

LEADING

THE PACK!



TUBULAR STEEL FENCING & GATES

**Maintenance Guide for Powder
Coated Surfaces and Warranties**





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INTRODUCTION

At Bluedog Fences Australia we pride ourselves on our quality product. Our range of tubular steel fencing products are manufactured from premium grade steel. All fencing products are powder coated in-house using state of the art pretreatment and powder coating processes in strict accordance with Australian Standard AS4506.

It is important that your tubular fencing and gates are maintained in accordance with the correct procedures to ensure your fence lasts for many years to come. This document has been developed for that purpose.

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INTRODUCING THE 10 YEAR

WARRANTY ON OUTSTANDING FABRICATION



INTRODUCING THE 10 YEAR

BARRIER AGAINST RUST & KINKS WARRANTY



CARE & MAINTENANCE OF YOUR BLUEDOG FENCE COATING

Powder coating is one of the most durable colour coatings available and with very little effort on your behalf, will provide many years of excellent service. Maintaining the integrity of your powder coated products is just like caring for your car – and is a smart way to protect your investment. Over time with exposure to the elements, powder coatings may show signs of weathering such as loss of gloss, chalking and slight colour change. A simple and regular clean will minimise the effects of weathering and will remove dirt, grime, and other build-up detrimental to all powder coatings.

The frequency of such cleaning will depend on many factors including the:

- Geographical location
- Environment surrounding e.g. marine, industrial, alkaline or acidic, etc.
- Levels of atmospheric pollution including salts.
- Prevailing winds and the possibility of air borne debris causing erosive wear of the coating e.g. sand causing abrasion.
- Protection of part or all the fence by other buildings.
- Change in environmental circumstances during the lifetime of the building e.g. if rural became industrial.

Regular pruning of trees, particularly eucalypts, which drop dirt and grime on the fence and careful mowing around to avoid throwing dirt and grass clippings on the fence is also recommended.

Standard powder-coating is from the **Interpon D1000 Excel Range**.





POWDER COAT CLEANING PROCEDURE

Cleaning should start at the time the products are installed, ensuring that construction materials such as concrete, plaster and paint splashes are removed before they have a chance to dry. Failure to remove these materials at this early stage will require the use of aggressive cleaning materials and techniques with potential damage to the powder coated surface.

The best method of cleaning is by regular washing of the coating using a solution of warm water and nonabrasive, pH neutral detergent solution. Surfaces should be thoroughly rinsed after cleaning to remove all residues. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth, sponge or a soft natural bristle brush.

Excessive build-up of dirt, salt deposits and other material on this type of fence can increase moisture retention and the potential for corrosion of the fencing product. The frequency of cleaning depends in part on the standard of appearance that is required and also the need to remove deposits that could cause damage during prolonged contact with either the powder film or the metal substrate (if exposed).

The classification of exterior environments is as defined in AS4312-2008. In environments with very high corrosivity levels, such as industrial or marine, the normal frequency of cleaning should be at a minimum of six monthly intervals.

Sheltered areas can be more at risk of coating degradation than exposed areas. This is because wind-blown salt and other pollutants may adhere to the surface and will not be cleaned away with rainfall. These areas should be inspected and cleaned if necessary on a more regular basis.

Where the atmosphere is deemed to be nonhazardous, e.g. rural or 'normal' urban environments, then the period between cleaning can be extended up to a maximum of 24 months depending on the coating selection. However, if heavy soiling occurs more regular cleaning is required.

Category (AS4312)	Corrosivity Level	Environmental Type	Required Cleaning
C1 & C2	Very Low & Low	Non-hazardous Environment	Every 12 months
C3/T	Medium	Typical Environment	Every 12 months
C4	High	Swimming & Leisure Pools / Light Industrial	Every 6 months
C4	High	Coastal Environment	Every 6 months
C5-M	Very High	Beach Front / Marine	Every 3 months
C5-I	Very High	Heavy Industrial Environment	Every 3 months



GRAFFITI REMOVAL: INTERPON D1000 EXCEL RANGE

To protect the powder coat surface, do not use strong solvents, abrasive cleaning products or those products that are recommended for thinning various types of paints.

If you need to remove paint, sealants, or mastics from your fence, you can use white spirits. When using white spirits, cleaning should be carried out in the shade and during cooler temperatures using a soft cloth and gentle wiping only.

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you test the cleaning agent on a non-visible surface of your powder coated products prior to use to ensure that no colour change or damage occurs.

WARNING: Strong and abrasive household cleaners and solvents such as those recommended for thinning various types of paints such as MEK or paint thinners are harmful to powder coating and must not be used for cleaning purposes under any circumstances. Acidic, alkaline, or alcohol-based cleaning products should not be used either.

If white spirits are not successful in removing graffiti we recommend you apply a new matching coat of paint to cover the graffiti using the touch up paint supplied with the Maintenance Pack. For large areas of graffiti, we recommend you purchase paint and apply it by hand with a brush or roller.

