prepared surface.

## Cleaning of graffiti on anti-graffiti coil-coated surface

The cleaning of graffiti applies to spray paint and permanent marker. The graffiti should be removed as soon as possible after application. High-pressure cleaning is the only way to remove graffiti from surfaces. The surface can also be re-cleaned with a neutral cleaning agent and a soft cloth or sponge. In any case rinse away cleaning chemicals with liberal amounts of tap water. Wipe dry the surface with a soft leather or cloth. Follow the table above if there are remaining residues.

### EQUIPMENT – Do NOT use:

.....  
Steel or wire wool,  
abrasives, or anything  
likely to abrade the  
painted surface

### More information

- Technical coatings brochure
- Anti-Graffiti technical datasheet
- Online demonstration video in the innovation heading [www.arconicarchitecturalproducts.eu](http://www.arconicarchitecturalproducts.eu)



Reynolux®: EN 15088  
0036-CPR-M-081-2014



**ARCONIC**  
Innovation, engineered.

## Arconic Architectural Products

2, rue Marie Curie  
68500 Merxheim, France  
Tel. +33 3 89 74 46 00

[Reynobond.Service@arconic.com](mailto:Reynobond.Service@arconic.com)

[Reynolux.Service@arconic.com](mailto:Reynolux.Service@arconic.com)

[www.arconicarchitecturalproducts.eu](http://www.arconicarchitecturalproducts.eu)