

DISINFECTING WHILE PROTECTING LACQUERED METAL

With the unprecedented need for greater disinfecting of elevator button panels, handrails, and other high-touched areas, property and facility managers are facing issues brought about by the chemical interactions between disinfectants and lacquers. The strength needed from the chemicals that disinfect is also attacking the makeup of the lacquer, the protective clear coat that is applied to bronze, stainless steel, and other metals to guard against rust, corrosion and damage.

Chemicals, especially ammonia, can be particularly detrimental, especially when sprayed directly onto the lacquer, leading to streaking, a milky look to the lacquer, and eventual breakdown of the lacquer. While the need to safeguard the health of visitors and workers needing to use elevators, handrails, and other lacquered surfaces is foremost, we encourage building care teams to also be mindful of the manner in which they treat lacquered surfaces as they complete their disinfecting and cleaning efforts:

- Use a soft towel, preferably a microfiber, not paper towels or abrasive cloths that may scratch or further damage the lacquer or metal.
- Spray cleaners onto the towel and not directly on the metal. Be especially careful to not spray onto electrical components or buttons with openings to electrical components.
- Wipe gently in the direction of the grain of the metal.

If disinfecting necessities continue to cause problems with the look of your lacquered metal, please contact KC Restoration's sales team to find out about an adjusted maintenance schedule to better handle your changing needs, as well as possible lacquering options that are tailored to indoor metal, outdoor and UV light exposure, or the latest antimicrobial lacquer options for your indoor metal surfaces.



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