WARRANTY



PRODUCT WARRANTY

Bluedog Fences Australia warrants the structure of its fencing and gate products for a period of 10 years. The structure of fencing and gate products sold to our customers will be free from manufacturing defects. Powder Coatings are covered by a separate warranty below.

Terms & Conditions of Product Warranty

- 1.0 Bluedog Fences Australia provides a warranty that the product is free from manufacturing defects for a period of 10 years, subject to the conditions outlined in Clause 1.1. If a manufacturing defect is identified and reported to the Seller within 10 years of delivery (timeliness is essential), the Seller will, at their discretion, either repair the defect or replace the product. The warranty conditions are as follows:
 - a) The warranty does not cover any defects or damage resulting from:
 - ii) The buyer's failure to properly maintain the goods;
 - iii) The buyer's failure to adhere to the instructions or guidelines provided by the seller;
 - iv) Use of the goods for purposes not specified in the quote or order form;
 - v) Continued use of the goods after a defect becomes apparent or should have been apparent to a reasonable user;
 - vi) Normal wear and tear, accidents, or acts of God;
 - vii) Scratching, abrasion, chipping, or any damage caused by impact, accidents, or misuse;
 - viii) Deterioration of the metal substrate due to oxidation or rust;
 - ix) Excessive condensation or foreign matter, such as dust or animal excrement;
 - x) Normal weathering, including loss of gloss and color on painted surfaces;
 - xi) Damage from chemical agents, fumes, liquids including reclaimed/bore/highly mineralised water, or solids;
 - xii) Installation of the product within 1 km of marine or industrial environments.
 - b) The warranty does not cover:
 - i) Labour costs for removing or repairing the defective product or for installing a replacement;
 - i) Injury to persons, damage to property, loss of income, profit, or any indirect losses related to the defective product.
 - c) The warranty will be void if the product is repaired, altered, or overhauled without the Seller's consent.
 - d) The Seller is not liable for any delays in replacing or repairing the Goods or in assessing the Buyer's claims.
 - e) This warranty does not cover aesthetic surface corrosion, including oxidation and red rust on any products.
- 1.1 For goods not manufactured by the Seller, the warranty will be the current warranty offered by the manufacturer. The Seller's liability is limited to the specific terms set out in the manufacturer's warranty.

POWDER COATING WARRANTY



Bluedog fences are finished in products from Interpon Powder Coatings, the world leader in powder coatings, who have been manufacturing in Australia for over 25 years. Colors are from the Interpon D1000 Excel™ range which have been developed to withstand the harsh Australian climate. We comply with relevant Australian Standards and as such are a certified member of the Interpon Partner Plus™ quality applicator program. This means that coatings we apply to your fence have a 10-year Colour Excel™ Warranty by Interpon to ensure a lasting, quality finish.



Please find your Colour Excel™ Warranty card at Appendix 1

Appendix 1 – Colour Excel™ Warranty Card

1. Film Integrity – 10 Years

Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* powder coatings are warranted on the components not to check or crack for a minimum period of 10 Years from the date of application when applied and tested in accordance with AS4506.

2. Color Integrity – 10 Years

Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* powder coatings shall retain color integrity on the components for a minimum period of 10 Years from the date of application.

2.1 Color Retention:

When color measurements are taken across representative powder coated surfaces, Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/ D1010* powder coatings will maintain an average color consistency less than or equal to five (5) CIELAB ΔE units. *ΔE Units (Hunterlab) determines color change as calculated in accordance with ASTM D2244-85 Section 6.3. Color change shall be measured on the exposed paint surface which has been cleaned of oil, grease, dirt, chalk, oxidised film or other contaminants. Corresponding values shall be measured on the original retained batch panel.

Terms and Conditions of Warranty

Akzo Nobel Pty Limited ABN 59 000 119 424, "AkzoNobel" shall not incur any liability under this Warranty in the event that any of the following circumstances occur:

- i. Any damage to or deterioration of the coating system arising from causes beyond the control of AkzoNobel including but not limited to impact, abrasion, mechanical damage, neglect, malicious damage, fire damage, pollution, abnormal weather conditions and excessively salty environments.
- ii. Where the surface has been recoated in plant or touched up in situ for one reason or another, without the prior written agreement of AkzoNobel.
- iii. Where failure is associated with exposure of the coatings to temperatures in excess of 70 degrees Celsius, or to acid or other hazardous sources, which are damaging to powder coatings.
- iv. Where failure is associated with the use of adhesive tapes, or with the use of sealants or mastics.
- v. Where the coated surfaces have not been maintained by the property owner in accordance with the supplier's recommended care and maintenance procedures.
- vi. Damage or deterioration caused by any accident or normal wear and tear or by any default or misuse of the powder coated joinery by the property owner or any third party.
- vii. Where the metal components used in the joinery have not been powder coated by a Metaplex Accredited Applicator.
- viii. Where the fabricator/customer cannot substantiate that Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* was used.

