

RAIL SYSTEMS

**ATLANTIS RAIL Contact Information:** 

**Atlantis Rail Systems** 

70 Armstrong Road Plymouth, MA 02360 3900 Civic Center Drive
North Las Vegas, NV 89030

2 (800) 541-6829 or (508) 732-9191

**温 (508) 732-9798** 

www.atlantisrail.com

# RAIL CLEANING KIT

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

The Atlantis Rail systems frameworks are made from either high quality, powder coated aluminum or stainless steel. Cable infill components are made of marine grade 316L stainless steel. Both materials hold up very well in harsh environments such as, oceanfront, poolside and commercial environments given the appropriate amount of care.

# **CLEANING YOUR RAILING SYSTEM**

It is extremely important not to walk away from the installation until you thoroughly clean your new railing! Cleaning should only be done with a mild car wash soap. Initial cleaning is necessary to remove all foreign matter from the stainless steel and powder coated surfaces including oil from tools and hands. This will ensure your stainless steel components have immediate exposure to Oxygen to continue the development of a strong Chromium Oxide Passive layer.

# **Directions for Cleaning:**



Fill the scrub brush soap dispenser with car wash soap



Dip the scrub brush into a bucket of warm freshwater



Scrub cable, fittings and framework (rails & posts) to clean off dirt, oils and contaminants



Rinse clean with fresh water



Use microfiber cloth to dry



WARNING: DO NOT USE grill cleaners, household stainless steel cleaners, ceramic cleaners, Barkeepers Friend, Lacquer Thinner, acids, industrial cleaners, etc. DO NOT USE strong acid and chemical solutions (e.g. hydrochloric acid, muriatic acid, methyl ethyl ketone or "spirits of salts") which are sometimes used to clean masonry, tiling and heavy paint cleanup of buildings, but they should never be used. 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 rail system.

# **ROUTINE RINSING WITH FRESHWATER**

Oxygen and fresh water are stainless steel's best friends. The protective layer of stainless steel that makes it hold up to the elements is Chromium Oxide. 316 Stainless steel is approximately 16% Chromium and its reaction to Oxygen creates a Chromium Oxide Passive layer only tens of nanometers in thickness. Keeping stainless steel clean and free of corrosives by flushing with fresh water is essential in the first month after installation. Establishing a good Chromium Oxide Passive layer is essential to having a long-lasting stainless steel railing. In harsher environments, more routine rinsing may be necessary. When additional cleaning is required, you may use any car wash soap that is available in an auto parts store or market. The rule to follow is that you do not want to use any cleaner that you would not use on the finish of your favorite car.

### **GENERAL CARE**

### **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 railing system and protect it if possible. Chemicals to clean paint or epoxy are particularly damaging to stainless steel.

### Work Site Cleaning Solutions, Beware!

Most simple household cleaning solutions, when used in accordance with their makers' instructions, are safe for incidental contact with stainless steel, but if used incorrectly, they can cause discoloration and corrosion on the surface of stainless steel by affecting the protective elements of the metal. 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 railings. If contact with 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 stainless steel or powder coated material will potentially cause a corrosive reaction.

#### Use of Iron Tools or Cutting in Proximity of Stainless Steel

The use of bare Iron tools such as crescent wrenches, pliers, channel locks and Allen wrenches should be avoided. If such tools are used, the Iron deposits, though not visible, will rust and potentially cause the stainless steel in contact with it to rust. Use tools with chrome plating. Cutting anything with a power saw in proximity of your railing will contaminate the area causing Iron particles to be airborne, rusting wherever they land. Grinding will also have the same effect. Any contaminated surfaces should be treated with copious water flushing and cleaning with a mild automobile (car wash) detergent.

#### **Saltwater Environments**

In saltwater environments, we recommend electropolishing all components and using specialized stainless steel tubing. This additional process is not a guarantee against discoloration, but it does provide the greatest protection for your stainless steel system. The treatment is relatively low cost for most systems. If you are on the ocean front, please entertain the electropolishing process.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS**

A clean, freshly machined and polished stainless steel part will acquire a protective oxide layer from exposure to Oxygen in the atmosphere. Under ideal conditions, this protective oxide film completely covers all surfaces of the part and improves with exposure to the air (Oxygen). In actual practice, however, contaminants such as dirt and dust carry particles of Iron that may be transferred to the surface of the stainless steel parts. If not removed, these foreign particles can reduce effectiveness of the original protective oxide layer and cause surface discoloration if not occasionally washed off.

During the installation, a microscopic amount of free Iron may be worn off tools and transferred to the surface of the stainless steel parts. Under certain conditions, a thin coating of oxide (surface discoloration) may appear on the part. This is corrosion of the Iron deposits from tools or contaminants, and not corrosion of the stainless steel. If left untreated, the particles of Iron may become embedded and cause an attack on the part itself. If you see work going on adjacent to your property or see other hazards in the area such as big storms, you should at least clean the railing with fresh clean water.

## **MAINTENANCE & PROTECTION**

To protect your investment, we offer a Rail Care Kit for routine maintenance. This comprehensive kit provides everything needed to "Clean, Polish & Protect" your railing system for years of service. Keep your railing looking new with Atlantis Rail's Rail Care Kit (E0100-K000).

#### Rail Care Kit Includes:

- · Bottle of Car Wash Soap, 4 oz.
- Scrub Brush with Soap Dispenser
- · Cup of Metal Polish, 6 oz.
- Small Scrub Brush
- Microfiber Polishing Cloth
- Aerosol Can of MX4 Lanox Protectant Spray, 300g

