

Care and maintenance instructions for ISOFAN MARINE

Description

An adequate maintenance programme for ISOFAN MARINE finishes helps maintain the shine of the boat for a long time. The marine environment is challenging for the durability of finishes due to the simultaneous presence of humidity, salt residues and UV rays. This manual aims to provide practical advice that can help maintain the brilliant appearance of the finishes for a long time.

Washing

Wash the surface regularly with fresh water to remove salt accumulations and traces of dirt. Use only soft, non-abrasive cloths or washing gloves, do not use abrasive brushes or sponges: micro-abrasions reduce the shine and retain dirt.

If necessary, due to accumulated dirt, use **neutral pH detergents** specific for painted finishes; washing must always be followed by an abundant rinse with fresh water. If rinsing is not carried out well, detergent residues accumulate on the surface, thus favouring the adhesion of dirt.

To remove salt or limestone stains, you can use a **1:1 solution of warm water and white vinegar**, then wash with a neutral pH detergent and rinse.

At the end of rinsing, **dry the surface** with a chamois leather or water trowel, do not allow water to evaporate spontaneously; the accumulations of limestone or sea salt stain the surface and are abrasive with subsequent washes.

Stubborn stains

It might be necessary to intervene on particularly resistant stains: for this purpose, it is always good to have a gradual approach by carrying out tests in low visible areas. We recommend using SM800 DEGREASER that has an excellent action on "greasy" substances or combustion stains. We recommend using a soft wet cloth and do not allow the solvent to evaporate from the surface but remove it with a dry cloth; the operation can be repeated several times until the stain is softened. Alternatively, it is possible to use less aggressive solvents (white spirit).

It is necessary to absolutely avoid using solvents that can irreparably ruin the finish. Among these we mention polyurethane thinners, nitro thinners, acetone, alcohol, M.E.K.

Polish application

With the passing of time and wear the finishes get aged and the regular application of POLISH helps keep the surface intact by restoring the protective barrier of the film. The application can be repeated several times a year.

After thorough washing, apply 00908 SILICONE FREE POLISH or 3M™ Perfect it™ ultrafine if a light patina forms on the surface: after a few minutes it must be removed by hand with a cotton pad. It is also possible to remove it by machine at low speed with a special non-abrasive soft pad. In this phase, maximum cleanliness is recommended, as any trace of residual dirt on the surface would scratch it, making the operation counterproductive.

Spot repair

Isofan Marine finishes can be retouched by specialized personnel through the fade-out technique. The possibility of obtaining an invisible retouch must be carefully evaluated, the blending area must be large enough to be able to end up in low visible areas.

The area adjacent to the repair must be prepared to degrade with P1200/P1500/P2000 fine abrasive papers / Scotch Brite or suitable matting pastes. The overspray of the outer edge can be reduced through the use of 00744 Fade out blender.

Once the touch-up is completed, dry the finishes according to the technical data sheet and proceed with polishing.

Polishing

Polishing polyurethane finishes is to be considered an extraordinary maintenance operation to be carried out occasionally and only by specialized personnel.

The sanding and polishing operation removes a surface layer of paint, thus reducing the protective thickness; the reduction of the barrier effect and the presence of any residual micro-abrasions of the film can compromise its appearance and durability.

Particular attention must be paid to curved surfaces, in the presence of edges where excessive thickness could be removed locally.

If it is essential to carry out polishing to restore the appearance of some areas of the boat, use fine P1500-P3000 Trizact grit papers (wet), followed by a double pass with mordant paste and then polishing.

Always use clean pads as recommended by specialized companies that indicate to use together paste and pad - see polishing process with 3M™ colour code or polishing process PDS 823 ISOFAN MARINE.

At the end of polishing, the application of a POLISH is always recommended.

Medium colours created with one-coat finishes can be critical (Greys, Greens): the removal of the surface layer can cause a colour change. For this reason, it is always recommended to carry out a test in a low visible area or on a test panel.

ISM5-6 Basecoat two-coat finishes overcoated with SM400 Clearcoat are polishable.

The ISOFAN MARINE ISM1 and ISM2 one-coat finishes are polishable.

ISOFAN MARINE ISM3 one-coat finishes are not polishable.

What must be avoided

Avoid using abrasives on the surface.

Avoid excessive accumulation of dirt on the surface, wash regularly.

Avoid direct contact of the finishes with highly acid products (e.g. Teak whiteners, metal polishing products) which can stain the finishes irreparably.



At the end of the metal polishing operations (cleats, stanchions, cable glands, etc.) it is always necessary to wash and rinse the polished metal parts; any acid residues on the surfaces could leach onto the finishes and scratch them.

Avoid direct contact of the finishes with plastic sheets, nylon, cellophane, or technical fabrics; always leave a space that allows the finish to "breathe" - any accumulation of humidity with direct contact could lead to the appearance of bubbles or delamination of one of the paint layers.

Avoid direct rubbing with fabric.

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