



IGU CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE

● Introduction

A few regular maintenance tasks will help ensure the long term durability of your Insulated Glass Units.

● Drainage

Regular checks of the frame drainage system are recommended to ensure drain/weep holes in the joinery are clear and free from obstruction at all times. Insulating Glass Unit failure may occur if free flowing drainage is not present at all times.

● Glazing Gaskets and Flashings

Check that glazing gaskets and flashings remain in place and have not become dislodged or shrunk excessively. Dislodged gaskets can allow excessive water into the glazing pockets, and allow direct light onto the sealant surface, causing premature Unit failure.

● Cleaning

Cleaning agents and chemicals should be compatible with the sealants used in the IGU.

Normal glass cleaning instructions apply, with care taken not to expose the edge seal of the Units to chemicals.

- The glass surfaces of the unit should be cleaned every three to six months, with more frequent cleaning advisable in dirty/dusty environments, and during construction.
- Normal washing or cleaning compounds can be used and these include warm water and mild soap or liquid detergents, and proprietary glass cleaners.
- Never use solvents, alkaline cleaners or harsh abrasive cleaners. If you have glass staining, consult the Unit manufacturer for advice.
- Soak the glass surfaces with clean water and a mild soap or detergent solution to loosen dirt or debris.
- Use a soft, clean, grit free cloth, sponge or brush to wash the glass with a mild non-abrasive window washing solution. Try not to wash in direct sunlight.
- After washing, rinse with clean water and use a grit free squeegee or cloth to remove excess water.
- The glass must be dried, otherwise water droplets may become alkaline or evaporate, leaving dissolved minerals on the glass that can cause surface staining.
- Take special care when cleaning reflective glass surfaces and always try a small area first, using the above procedures.
- The cleaning of Units incorporating toughened glass requires special care. The glass surface opposite the Standards compliance stamp may, as a consequence of the manufacturing process, have 'pickup' on the surface. 'Pickup' is a deposit of very small particles of glass which are fused to the glass surface. A cleaning method which does not dislodge these particles should be employed otherwise scratching of the glass surface may result. Blades or scrapers have been known to dislodge 'pickup' from the glass surface. A soft cloth, which will not dislodge 'pickup', should be used.

WARNING!

Insulating Glass Unit failure may occur if solvents come into contact with edge sealant.

Refer to IGUMA Data sheet "Sealant Compatibility" & "Care of Toughened Glass".