IDC Stainless Steel Hinges are Manufactured from 201 Grade Stainless Steel Material.

Stainless steel as a material is very resistant to corrosion, however this does not mean that it is impervious to corrosion and is not “Rust / stain free”.

The corrosion resistance of any stainless product is largely dependent on how clean the product is kept, as with all materials used on door hardware IDC Stainless steel hinges must be kept clean and free from contaminants.

The corrosion resistance of stainless steel is due to a passive film of chromium-rich oxide (caused by a reaction between the chromium in the stainless steel with the oxygen in the air). If the surface is not regularly cleaned, surface deposits will prevent the process. Therefore to retain the highest corrosion resistance and aesthetic appeal it is necessary to keep the surface of stainless steel clean.

Any contamination of the surface will impair the action of the material and can affect the surface appearance of the product. Sometimes stainless steel products may develop discoloration due to environmental and installation conditions.

The following is a list of common conditions that can cause corrosion or discoloration of stainless steel and should be avoided:

• Cleaners containing Chloride – this includes bleach and any cleaners containing bleach
• Muriatic acid (hydrochloric acid) – commonly used to clean up after tile/concrete installation
• Concentrated soap residue – chemical additives will cause discoloration and some dried soaps actually look like rust
• Water with high iron content – can leave a rusty residue, especially if allowed to drip continuously
• Contact with iron materials – including steel wool, machining chips, and iron residue/dust from installation or cleaning of other steel products
• Trapped moisture between the product and another object
• Salts – contain chlorides

Regular and frequent cleaning of stainless steel door products is therefore key to preserving their appearance.

If Spots appear on the surface of the product it will not be due to the stainless steel material but will be due to impurities in the surrounding water / air or indeed to external particles that have fallen onto the surface of the product, please also ensure sufficient cleaning has taken place because if there are any cleaning agents that have not been thoroughly removed from the surface it can also create this appearance.

These Spots can be removed with non abrasive cleaners that are specifically suitable for Stainless Steel material.

Care & Cleaning

It is recommended that externally fitted Stainless Steel products are cleaned every three months to ensure the surface finish remains at its optimum and to give the product many years of trouble free service.

Where products are fitted in Harsh environments such as Swimming Pools, Coastal / Offshore application or high pollution areas / near to power stations or industrial areas that can emit atmospheric fall out, products should be cleaned periodically every four weeks.

Internally fitted Stainless Steel products should be cleaned every six months.

All Ball Bearing Stainless Steel Hinges are lubricated with grease during the manufacturing process. It is normal for excess grease to seep from the knuckle of the hinge when first used. Any such deposit should be removed with a suitable cleaning agent. Subsequent lubrication should be applied using a light lubricating/machine oil at appropriate intervals according to the application.

As part of the Maintenance procedure It is recommended that Door hardware is checked periodically to ensure that the product is operating correctly, and that all fixings are secure and adjusted as required.

Cleaning Method

Dirt, dust and any surface build up should be gently wiped clean using a soft damp cloth and warm mild soapy water only. Afterwards rinse the surface with warm clean water and dry with a soft clean cloth.

IDC products should not be cleaned using Harsh / abrasive, chemical brass cleaners, wire wool , wire brushes or scouring pads under any circumstances.

Avoid contact with sharp objects which may cut , scratch or damage the surface finish.

Failure to follow the recommendations may well result in damage to the surface finish.