

## Cleaning recommendation for IGP powder coating pearl-mica

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IGP polyester „Perlglimmer“ powders comprise essentially saturated polyester resins, the appropriate hardener, light, heat and weather resistant pigments, plus special pearl lustre effect pigments. The utilised pigments are mainly mica particles coated with metal oxides. These are small, thin flakes with smooth surfaces which in the melting phase of the powder, align themselves parallel to the workpiece surface and effectively reflect the incident light.

With respect to the cleaning of surfaces coated with „Perlglimmer“ effect, we recommend for Germany the „Gütegemeinschaft Reinigung von Fassaden e.V.“ (GRM),

[Quality association cleaning of facades] whose members work according to the quality directives of RAL-GZ 632. These decide on the use of cleaning agents for the case in question and following prior testing.

The corresponding recommendations for Switzerland are detailed in the represented „EMPA-SZFF directive 61.01“. (EMPA= Eidgenössische Material-prüfungsund Forschungsanstalt; [Federal materials testing and research institute] SZFF= Schweizerische Zentralstelle für Fenster- und Fassadenbau) [Central Swiss authority for facade and window construction]. We recommend periodic upkeep cleaning D (10.4).

### EMPA-SZFF directive 61.01, 10.4 Figure 12, Upkeep cleaning

Cleaning-Class	Soiling / item, group	Cleaning steps	Remarks
D Periodic upkeep cleaning	Components not requiring special care treatment. Light soiling and/or low aesthetic demands.	Wash with abundant water. Clean with wetting agent and sponge. Wash off and dry.	Interval 1 to 2 years, depending on the degree of soiling and aesthetic demands.

Further information is contained in the Aluminium Data Sheet A5 „Cleaning of Aluminium in the Building Industry„ of the Aluminium Centre. Generally recommended here is annual cleaning. Stated here under 5.1.2, with respect to heavy soiling is: „Unsuitable for cleaning plastics-coated surfaces are highly alkaline or acidic, also abrasive substances which attack the coating chemically or mechanically. This applies especially to effect coatings as abrasive cleaning destroys the effect pigments anchored parallel to the surface.