PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCEAND CLEANING OF INOX STAINLESS STEEL.

Stainless steel is preserved using commercially available products for the maintenance of ground and polished surfaces.

List of types of contamination of stainless steel surfaces based on their environment.

contamination type	environment	cleaning products (ready products)
cement and mortar	construction site	solution with a small amount of phosphoric acid, then water (best demineralised)
fingerprints	daily use	water with soap or detergent, products for cleaning glass (without chlorides)
oil and grease	industry	alcohol-based products (such as methylated spirit of isopropylalcohol), solvents such as acetone, products for cleaning chrome-plated components
paint	industry	alkaline or solvent-based paint removers

Recommendations and guidelines:

The following can be used:

1) Stainless steel with a mirror finish (polished) can be cleaned using products intended for cleaning glass. Only products without chlorides.
2) After cleaning, remove any remaining residue with water (preferably demineralised) and dry in order to avoid smudges and water marks.
3) Tools: cloth, chamois leather, nylon sponge

Do not:

1) Do not use scouring powder to clean stainless steel as it may scratch the surface.
2) Do not use diluted hydrochloric acid, bleach, and products intended for cleaning silver or removing mortar.
3) Do not use carbon steel wire brushes, steel wool, steel scouring pads.

Supplementary information:

Alcohol-based products, including methylated spirit and isopropyl alcohol, and solvents such as acetone do not reduce the anti-corrosion properties of stainless steel.

Steel dust resulting from processes such as welding, cutting, drilling, and grinding carbon steel rusts very rapidly on stainless steel surfaces.

The frequency of cleaning stainless steel components should be determined on a case-by-case basis, depending on their wear and contamination. Such cleaning should be scheduled in a way so as to reduce the risk of corrosion of the stainless steel components. We recommend cleaning every 12 months for low contamination and every 6 months for high contamination.