

Care and Maintenance of Metal, Painted and Membrane Finishes

The proceeding techniques are merely guidelines to be used for care and cleaning of panels that are provided with a finish from Interlam. Always use common sense and test a small inconspicuous area for desired results before attempting to clean an entire panel or wall of panels.

Metal Finishes:

- Gloves **must** be worn at all times during handling, installing and cleaning of panels with a Metal Finish. A variety of tarnish removers and metal polishes are available online and at many major hardware stores that can be used to clean and polish Bronze, Tin, and Copper Metal Finishes. Follow the instructions provided by the manufacturer. It is important that after any cleaning or polishing that the surface is coated with a high quality wax for protection and to aid in slowing down natural oxidation and tarnishing.
- Rusty Steel Finish may be lightly dusted with a soft, dry cloth or vacuumed with a soft brush attachment. It is not recommended to use a damp cloth or any solvent. This may cause the finish surface to smudge and streak with undesirable results that cannot be reversed.

Painted Finishes:

- Gloves are recommended to be worn during handling, installing and cleaning of Antiqued, Metallic Paint, Oxy, Tortoise Shell, Customer Specified and Clear Finishes.
- Lacquer based paint finishes may be dusted with a soft, dry cloth. Never use oiled or treated cloths. A damp (not wet) cloth may be used to clean lacquer finishes followed by drying with a soft dry cloth. Clean the surface by gently rubbing in the direction of the grain. A mild soap may be mixed with water to dampen the cloth. Avoid using any products that contain silicone or harsh detergents.
- Water based paint finishes may be dusted with a soft, dry cloth. Never use oiled or treated cloths. A damp (not wet) sponge is recommend to spot clean areas to be cleaned followed by drying with a soft dry cloth. Never let the panel air dry. Clean the surface by using a sponge to gently blot the area(s) to be cleaned. A mild detergent may be mixed with water to dampen the sponge. Never use a wiping motion with unnecessary pressure. This may cause streaking and “slick” spots in the finish.

High-gloss and Non-gloss Foils:

- Gloves are recommended to be worn during handling, installing and cleaning of High-gloss and Non-gloss Foils – also known as Membrane Finishes.
- Membrane Finishes may be dusted with a soft dry cloth or vacuumed with a soft brush attachment.
- A damp (not wet) cloth or sponge may be used to clean the surface followed by drying with a soft dry cloth or sponge.
- A spray type furniture polish may be used after cleaning to remove any streaking and enhance the color of the membrane – especially in wood grains.