



# AM-CLAD OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE MANUAL

MARCH 2024

# CLEANING STRATEGY & MAINTENANCE FOR ALL AM-CLAD PRODUCTS



All products can be regularly cleaned by washing with copious quantities of water or diluted soap/detergent solutions. The latter has the added advantage of making the PVC surface temporarily anti-static. We also supply multi-purpose cleaning wipes, that are quick, convenient and highly effective for AM-Clad products.

Proprietary cleaners should NOT be used unless specifically stated to be suitable because they may contain an abrasive or a solvent that could adversely affect the PVC surface. Please refer to the current AM-Clad Chemical & Stain Resistance Report to check suitability.

The recommended maximum continuous working temperature of AM-Clad products is 60 degrees Celsius/140 degrees Fahrenheit.

## PRESSURE WASHING

Please note that we do NOT recommend the use of hot water lances for cleaning PVC cladded walls. Extremely hot water that exceeds 60 degrees Celsius and steam can damage the seals.

Careful pressure washer cleaning at lower temperatures in conjunction with good quality detergents will ensure perfect results. In all cases the lance should not be pointed too close to the cladding (within 600mm).

## TEMPERATURE

As previously stated the working temperature in areas near to our PVC sheets must not reach or exceed 60°C.

A 3mm to 4mm expansion gap should be created at all joints to allow the PVC to expand safely in temperatures below 60°C.

If the temperature exceeds 60°C, the expansion of the PVC may result in failure of the system.

Special care should be taken in all environments where any equipment generates excessive heat in close proximity to AM-Clad systems. Specifically, this includes boilers, radiators, machinery, plant equipment and all kitchen fittings and appliances listed below.

Particular attention to temperature must be made in kitchens. Extra care should be taken with AM-Clad sheets in close proximity to ovens, ranges, griddles, toasters, kettles, sandwich makers and similar devices that generate very high temperatures. We recommend stainless steel splashbacks behind this equipment.

Similar levels of care should be taken in boiler rooms, plant rooms, laboratories, laundries and in manufacturing plants where machinery generates excessive heat.

## **QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

A detailed Quality Plan should be applied to all relevant installation projects and incorporate the guidelines stated below in conjunction with the agreed specifications finish schedule and any drawings provided.

## **LABOUR**

All operatives should be qualified tradespersons with extensive experience in the nature of the works they carry out. All employees on UK sites must hold up-to-date construction skills certification scheme (CSCS) accreditation. Similar or equivalent employee accreditations must be held by all personnel installing AM-Clad systems in all countries.

## **PLANT**

Where applicable, certified personnel should source any additional plant equipment required from reputable specialists to aid installation. Test certificates must be obtained to ensure the plant is suitable for the purpose required.

## **MATERIALS**

All materials must be stored and transported in accordance with the manufacturers' written instructions for the purpose required. AM-Clad PVC sheets and trims should be stored laid flat on a level surface off the ground to prevent condensation and distortion. All sheets should be stored in a cool, dry, dust-free environment within a temperature range of 16°C (60°F) to 30°C (86°F). Sheets should not be stored in direct sunlight, especially in extreme temperatures.

# HEALTH & SAFETY – CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH (COSHH)

## PVC SHEET

### 1: COMMERCIAL

Chemical characterisation  
Trade or common names  
Product range  
Colour and appearance

Unplasticised Polyvinylchloride UPVC  
AM-Clad, AM-Guard, AM-Clad Hygienic  
Sheet (pressed and extruded)  
Opaque, various colours

### 2: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Change in physical state

Softening point – approximately 80°C

Density (specific gravity) at 20°C

Melting point – 170-200°C

Decomposition temperature

1.3-1.5

Self-ignition temperature

>200°C

Hazardous Decomposition

N/A

Hydrogen chlorides and other toxic fumes  
may occur on combustion

Products

Good chemical resistance to Ammonia

Incompatibility

No incompatible products and aromatic sealants.

### 3: TRANSPORT REGULATIONS

UPVC products are not classified as hazardous for transport. No special precautions.

### 4: HEALTH HAZARDS

Health exposure

No known hazards

Toxicity

Some raw materials involved in manufacture may  
present a hazard but the sheets do not normally  
constitute a hazard

Skin contact

No dermatitis hazard known

First Aid

Medical assistance should be sought if exposed to  
from decomposition.

fumes

### 5: WASTE DISPOSAL

UPVC sheet waste and off cuts are 100% recyclable by licensed recycling companies and  
our cladding sheets generate Zero Waste to Landfill.

Disclaimer: All information is based on manufacturer's published data and our current, extensive working  
knowledge of handling and installing these products. We cannot be held responsible for any issues arising from  
mishandling or inappropriate storage by third parties on site, before or after installation.



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CALL +44 1274 020 331  
WHATSAPP +44 789 187 9050  
EMAIL [INFO@AM-CLAD.COM](mailto:INFO@AM-CLAD.COM)

AM-CLAD LTD, 10-14 WARD STREET, BRADFORD,  
WEST YORKSHIRE, UNITED KINGDOM, BD7 3PR

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