# Aluminum Profiles and Trims Maintenance Guide

## Aluminum Component

Under normal conditions the extruded aluminum sections are extremely durable, but the following should be considered when specifying:

- Aluminum is attacked by alkali in some mortars and plasters in wet conditions
- Electrolytic corrosion is likely when in contact with some metals, particularly copper, copper alloys, iron and steel. Although it is not affected by most timbers, corrosion is very likely when in contact with wet timber such as western red cedar, Douglas fir and oak.

## Cleaning of Aluminum Profiles and Trims

Prior to installation of the profile of trim, the substrate must be free of dust and contaminants especially if a contact adhesive is being used. Secondly, the underside of the profile must be wiped down with a cleaning agent to remove extruder lubricant and possible cutting fluid residue from manufacture. It is recommended to use Denatured or Isopropyl Alcohol on a lint free cloth and allow to dry. This enhances the adhesion bond between the substrate, metal and adhesive.

The nosing's and treads should be swept with a broom or vacuumed frequently.

To clean thoroughly, use a mild detergent or neutral floor cleaner and a cloth or mop to gentle wash down the profile or trim.

## Brass Component

Extremely durable, brass is especially suitable for marine and very harsh conditions. When specifying it should be noted that brass forms electrolytic cells when in contact with other metals, particularly aluminum, zinc and steels therefore direct contact should be avoided. Natural oxidation of the brass surface will cause a dulling of the original bright mill finish. The profiles are supplied polished and can be hard chrome plated.

**Cleaning:** Brasso can be used to shine up the brass profiles and make sure all excess is wiped away.