

CARE AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE

Balustrades & Fences | Louvres | Screens & Architectural Aluminium | Canopies & Awnings

Thank you for choosing Altech Systems

Your Altech Systems product has been designed and manufactured to provide many years of reliable performance. Regular cleaning and maintenance are essential to preserving its appearance, functionality and long-term durability

Maintenance Responsibility

Unless expressly stated otherwise in writing, the ongoing care and maintenance of your Altech Systems product is the responsibility of the property owner.

Failure to carry out the recommended maintenance procedures may affect the appearance and performance of the product and may invalidate applicable warranties.

Altech Systems products are primarily manufactured from:

- Powder-coated aluminium
- Anodised aluminium
- Stainless steel fixings and hardware
- Toughened or laminated architectural glass (where applicable)

These materials offer excellent durability and corrosion resistance; however, they require routine cleaning and maintenance to ensure they continue to perform as intended throughout their service life.

Why Maintenance Matters

Environmental contaminants such as:

- Salt spray
- Airborne dust
- Industrial pollutants
- Tree sap
- Bird droppings
- Fertilisers

- Building residue

can accumulate on aluminium, glass and stainless steel surfaces over time. Regular cleaning removes these contaminants before they can affect the finish.

Recommended Cleaning Schedule

Environment	Cleaning Frequency
Interior applications	Every 6–12 months
Rural	Every 6 months
Urban	Every 3 months
Coastal (within 1km of the sea)	Monthly fresh water rinse, plus full clean every 3 months
Industrial / High pollution	Every 1–3 months

Products installed in harsh coastal or industrial environments require more frequent maintenance.

Aluminium Components

Powdercoated Aluminium

Powder-coated aluminium should be thoroughly washed using warm water and a mild pH-neutral detergent (such as dishwashing liquid).

Cleaning Frequency

- Every 6 months in normal environments.
- Every 3 months in coastal environments.

Cleaning Procedure

- Rinse loose dirt with fresh water.
- Wash using a soft cloth or sponge and warm soapy water.
- Rinse thoroughly with clean water.
- Dry with a clean microfibre cloth where practical.

Repairs

If chips or scratches are observed in the powder-coated finish, they should be repaired promptly using an approved touch-up paint or spray kit. These are available from Altech Systems or your local powder coating supplier.

Please note that some colours, particularly darker reds, blues and other deep shades may experience greater levels of colour fading over time due to UV exposure.

Anodised Aluminium

Anodised aluminium should also be cleaned using warm water and a mild detergent.

Cleaning Frequency

- Every 6 months in standard environments.
- Every 3 months in coastal environments.

Avoid abrasive cleaners, steel wool or aggressive chemicals which may damage the anodised finish.

Glass

Glass panels should be cleaned using warm soapy water or a quality glass cleaner.

Cleaning Frequency

- Every 6 months in standard environments.
- Every 3 months in coastal environments.

Use only soft cloths or squeegees and avoid abrasive pads or blades that may scratch the glass surface

Stainless Steel Components

Stainless steel fixings and fittings should be washed during routine cleaning of the aluminium system.

In coastal or marine environments, ensure all salt deposits are regularly removed by rinsing thoroughly with fresh water.

If tea staining or surface corrosion is observed, clean the area using an appropriate stainless steel cleaner before rinsing thoroughly.

Inspection & General Maintenance

During routine maintenance, inspect your Altech Systems product for:

- Loose fixings
- Damaged seals or gaskets
- Blocked drainage holes
- Chips or scratches in the finish
- Signs of impact damage
- Smooth operation of moving parts (where applicable)

Any issues should be addressed promptly to prevent further deterioration.

Signs of Corrosion

Any unusual corrosion or surface deterioration may first appear as a white, powdery residue or "chalking" on the aluminium surface.

1. Thoroughly clean the affected area.
2. Apply a light protective corrosion inhibitor such as a CRC® corrosion protection spray or an equivalent product.
3. Monitor the area during future maintenance.

If the chalking is significant, persists after treatment, or if corrosion continues to develop, please contact Altech Systems for further advice.

Cleaning Products to Avoid

To protect your Altech Systems products, never use:

- Abrasive cleaners
- Steel wool
- Scouring pads
- Bleach
- Acidic or alkaline cleaners
- Solvent-based cleaners (unless specifically recommended)
- High-pressure water directly onto seals, joints or moving components

Warranty

Regular maintenance forms an important part of the ongoing care of your Altech Systems products.

Failure to carry out the maintenance outlined in this guide may reduce the performance and appearance of the product and may affect warranty coverage.