



## **Levanté® Cleaning and Maintenance Guide**

Levanté® requires an initial clean after installation and periodic cleaning and maintenance for the lifecycle of the product. Levanté's finish possesses exceptional resistance to corrosion, discoloration and wear, and its natural beauty can be marred by harsh chemicals, rough conditions, or neglect. Marks resulting from mistreatment may be permanent, however such conditions normally affect only the surface finish and do not reduce the service life of the product.

### **Initial Cleaning after Installation**

Clean Levanté® products once material has been installed to ensure the removal of construction debris such as metal shavings, concrete, plaster, and paint before they dry. Failure to remove construction debris at this stage may cause attachment onto surface of product and may require the use of abrasive cleaning materials and techniques which has the potential to damage the finish surface.

### **Maintenance Cleanings**

Levanté® products should be regularly washed using warm water and non-abrasive, pH neutral detergent solutions. Small quantity of detergent (tablespoon) should be mixed into a bucket (3-4 gallons) of warm water. Surfaces need to be rinsed with warm water before any cleaning agents are applied. Clean in small sections to avoid drying before all cleaning agents can be rinsed. A soft cloth, sponge, or soft bristle brush can be used to clean residual debris on surface.

### **Recommended Maintenance Cleaning Schedules**

Frequency of cleaning depends on several factors: environment surrounding the building, atmospheric pollution, winds and air borne debris (i.e. sand, salt water, dirt), protection from surrounding buildings or natural features, and geographical location. Below is a list of typical maintenance cleaning schedules:

- Non-aggressive Environments: Check and Clean every 12 months
- Tropical Environments: Check and Clean every 9 months
- Chlorinated Swimming and Leisure Pools: Check and Clean every 6 months
- Marine Environments: Check and Clean every 3 months
- Heavy Industrial Environments: Check and Clean every 3 months
- Aggressive/Hazardous Environments: Check and Clean every 1 month

Cleaning should be done on a mild day and never in direct sunlight.

### **Soil Level on Levanté® product will determine how material should be cleaned**

#### **Light Surface Soil**

Always start the cleaning process from the top of the area working down or from the building working away. Surfaces need to be rinsed with warm water before any cleaning agents are applied. Use moderate water pressure to dislodge soil from surface. If soil is still visible after drying, the use of a mild cleaning agent and soft brush or cloth will be necessary. Clean surface with light uniform pressure in both a horizontal and vertical motion. Always rinse the area with warm water after a cleaning agent has been installed, making sure to remove all chemical residue.

#### **Medium Surface Soil**

If surface soil is still visible after Light Surface Cleaning, the use of a cleaning pad can assist with removal of debris. Hand scrub the surface using a wet cleaning pad with the woodgrain of the finish. After scrubbing the surface, always rinse the area with warm water to make sure to remove all chemical residue.

Use of power cleaning tools may be necessary for removal of medium to heavy surface soil. While using a power cleaning tool, the surface being cleaned must be constantly wet with clean water and/or mild detergent to provide lubrication and allow dirt to wash away. Overlap passes and clean in two directions to maximize cleaning. After area has been power cleaned, rinse area with clean warm water and scrub with a soft plastic bristle brush to remove cleaning residue. Lastly, rinse scrubbed surface with clean warm water.

Always test power cleaning and cleaning agents on a small, non-visible area initially to verify no color change or damage will occur.

### **Heavy Surface Soil**

If surface soil is still visible after Medium Surface cleaning, the use of stronger detergents or solvents may be required. Some detergents and solvents may have an adverse effect on Levanté®'s surface finish so care should be taken before using this method. Always consult the Manufacturer and test solvents on a small, non-visible area.

Always follow Cleaning Agent's Manufacturer recommendations and proper concentrations/dilutions.

After area has been cleaned, rinse area with clean warm water and scrub with a soft plastic bristle brush to remove cleaning residue. Lastly, rinse scrubbed surface with clean warm water.

### **Warning!**

Under no circumstances use strong solvents such as thinners or solutions containing Chlorinated Hydrocarbons, Esters, or Ketones. Never use aggressive alkaline or acid cleaners on finishes or cleaning agents containing Tri-sodium Phosphate, Phosphoric Acid, Hydrochloric Acid, Hydrofluoric Acid, Fluorides, or similar compounds. Cutting compounds and abrasive cleaners should never be used.

Never use excessive abrasive rubbing to remove stains. These procedures may produce an undesired change in appearance and finish.

Avoid using white spirits to assist with stubborn stains.

Avoid overspray or run-off of cleaner onto other building components. When cleaning other building components be cautious of cleaner running onto Levanté® products.

Never mix cleaning agents together. Some mixtures can be dangerous. Always rinse building components thoroughly after cleaning agents have been installed.

Some cleaning agents may be harmful to the environment. Always check the surroundings and cleaning agent's label to ensure compatibility.