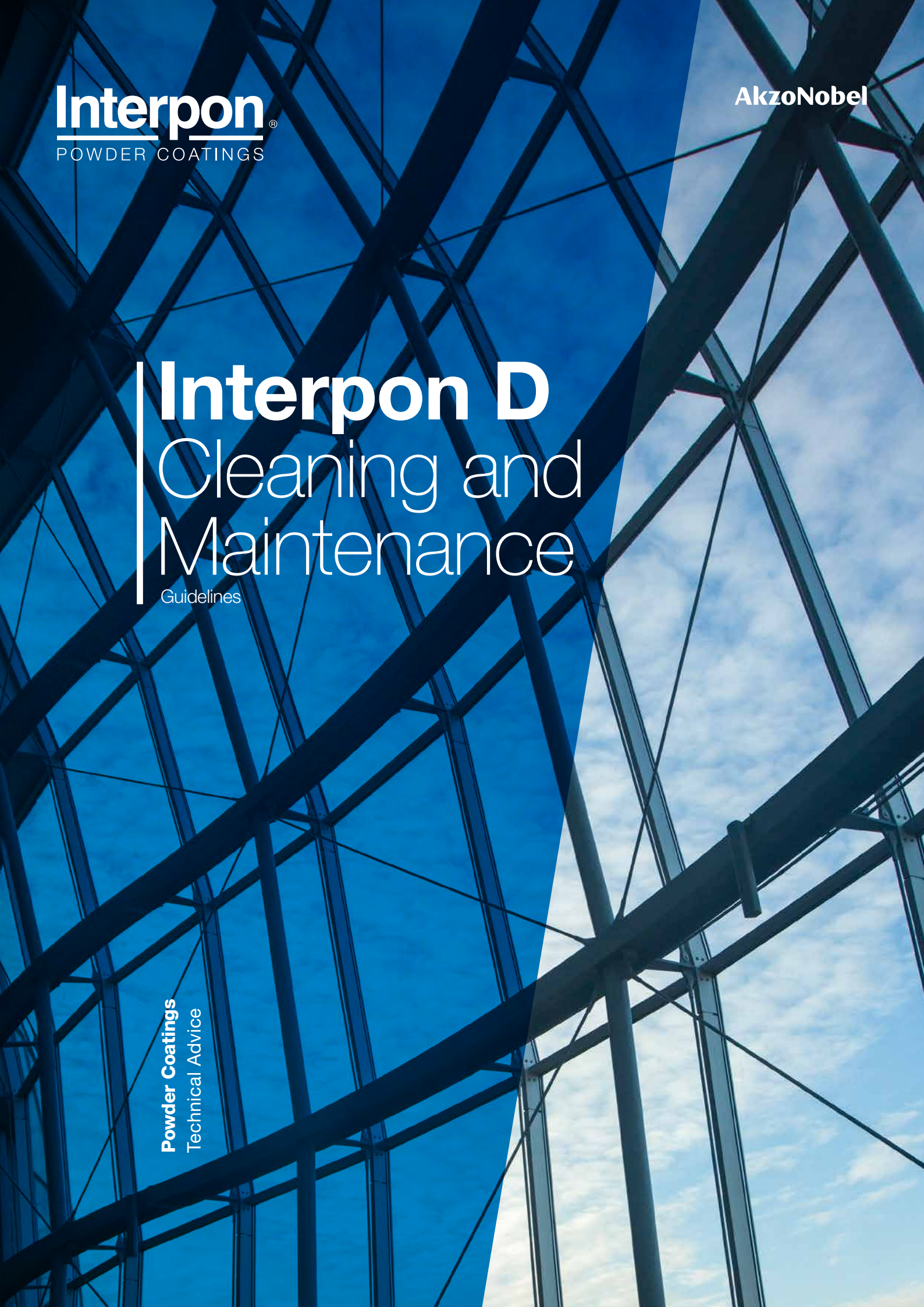
Interpon®
POWDER COATINGS

AkzoNobel

Interpon D Cleaning and Maintenance

Guidelines

Powder Coatings
Technical Advice



Maintaining the good looks of your powder coated products is just like caring for your car – and is a smart way to protect your investment.

Over time with exposure to the elements, powder coatings may show signs of weathering such as loss of gloss, chalking and slight colour change. A simple regular clean will minimise the effects of weathering and will remove dirt, grime and other build-up detrimental to all powder coatings.

