

Multiwall Polycarbonate Care and Maintenance Guidelines

This document covers the care and maintenance of the following polycarbonate sheet products:
Multiwall Polycarb®
arcoPlus®

General Polycarbonate Cleaning Guidelines

- Never use abrasive or high alkaline cleaners on any multiwall polycarbonate products
- Do not leave cleaners on multiwall polycarbonate for extended periods of time. Rinse immediately with cold, clean water.
- Do not apply cleaners in direct sunlight.
- Never use sharp objects, squeegees or razors on polycarbonate.
- Do not clean with gasoline.
- Always practice safety first and never step directly on a polycarbonate panel.
- Always test cleaners in a small inconspicuous area prior to cleaning entire panel to insure against adverse results.
- Avoid allowing the pressure washer spray tip to come too close to the panel. Pressure washers often have enough pressure at the spray tip to penetrate or tear the panel.
- Avoid dry cleaning, as sand and dust particles clinging to the exterior of the panels may scratch the surface.
- Avoid cleaning the interior surface of POLICARB with AF, as the effectiveness of the anti-condensate coating can potentially be diminished, depending on cleaning method or material used.

General Cleaning Instructions for all Products Listed at Left

All of the multiwall polycarbonate products listed at left can be easily cleaned utilizing a soft sponge or cloth made from 100% cotton using lukewarm water and a mild dishwashing detergent. All surfaces should then be rinsed with cold water and dried with soft cotton cloth to reduce water spotting. In some instances this procedure may be inadequate and will require the use of additional cleaning agents. The agents listed below have all been approved for use at room temperature:

- Methyl alcohol
- Ethyl alcohol
- Butyl alcohol
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Heptane
- Hexane
- Petroleum ether (BP 65°)
- VM&P Naphtha

As is the case with all thermoplastic materials, certain chemicals can cause structural as well as surface damage and precautions need to be taken to avoid any aggressive cleaning agents. Should you desire to use a cleaning agent not on the approved list, please contact a multiwall representative to inquire about chemical compatibility.

Specific cleaning instructions for large roofing and wall applications Multiwall polycarbonate products used for large commercial roofing and wall applications can be cleaned in the same fashion as mentioned previously; sometimes, due to the sheets physical installation location, different cleaning apparatus need to be utilized. When polycarbonate products are installed in such applications, utilization of a pressure



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washer with a fanned nozzle and mild detergent can assist in removing dirt buildup, algae and mold from the panels. This also eliminates the need to step directly on panels while attempting to clean unreachable areas.

Another method of cleaning large structures requires the use of a long-poled, car or RV washing pad. First, soak the panels with a mild soap and water solution, then proceed to scrub the panels with the car washing pad. Finish with a clean, cold water rinse.

