

Technical Bulletin



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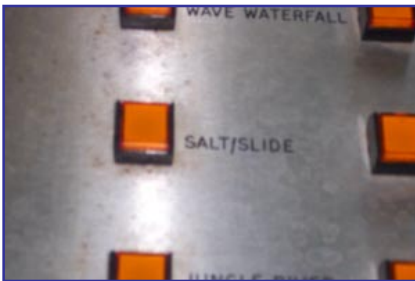
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Vecom helps to keep a shine on the stainless steel

The Pool Manager of a Centre Parcs leisure village swimming pool in England was concerned about the staining of the new stainless steel control panels and enclosures. The manufacturer called in Vecom Restoration Services in England for some advice, wanting to know what caused the staining to appear and how to prevent it.

The problem occurs when moist air, containing chlorine, condenses on the relatively cold stainless steel. The deposition on the surface causes corrosion. Initially the corrosion is not too serious, but brown staining appears rapidly which is a cause of concern. If the stainless steel is treated immediately, serious corrosion problems can easily be avoided.



Before

The problem was solved by using Vecom Stainless Steel Cleaner to remove the brown staining, followed by Vecom Stainless Steel Polish to provide a bright shiny lustre.

Centre Parcs will now use these products on a regular routine basis so that the stainless steel stays clean.



After

Recommendations:

Vecom recommends the use of 316 grade stainless steel or higher in this type of environment. The surface should be polished to achieve an Ra of 0.6 or less. The smoother the surface finish the more resistant it is to corrosion and staining. Pre polished sheet can be purchased before the equipment is fabricated but afterwards the welds should be pickled and all surfaces passivated to remove the workshop greases and iron contamination.

For optimum corrosion resistance the surfaces can sometimes be electropolished giving a bright shiny reflective surface which is highly corrosion resistant. This surface treatment is often applied to lifeguard chairs, enclosures, guardrails and posts.

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