Cleaning coated surfaces

Cleaning should start at the time the products are installed, ensuring that construction materials such as concrete, plaster and paint splashes are removed before they have a chance to dry. Failure to remove these materials at this early stage will require the use of aggressive cleaning materials and techniques with potential damage to the powder coated surface.

Method

The best method of cleaning of Interpon D products is by regular washing of the coating using a solution of warm water and non-abrasive, pH neutral detergent solution. Surfaces should be thoroughly rinsed after cleaning to remove all residues. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth or sponge or nothing harsher than a soft natural bristle brush. Cleaning of powder coated sections can be conveniently carried out at the same time as window cleaning.

If the project is subject to any hazardous unusual environmental factors, or is close to salt water, an estuary or marine environments then Akzo Nobel must be consulted on an individual project basis.

Renovation can be required in the case of heavy soiling (due to lack of maintenance). It is then recommended to consult a specialized company.

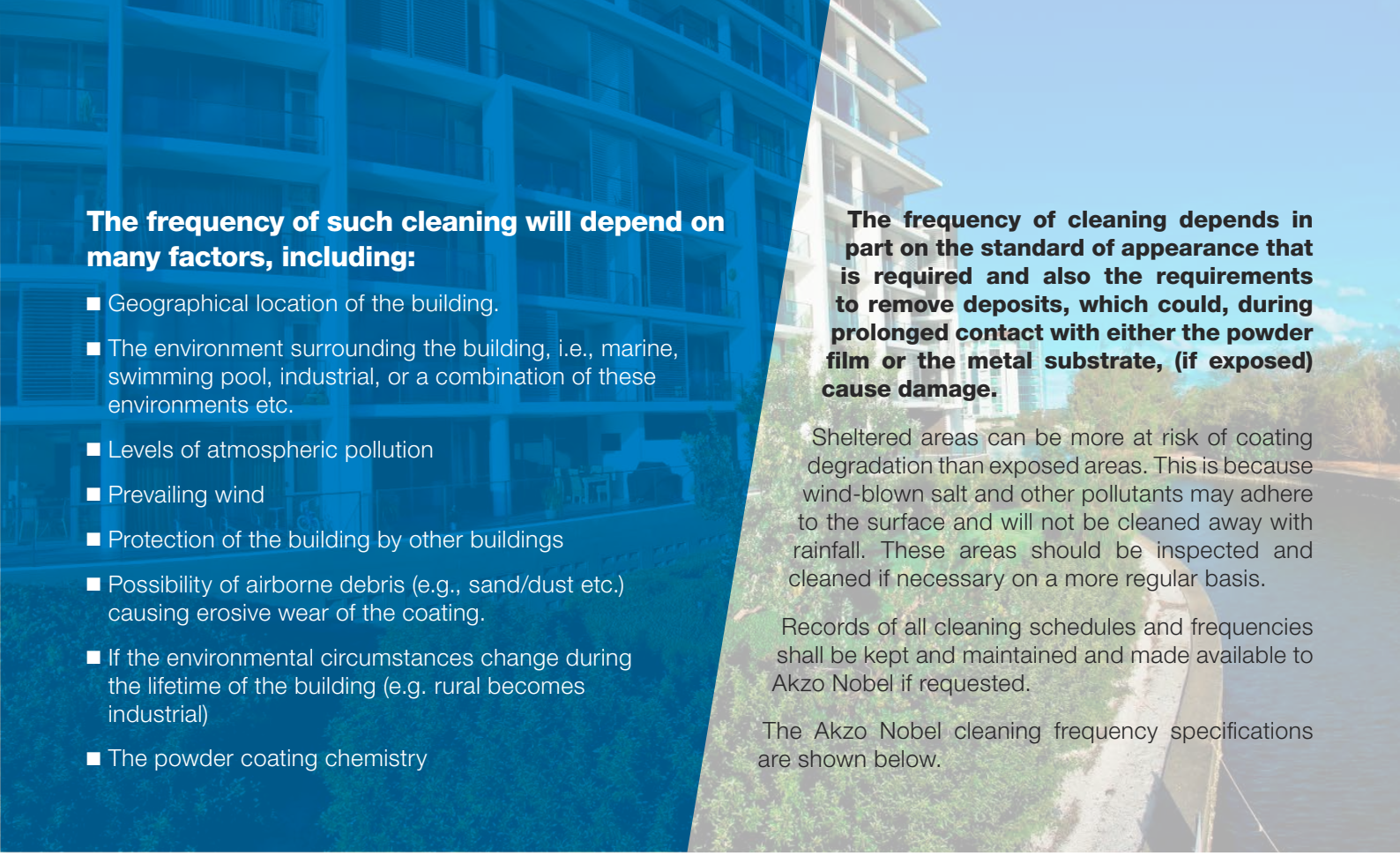
Cleaning products

Before cleaning, attention must, without exception be paid to the cleaning agent's datasheet and the applicable guidelines of the various associations:

- GRM
- Qualicare
- AMRAL

Usual maintenance can be done using water with mild detergent (pH 5 to 8).
If the atmospheric pollution has resulted in heavy soiling of the coating, some stains or marks may require stronger domestic products. In such cases, they should always be diluted, and small inconspicuous test areas cleaned first.

