

RAIL CARE GUIDE

Powder Coated Stainless Steel & Aluminum Products

Powder coated stainless steel and aluminum products cannot be regarded as completely maintenance free. Low maintenance depends largely on the proper cleaning immediately after install and the proximity to saltwater.

The Atlantis Rail NOVA II and Spectrum cable rail systems are made of high quality, powder coated aluminum and stainless steel respectively. Both materials hold up very well in harsh environments such as, oceanfront and commercial environments. Incidental saltwater exposure will cause corrosion to any metal including aluminum and 316L stainless steel if not kept reasonably rinsed off and cleaned. Both metals will hold up in these environments very well given an appropriate amount of care. Depending on the specific location and environmental conditions, maintenance may be as infrequent as once or twice a year, or once every few months.

AFTER INSTALL, CLEANING & GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Initial Cleaning - Immediately After Install

It is extremely important to not walk away from the install until you thoroughly clean your new railing. Cleaning should only be done with a mild car wash soap. We recommend Meguiar's Deep Crystal. You need to use a two-pronged approach to achieve appropriate cleaning. Initial washing is necessary to remove all foreign matter from the powder coated surfaces including oil from tools and hands. This will ensure the long-term integrity of the protective powder coating.



1. Work one section at a time, no more than 20 foot lengths.
2. Rinse the railing thoroughly and remove any visible foreign matter including labels. Power washing is an excellent rinse, but not necessary.
3. Recommended: In a handheld spray bottle or garden sprayer, fill with fresh water and add 1 oz. of car wash soap per gallon (or equivalent for small sprayer). Seal and shake contents.
4. Immediately spray the soap and water mixture generously on the railing.
5. In a bucket of warm water, add car wash soap in the ration of 1 oz. per gallon.
6. Wipe down the railing with a soft rag or sponge saturated in the soapy water from the bucket. (Do not use abrasive or textured cleaning pads).
7. Thoroughly rinse the railing with clean fresh water.

If additional work (construction, painting, etc.) is taking place in close proximity to the railing, take care not to use any cleaners on work areas that may damage the powder coating and expose the aluminum or stainless steel. Wash and rinse the railings with fresh water often to maintain a clean surface. If potentially damaging cleaners are splashed on the railing, you must completely repeat step one. Acids are very damaging to powder coated surfaces. If you know acids or strong chemical have come in contact with the railing, you must immediately wash your railing to prevent damage to the powder coating.

MAINTAINING YOUR POWDER COATED ALUMINUM & STAINLESS STEEL CABLE RAILING SYSTEM

Extra Care in Working (Construction) Environments

Working environments create aggressive conditions. Proper cleaning must be done immediately after installation of an Atlantis Rail product and should be repeated as often as needed if there is long exposure to working environments. Cleaning must be done immediately after exposure. Leaving a new installation without cleaning and then exposing it to a working environment will cause a high potential for corrosion. Be very mindful of the kind of work taking place around your cable rail systems. Chemicals to clean paint or epoxy are particularly damaging.

Work Site Cleaning Solutions, Beware!

Most simple household cleaning solutions, when used in accordance with their makers' instructions, are safe for incidental contact, but if used incorrectly, they can cause discoloration and damage the protective powder coating. Strong acid and chemical solutions (e.g. hydrochloric acid, muriatic acid, methyl ethyl ketone or "spirits of salts") are sometimes used to clean masonry, tiling and heavy paint cleanup, but they should never be permitted to come into contact with your railing system. It is safe to assume that anything you would not clean the aesthetic surfaces of a fine automobile with should not come in contact with your cable rail systems. If contact of such a corrosive solution should happen, the solution must be removed immediately by copious water flushing and cleaning with a mild automobile (car wash) detergent. Anything containing a harsh acid or chemical coming in contact with powder coated material will potentially cause reactions that can lead to corrosion.

Use of Fasteners with Powder Coated Aluminum and Stainless Steel

All fasteners should be 316L stainless steel if possible. Mixing carbon steel and plated fasteners will cause corrosion where they meet the stainless steel. Nearby steel items, either attached to or over hanging, can cause corrosion to spread. Mixing metals can cause "electrolysis" to occur, creating corrosion.

Saltwater Environments

We recommend frequent cable rail washing in saltwater environments to prevent buildup. The main elements that cause environmental buildup are salt, dirt and Iron. The typical color of environmental buildup ranges from light brown to a reddish tint due to a combination of salt and Iron. The cable railing needs washing when buildup is visible. Proximity to saltwater is a major factor in how fast environmental deposits will buildup and how frequent washing will be needed. The closer you get to saltwater, the greater the frequency of washing! Just like maintenance cleaning for windows, cars, boats and powder coated metal components, washing may be required every 2-3 months to keep your cable rail systems looking like new.

TOUCH-UP PAINT



Atlantis offers touch-up paint in the colors of our powder coated posts and rails to hide any scratches or blemishes caused during installation or while in use. Use touch-up paint sparingly and do not try to cover large areas. It is only intended to cover small blemishes or to touch-up exposed cut ends on fabricated parts. It can also be used to color-match screw heads. See our touch up paint video at: atlantisrail.com/product-videos/. Carefully mask or protect the surrounding areas and then apply the touch-up paint.

RAIL CLEANING KIT



We now offer a Rail Cleaning Kit for your convenience. The kit consists of a polishing cloth and soap.

Keep your railing looking new with Atlantis Rail's Rail Cleaning Kit!

Rail Cleaning Kit Includes:

- (1) 4 oz. Bottle of Car Wash Soap
- (1) Microfiber Polishing Cloth
- (1) Rail Cleaning Instructions