

# Cleaning and Maintenance Guidelines

## Pilkington **Activ**™ Range

An insulating glass unit incorporating Pilkington **Activ**™ self-cleaning glass must be glazed with the Pilkington **Activ**™ coating to the outer surface.

Pilkington **Activ**™ Clear is a neutral-coloured self-cleaning glass with a durable coating, and through utilization of natural UV light, requires less frequent cleaning and provides clearer vision during and after rainfall compared with ordinary float glass. Also available Pilkington **Activ**™ Blue an attractive blue tinted glass that combines self cleaning with solar control, perfect for conservatory roofs, plus Pilkington **Activ**™ Neutral, a neutral dual coated glass, combining self cleaning glass with a solar control coating, ideal for conservatory roofs and verticals.

### TO ACHIEVE AND MAINTAIN THESE PROPERTIES, THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES MUST BE ADHERED TO:

1. Regular cleaning of this product should not normally be necessary. However, extended dry periods or heavy industrial pollution can cause a build up of contaminants on the coated surface. Under such circumstances, it may be necessary to simply hose down the window and let the glass dry naturally. Spraying should be conducted during the coolest part of the day and not in direct sunlight. It is best to spray from the top to the bottom in a zig zag pattern.
2. Periodically, the surface may become heavily contaminated with stubborn marks that cannot easily be removed by hosing down the window. Wherever heavy contamination occurs, the window should be hosed to remove any accumulation of dirt, cleaned with warm soapy water and a soft cloth, supplemented by a final water rinse. If necessary a non-abrasive liquid glass cleaner can be utilised. Care should be taken not to trap dirt between the cloth and the Pilkington **Activ**™ surface to prevent scratching. Pressure washers or rubber squeegees should not be used as they may damage the coated surface.
3. After manual cleaning with a soft cloth a period of reactivation may be required. This is typically 5-7 days.
4. Finger marks on the coated surface will, under normal circumstances, disappear over time. Where such marks persist, the glass should be cleaned in accordance with item 2 above.
5. Abrasive cleaners, cream cleaners and functional (e.g. anti-mist) type products must not be used on Pilkington **Activ**™, as they will damage the coated surface.
6. In geographical areas of hard water\* supply, hosing down could result in white marks or milky appearance to the coated surface, a consequence of mineral residues within the water. Wherever this occurs, it is recommended that a solvent-free detergent be added via a suitable applicator to minimise the effect.



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7. Paints or inks cannot be broken down by the coating and care should be taken to avoid paint splash and products of a cementitious nature when decorating externally. Paint spots should be removed from the glass surface as soon as possible by use of soft cloth and cleaner (methyalted spirits). The glass should be cleaned in accordance with item 2 above. See technical advice sheets.
8. Where Pilkington **Activ**<sup>™</sup> Insulating Glass Units are likely to be stained by white carbonate run-off from lead flashing (i.e. conservatory roofs), it is recommended that all lead adjacent to the glass surface is treated with patination oil or Leadshield prior to installation.
9. Care should be taken to ensure that alkali leach-out from concrete etc. does not contaminate the glass surface.
10. Under no circumstances should any metal object or harsh chemical cleaner be used to clean or otherwise come into contact with the coated surface. Steel scrapers, razor blades, steel wool, metal squeegees, rings etc. will cause scratching and may lead to permanent damage of the coating.
11. All maintenance and repairs, above and beyond basic cleaning needs, should be carried out by a recommended installer. Note: silicone should never be used in conjunction with Pilkington **Activ**<sup>™</sup>. Advice on suitable sealants is available from Pilkington.

\*If the water quality is very hard (greater than 180ppm combined content of calcium carbonate CaCO<sub>3</sub> and magnesium carbonate MgCO<sub>3</sub>), rinsing water should be softened with a domestic water softener or by adding a couple of drops of detergent (such as dishwashing detergent) to a litre of water.

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