In no circumstance should any abrasive cleaner or polish, or any cleaner containing ketones, esters be used.



The frequency of such cleaning will depend on many factors, including:

- Geographical location of the building.
- The environment surrounding the building, i.e., marine, swimming pool, industrial, or a combination of these environments etc.
- Levels of atmospheric pollution
- Prevailing wind
- Protection of the building by other buildings
- Possibility of airborne debris (e.g., sand/dust etc.) causing erosive wear of the coating.
- If the environmental circumstances change during the lifetime of the building (e.g. rural becomes industrial)
- The powder coating chemistry

The frequency of cleaning depends in part on the standard of appearance that is required and also the requirements to remove deposits, which could, during prolonged contact with either the powder film or the metal substrate, (if exposed) cause damage.

Sheltered areas can be more at risk of coating degradation than exposed areas. This is because wind-blown salt and other pollutants may adhere to the surface and will not be cleaned away with rainfall. These areas should be inspected and cleaned if necessary on a more regular basis.

Records of all cleaning schedules and frequencies shall be kept and maintained and made available to Akzo Nobel if requested.

The Akzo Nobel cleaning frequency specifications are shown below.

Global Cleaning Recommendation

Climate		Temperate and Arid			Tropical		
Environment		D1000 series	D2000 series	D3000 series	D1000 series	D2000 series	D3000 series
Normal - C3 Inland		12 months	18 months	24 months	9 months	15 months	18 months
Marine - C4 Coastal	2000 to 5000m from coastline	12 months	18 months	24 months	9 months	15 months	18 months
	500 to 2000m from coastline	6 months	9 months	12 months	6 months	6 months	9 months
	50 to 500m from coastline	3 months	6 months	9 months	3 months	3 months	3 months
	< 50m from coastline	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Industrial – C5I	2000 to 5000m from source of pollution	12 months	18 months	24 months	9 months	15 months	18 months
	500 to 2000m from source of pollution	6 months	9 months	12 months	6 months	6 months	9 months
	50 to 500m from source of pollution	3 months	6 months	9 months	3 months	3 months	6 months
	Less than 50m from source of pollution	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
Swimming Pool	Greater than 2m from edge of pool	3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months	3 months
	2m from edge of pool	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available

Type of Climate	Temperature Range	Temperature Range Highest Temperature with RH ≥95%
Temperate	-33OC to 35OC	25OC
Arid		
Warm Arid	-20OC to 40OC	27OC
Extremely Warm Arid	3OC to 55OC	28OC
Tropical	5OC to 40OC	33OC

For more detailed definitions of environment and climate please refer to ISO9223

Cleaning of Brick and Concrete

Chemical Cleaners

The cleaning solutions used on both brick and concrete contain strong chemicals that can cause damage to the powder-coated surface. All exposed powder-coated surfaces should be fully protected.

If any such solutions or chemicals come in contact with the powder-coated surface, wash immediately with copious amounts of water.

Prolonged exposure can cause discolouration of the film, loss of gloss and damage to the coating surface.

Abrasive Blasting

The cleaning of concrete or brick by using abrasive shot blasting must be carried out in such a way that all structures coated with powder coating must be fully protected.

The abrasive medium will strip the powder coating from the metal substrate.

Only protective tape with a low tack and approved by the suppliers of the protective tape for use on Powder Coatings should be used.

Low Tack Tapes

These tape should be removed after a period not exceeding six (6) months. If further protection is required new tape should be applied.

Any residue from the tape should be removed as soon as possible.

Do not use scrapers, abrasive papers or similar items to clean the area as this may damage the surface of the powder coating.

Water and a small amount of mild detergent may be used to clean the surface of the powder coating.

Where it is absolutely necessary a small amount of white spirit may be used followed by cleaning with water and mild detergent.

WARNING: Do not under any circumstances use strong solvents or solutions containing: Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Esters, Ketones or abrasive cleaner or polish

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