

# **Care and Maintenance**

Thank you for your purchase of Aldora's products. Proper care and maintenance of the product can extend its useful life.

## Glass

Glass should always be cleaned regularly with mild soap and water. Never use razor blades or abrasive cleaners as it can damage the surface of the glass.

Should your purchase include Hurricane Resistant or Blast Resistant glass, it will feature a laminate between two pieces of glass. The laminate is susceptible to harmful vapors and can de-laminate if exposed to harsh cleaning products. In that regard, the glass should only be cleaned with a mild non-abrasive glass cleaner or mild soap and water. The cleaner should be wiped off immediately with a squeegee. Do not allow cleaning agents to collect in the glazing pocket. Cleaning should not be done in direct sunlight. Razor blades or other metallic cleaning tools should never be used on glass.

Should your glass composition include a coated performance glass, take particular care to not allow any metal surface to come into contact with the coating. A scratch in the coating will affect not only visibility but the performance of the glass.

#### **Aluminum Finish**

The finish provided with your Aldora product is also vulnerable to harsh cleaning agents. Only clean with mild detergents and do not let residue sit on the product. Avoid cleaning when surface is hot from direct sunlight. Remove any material from the surface as soon as possible. Mortar, exterior paints, spackles, landscaping materials, or other products can permanently damage the aluminum finish.

#### Hardware

Proper function of the latch mechanism and hinges require periodic lubrication. For best results, we recommend white lithium grease. This should be applied to moving parts every 6 months or every 3 months for coastal applications. Do not use spray on oils (WD-40) as they can "gum up" and leave a sticky residue that attracts dirt.

#### **Door Gaskets**

Door gaskets provide a seal against the elements. Should a gasket get torn or damaged it should be replaced. Gaskets are also vulnerable to harsh cleaning agents and may become brittle or cracked, limiting their effectiveness. Use only mild, non-abrasive cleaning agents around the gasket and remove any excess immediately after cleaning.

#### Sealants

Sealants are under a constant barrage of sun, weather, sprinklers, etc. and are subject to breakdown over time. Sealants should be checked every 6 months to insure the watertight properties of your Aldora product.



## **Threshold Pin Strike**

The Aldora threshold is drilled to allow the pin strike to penetrate during the engagement of the locking mechanism. The drilled hole must be kept free of debris in order to allow operation of the pin strike. If the thumbturn does not engage the lock, check the pin strike hole for debris. Do not force the thumbturn as doing so can damage the locking mechanism.

## **Post Tropical Storm Inspection**

Your Aldora product is designed to withstand the maximum pressures as stated in the product approval (NOA). However, the pressures exerted on the window or door for the duration of a tropical storm can compromise the integrity of joint fasteners and sealants. It is highly recommend that all products are inspected for sealant or joint damage after a storm. Aldora can recommend a glazing professional (installer) to assist in the inspection and re-seal where necessary. Documentation of post-storm inspections is required for subsequent warranty requests.

### **Coastal Locations**

Coastal structures are subject to continuous exposure of salt spray. In that regard, cleaning of window and door products must take place on a more frequent basis. Finished aluminum must be cleaned regularly in order to protect it against the elements. Stainless steel hardware can also show signs of corrosion if not attended to. "Mother's" car polish is a non-abrasive cleaner/protectant that can remove minor pitting and protect the hardware's finish. Lubrication of moving parts in the hardware must also occur on a more frequent basis.