



SURFACE CLEANERS

DESCRIPTION: Degreasers are solvents especially formulated to remove grease and other contaminants from bare metal, existing finishes, plastics, etc. Sikkens has three types of degreasers available to best suit your shop and the substrate to be degreased:

- 1. Sikkens M600 Surface Cleaner**
- 2. Sikkens Anti-Static Surface Cleaner**
- 3. Autoclean Surface Cleaner System**

**BEFORE YOU
DEGREASE:**

The purpose of cleaning and degreasing is to remove residual grease, oil, wax, silicones, road dirt and sand, etc. If this is omitted, then residual dirt will migrate into the fine scratches left during the sanding process. Possible silicone fish eyes and adhesion of the paint system subsequently applied to the contaminated surface will be poor and the finish may blister or delaminate in a very short time.

1. Always wash the car thoroughly to remove as much contamination as possible and to eliminate as much dust and dirt as possible.
2. Always wear gloves when degreasing. This will accomplish two things:
 - a) Eliminate solvent being absorbed into your hands.
 - b) Prevent salts and oils on your hands from contaminating the surface to be refinished.

APPLICATION:

1. **Sikkens M600 Surface Cleaner** is a very good general purpose cleaner. It is suitable for cleaning and degreasing bare metal, existing finishes, primer surfacers, etc. It is the least aggressive of the Sikkens solvent-based cleaners.

NOTE:

M600 is not recommended on plastic or fiberglass body parts. In these cases, Sikkens Anti-Static Surface Cleaner should be used.

2. **Sikkens Anti-Static Surface Cleaner** is not only an aggressive degreaser for cleaning bare metal, but is also a special degreaser for plastic and fiberglass parts. Anti-Static Surface Cleaner also removes the static charge from raw plastic parts and fiberglass. This product is too aggressive for lacquers but can be used on non-reversible existing finishes. Always check the reversibility of the substrate before degreasing with this product.

3. **Autoclean Surface Cleaner**, see specific TDS for proper application.

NOTE:

Solvent based cleaners may not be legal for use in VOC regulated areas. Always check local regulations.

**CLEANING
TECHNIQUE:**

When a repair is to be made or a finish is to be recoated, the first thing to do after washing the car is to surface clean the body panel under treatment. Wet a clean cloth with one of the above products and clean/degrease the surface under treatment. Immediately thereafter, wipe the surface dry with clean, dry cloths. Always use two cloths, as one cloth will merely shift rather than remove dirt and grease.




NOTE:

Replace cloths being used for degreasing and cleaning regularly by clean ones. Always place used degreasing rags in a sealed container that meets local requirements to avoid the risk of a spontaneous combustion fire.

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APPLICATION:

UNSANDED EXISTING FINISHES:

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|-----|---|---|--|
| 1. |  | Water | Wash down the vehicle with detergent and warm water. This will dissolve water-soluble contaminants. i.e., bird droppings, flies, tree sap, etc. |
| *2. |  | Sikkens M600/
Anti-Static
Surface Cleaner | Wash down area to be repaired with one of the degreasers and cleaners. This will remove any contaminant that cannot be removed with water. |
| *3. |  | | With a clean towel, dry off the degreaser and cleaner before it has time to evaporate.
—Always use one fresh towel for washing down and one fresh dry towel for wiping dry.
—Replace towels regularly. |

NOTE:

To deter against water-soluble contaminants remaining, apply Autoclean Surface Cleaner to the surface prior to topcoating.




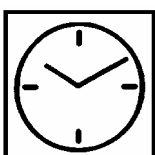
NOTE:

Never allow the surface cleaner to evaporate, the contaminant will remain. Wipe the surface dry with a clean towel before the degreaser is allowed to evaporate.

SANDED EXISTING FINISHES:

* Having sanded the existing finish, repeat Steps 2 and 3 one more time after sanding and prior to topcoating.



UNTREATED PLASTIC PARTS:

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|----|---|---|--|
| 1. |  | Water | Wash down the unpainted plastic part with warm water and detergent. |
| 2. |  | Sikkens
Anti-Static
Surface Cleaner | Wash down plastic part with Anti-Static Surface Cleaner. The stronger solvent in Anti-static cleaner removes mold release agents. |
| 3. |  | | With a clean towel, dry off the Anti-Static Surface Cleaner before it has time to evaporate. After this treatment, the surface is also rendered anti-static. |
| 4. |  | 20–30 minutes | When cleaning unpainted plastic parts, allow the part to dry out for 20 to 30 minutes after the application of cleaner and before the application of a primer. |

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NOTE: The use of Autoclean Surface Cleaner must replace Sikkens Anti-Static Surface Cleaner in areas where the use of low VOC products are mandated. Anti-Static Surface Cleaner should also be used on stable painted plastic parts. Follow the same procedure for unpainted plastic parts.

BARE METAL: Steel, zinc coated steel and aluminum should be degreased as follows:

1.  Sikkens M600 / Anti-Static Surface Cleaner Wash down the metal with one of the cleaners. This will ensure that the stubborn contaminants will be removed during final degreasing and cleaning.
2.  With a clean towel, dry off the degreaser and cleaner before it has time to evaporate.
 - Always use one fresh towel for washing down and one fresh dry towel for wiping dry.
 - Replace towels regularly.

NOTE: With all cleaning and degreasing activities: once the vehicle has been cleaned, it must never be touched with the bare hand; as salts, moisture and oils can be transferred to the prepared surface which may result in adhesion or blistering problems. It is particularly important that hand protecting barrier creams are never used near an automobile that is to be refinished.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTION FOR CLEANING TRUCK BODY CONSTRUCTIONS:

It is important to prevent dirt residues from getting into construction joints of vans, trucks, etc. during cleaning and degreasing. Disregarding proper cleaning of these areas may cause application and/or adhesion problems when the paint is applied. Vertical panels should, therefore, first be cleaned and degreased from the bottom upwards and subsequently from the top downwards.

CLEANING AND CONDENSATION ON METAL SURFACES:

After a surface has been cleaned and degreased, the solvent will evaporate. The heat needed for evaporation is withdrawn from that surface, making it colder than the surrounding atmosphere, which results in (often not visible) condensation on the surface. Allow the moisture sufficient time to evaporate. The first coat of paint can be applied as soon as the surface has regained the temperature of the surrounding atmosphere. Earlier application of the coat may lead to adhesion problems.

The same problem may arise if a vehicle is transferred from a cold room to a warm one, or from outdoors to indoors. Allow vehicles a minimum of one hour to acclimatize. Double-walled vehicles (and certainly insulated ones) require some hours to acclimatize.



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STOCK KEEPING:

CONTAINER SIZE:

Sikkens M600 Surface Cleaner: 1 gallon (3.785 lt) and 5 gallons (18.9 lt)
Sikkens Anti-Static Surface Cleaner: 1 gallon (3.785 lt) and 5 gallons (18.9 lt)

SHELF LIFE:

Two years if stored in original container at room temperature.

SAFETY ASPECTS:

VOC CONTENT:

Sikkens M600 Surface Cleaner:	6.3 lb/gal	755 g/liter
Sikkens Anti-static Surface Cleaner:	6.4 lb/gal	770 g/liter

NOTICE:

Do not handle until the Material Safety Data Sheets have been read and understood. Regulations require that all employees be trained on Material Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals with which they come in contact. The manufacturer recommends the use of an organic vapor respirator or air supplied respirator when exposed to vapors or spray mist.