During the Warranty Period, any change in color that may occur to the Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* film, will occur evenly over any compatible surface provided that such surfaces are exposed to an even degree of weathering.

The long-term color integrity of Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/ D1010* powder coatings depends on the degree of exposure to the natural elements and the color chosen. Where the coating is subject to pollution or a salty or coastal environment, the long-term color retention properties may be affected.

For full Terms and Conditions please refer to your Metaplex Accredited Applicator.

*D1010 Products available in New Zealand only

Certificate #: 1950

Limit of Liability:

AkzoNobel's liability shall be limited to the actual cost of repairing or replacing the defective product and such repair or replacement shall constitute the claimants' sole remedy.

Any repairs under this Warranty may only be carried out by AkzoNobel or, after consultation with AkzoNobel, by an applicator approved in writing by AkzoNobel.

Should any rectification be required it is a condition of this warranty that the Customer obtain two written quotations for the repair and submit them to AkzoNobel for approval.

AkzoNobel reserves the right to reject any or all quotations submitted for the rectification of any potential claim and may obtain an alternative quotation to cover any agreed repairs.

AkzoNobel shall not be liable:

1. Unless all claims are received in writing within 30 days of the defect becoming apparent.
 2. Unless the defective area is greater than 5% of the total coated surface area.
 3. For any further direct, incidental, special, consequential or third party claims for loss, damage or expenses, subject to any overriding law (statutory or otherwise) to the contrary.
 4. For any representation, statement or information made by or on behalf of AkzoNobel whether made prior to or after the giving of this Warranty, and its liability shall be solely derived from the terms of this Warranty, subject to any overriding law (statutory or otherwise) to the contrary.
 5. If the building is outside of the Building Code of Australia 2011 Classification of buildings and structures Volume 2 (pertains primarily to Class 1 and 10 buildings); If the building is greater than three stories in height; or if the building is less than 100 metres from any salt water or surf line.
 6. If the Warranty has not been signed by a nominated employee of the Metaplex Accredited Applicator.
- For further information please consult your fabricator.

Disclaimer: All products supplied and technical advice given are subject to the standard terms of the AkzoNobel supplying company. Copyright ©2011 AkzoNobel Pty Limited. Interpon® is a registered trademark of AkzoNobel Pty Limited. ABN 59 000 119 424.

The "Warranty Period" shall commence from the date of Interpon 200 powder coating application.

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Care and Maintenance

1. Powder coated metal components – a good choice.

Your metal components are factory pre-finished in long-lasting electrostatically applied Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* powder coatings. A combination of painstaking preparation, careful workmanship, and the latest technology have come together to bring you your powder coated metal components. Powder coating is one of the most durable color coatings available and with very little effort on your part will provide many years of excellent service. Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* powder coatings are maintainable for an indefinite period under normal environmental conditions, provided that the recommended care and maintenance practices are followed.

2. Regular washing is the key to looking smart

To maintain the good looks of your powder coated metal components, each component needs regular washing all over – not just the parts that are sheltered from the rain. Washing with a soft brush and mild pH neutral detergent followed by thorough rinsing with fresh water will ensure that substances such as airborne salts, dirt and pollutants detrimental to the longterm performance of the powder coated film are removed. Where the atmosphere is deemed to be non-hazardous such as rural or normal urban environments, cleaning must take place at least every 12 months.

In areas subject to high pollution such as industrial areas, geothermal environments or coastal environments then the cleaning frequency should be increased to every three months. In particularly hazardous locations such as beachfronts, severe marine environments or areas of high industrial pollution the period between cleaning should be reduced to monthly.

3. What to do about paint splashes

Paint splashes should be removed with fresh water immediately. Using solvents on your metal components puts it at risk of damage. If paint splashes need to be removed then White Spirits may be used provided that the surfaces are thoroughly washed with a soft brush and mild pH neutral detergent followed by thorough rinsing with fresh water immediately afterwards. It is recommended that the solvent be tested for suitability on a non-visible powder coated section prior to its use.

WARNING: Strong and abrasive household cleaners and solvents such as those recommended for thinning various types of paints such as MEK or paint thinners are harmful to powder coating and must not be used for cleaning purposes under any circumstances. Acidic, alkaline or alcohol-based cleaning products should not be used either.

Interpon Metaplex

Color and Film Integrity Warranty

Interpon Metaplex Color and Film Integrity Warranty has been developed to ensure long lasting color and film integrity performance utilising the suite of Interpon 200 / Interpon D1000/D1010* powder products. The Interpon D powder coating finish when applied by a Metaplex Accredited Applicator and supplied to you by your metal components fabricator, is warranted to perform according to AS4506.

Note: Architectural aluminium extrusions and constituent components are excluded from the Metaplex Warranty Program.

