



## CLEANING ADVICE **europan** ETER-COLOR

**EUROPAN ETER-COLOR is a pre-finished compressed fibre cement sheet used for external cladding, soffits, weatherboards, louvres, internal lining and ceilings.**

**EUROPAN ETER-COLOR is a porous product that requires special attention for cleaning.**

### 1. Production method EUROPAN ETER-COLOR

EUROPAN ETER-COLOR sheets are manufactured on a Hatschek machine and are compressed and autoclaved at high temperature and pressure. EUROPAN ETER-COLOR is then finished with a transparent yet vapour-open and water-repellent finish that gives the sheet a durable protection against weathering. We do recommend EUROPAN ETER-COLOR PRO for use in exposed and high risk areas.

### 2. General

Dust, soot, oils,... can be present in, rainwater and on surfaces and end up on the cladding of the building. If care is taken (by provision of drip-moulding, professional sealing and attention to avoid corrosion when using zinc, copper, aluminium, steel ... ) local soiling and staining can be prevented.

All facades, irrespective of the materials used, should be serviced regularly. That way, unnecessary and high maintenance costs can be avoided. When one allows soiling to stay on the surface for longer periods of time, removal and cleaning will become increasingly more complicated.

PBS Distributors provides solutions of chemical cleaning, contrary to mechanical cleaning. **Mechanical cleaning of the surface with abrasive cleaning methods (steel wool, scotchbrite, CIF...) is not allowed.**

### 3. Preparation

Before starting to clean the surface, make sure the **surface UNDERNEATH** the surface to be cleaned, is thoroughly wetted to avoid soiled water from staying on top of clean surfaces. Take care to collect cleaning water from soiling other surfaces (floor...)

A **high pressure cleaner** with a maximum pressure setting of 125 bar and a maximum water flow rate of 10 litres/min can be used. One must stay at a distance of minimum 25 cm from the surface of the sheet and aim perpendicular at the surface. No sander may be used in combination with the high pressure cleaner

### 4. Cleaning

The cleaning products and procedure depend very much on the nature of the soiling of the sheets

**4.1 For minor soiling**, washing with a mild household detergent or soft soap solution followed by rinsing with clear water. No abrasive products or tools are allowed. Use abundant water to clean afterwards.

**4.2 For permanent marker pen stains / writing on the surface**, we recommend to clean with SEA to SKY coating remover from Resene. This water-based coating remover is environmentally friendlier and safer to use than chemical strippers. Apply the product and use paper towels or sponge to remove the coating remover. A dwell time of max 15 minutes may be required. No abrasive products or tools are allowed. Use abundant water to clean afterwards.

**4.3 For alcohol-based marker pen stains / writing on the surface**, we recommend to clean with a pure alcohol solution. Apply the product and use paper towels or white rags to remove the coating remover. Do not re-use paper towels or white rags. No dwell time is required. No abrasive products or tools are allowed. Use abundant water to clean afterwards.

**4.4 For other stains and paints on the surface**, we recommend to clean with Resene Graffiti Cleaner. The product comes in spray bottles or in cans. It can be sprayed on, rolled over or wiped onto the surface. Allow a dwell time of 3 to 5 minutes. Use paper towels or white rags to remove the coating remover. Do not re-use paper towels or white rags. If the stains stay, use the procedure as described under 4.2 with SEA to SKY. No abrasive products or tools are allowed. Use abundant water to clean afterwards.

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## 5. Health and safety aspects

- Wear appropriate protective equipment.
- At all times, read the safety label of the manufacturer before using the product.
- For first aid instructions, we refer to the safety label of the manufacturer of the cleaning products.
- For the cleaning products: avoid breathing vapour, keep out reach of children, use with adequate ventilation, do not drink, some or eat while using the cleaning products.