

Care and Maintenance Instructions

for Alexseal[®] Premium Topcoat 501

- 1. Introduction**

With proper care and maintenance, Alexseal[®] Premium Topcoat 501 will withstand the harsh marine environment. After application, it is important to maintain a yacht's exterior surface by keeping it clean and protecting it. Follow these care and maintenance recommendations thoroughly for best results.
- 2. Washing**

Rinse down the paint surface with clean fresh water every time the boat is used to remove salt spray and dirt. A water softener may be needed to overcome hard water spots. A buildup of hard water spotting can be confused with premature dulling of paint. A reverse osmosis water supply may also be used to minimize water spotting.

The paint surface should be washed once a week using a mild detergent with a neutral PH formulated specifically for paint finishes. Some detergents will strip waxes & protective sealants off the surface. These should be avoided. Check the detergent label.

Do not use abrasive brushes, pads or cleaning agents on paint. These will scratch and dull the finish. Use only soft clean wash mitts and brushes that are specifically designed for washing painted surfaces.

Dry the surface to prevent water spots. Wherever possible, dry the surface with a quality towel, chamois and / or a wiping blade. This will eliminate water spots.
- 3. Sealing and Protecting**

It is recommended to apply a high quality wax or polymer sealer designed for surfaces painted with polyurethane at least 2-3 times per year. This will act as a sacrificial coating that will protect the paint and can dramatically improve the coatings life expectancy.
- 4. Important Notes**

Many companies manufacture products for sealing and protecting painted surfaces. Only use products that are specifically designed for surfaces painted with polyurethane. These products should not contain abrasives or caustic chemicals.

Do not let moisture/water collect or be trapped between a Polyurethane Topcoat and plastic film, shrink wrap, hardware, seat cushions, or wet fabric. Polyurethane topcoats should not be continuously submerged under water. Moisture/water held against a Polyurethane Topcoat even for a few days can result in bubbles forming in the Polyurethane Topcoat.
- 5. Removing Stains**

Remove stains from a polyurethane finish as soon as possible. Some stains can actually etch the surface of the paint and embed into the coating. If a stain cannot be removed with a mild detergent during the washing process, solvents may be used to loosen the stain. Always start with mild solvents such as Mineral Spirits, VM & P Naphtha or Denatured Alcohol. Harsher solvents such as Acetone and Lacquer Thinner should only be used as a last resort. After removing the stain with solvent, wash the area with a mild detergent and clean water to remove all solvent residues.
- 6. Removing Salt Residue**

Remove dried salt residue by washing the surface with a warm water and white vinegar solution. Dilute the white vinegar 1 : 1 with warm water and wash the surface. When finished, rewash the surface with a mild detergent and clean water.
- 7. Detailing**

Many surfaces on a boat will require minor detailing over time. This might include removing mild overspray, light dust and tape lines from repainted panels or polishing an aged surface to temporarily restore the luster. When such areas need detailing as part of the initial application of the coating or periodically over time to repair fine scratches, use a protective wax or polymer sealer to help maintain the gloss in detailed areas. Detailing must be done by an experienced applicator either by hand, or slow speed polishing machine, using an applicator pad recommended by the product's manufacturer.

Professional Use Only

Page 1 of 2

The information contained in this data sheet is based on our level of research and development. Revisal by the user with regard to the intended aim is necessary due to the diverse processing and application possibilities. revision 2016

