



**KEY-LINK™**  
FENCING & RAILING

# ALUMINUM CLEANING GUIDE

Fencing & Railing (AAMA 2604)

## Aluminum Cleaning Guidelines

The following guidelines apply to American, Chesapeake, and Outlook Series railing as well as Residential and Commercial Series aluminum fence.

Maintaining the appearance of your architectural fencing and railing is a smart way to protect your investment. Over time, with exposure to elements, your fencing or railing may show signs of weathering such as loss of gloss, chalking or a slight color change. A simple regular cleaning can minimize the effects of weathering and will remove dirt, grime and other build-up detrimental to your aluminum's appearance.

The best method of maintaining the appearance of your aluminum is to occasionally wash it using a solution of warm water and a non-abrasive, pH neutral detergent solution. The surface should be thoroughly rinsed after cleaning to remove all residues. All surfaces should be cleaned using a soft cloth, sponge, or soft bristle brush. If a pressure washer is used, be sure not to exceed 400 PSI.

The following cleaners have been approved by Key-Link Fencing & Railing Inc.: 409®; Spraynine®; Simple Green®; Fantastik®; or Windex®. DO NOT clean your fence or railing with solvents such as thinners or solutions containing chlorinated hydrocarbons, esters or ketenes.

## Stainless Steel Cable Cleaning Guidelines

These guidelines apply to stainless steel cable infill in both horizontal and vertical configurations that are typically paired with the American or Chesapeake aluminum railing series listed above, but might also be used with other pairings.

Stainless steel is a corrosion-resistant material because of the protective chromium oxide film on its surface. Regular maintenance is required to keep its luster and durability. Without proper maintenance you are likely to see slight rusting or staining, especially in coastal areas. Fortunately, these small rust spots and discolorations are easy to remove.

For maintenance and stain removal: clean the cable with a rust and stain remover. Our warranty department has had great success with Boeshield's *Rust Free*® Rust and Stain Remover. Do not use mineral acids or bleaches. Once clean you may then apply a thin coating of Boeshield T-9® waterproof rust & corrosion protection.

Do not use sandpaper, steel wool, or ScotchBrite® pads to polish cable or cable fittings, as anything abrasive will take the shine off of the metal. Cloths or non-abrasive sponges work well in combination with cleaners listed above.

Periodically inspect the cable tension for safety; re-tension the cable assembly as necessary.

In any humid or coastal areas, regular application of a thin coating of Boeshield T-9 waterproof rust & corrosion protection is recommended on both the cable and fittings.

