

## **METLAM AUSTRALIA STAINLESS STEEL & ABS SOAP DISPENSER CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE GUIDE**

Maintaining a clean and functional Soap Dispenser is just a matter of a few simple steps. Expensive cleaning agents or special equipment is not required. We suggest an ordinary household cleaner is usually all that is required should the following guidelines be adhered to.

### **KEEPING THE EXTERNAL UNIT CLEAN**

- Metlam Soap Dispensers look and operate best if they are cleaned regularly with plenty of water.
- Drying afterwards makes sure streaky marks aren't left behind.
- Wiping with a damp cloth is basically ineffective, as it can smear dirt without removing it.
- Routine cleaning prevents any stubborn stains building up.

### **WHAT TO USE**

For day to day cleaning, plenty of water, some mild detergent and a cloth or soft brush will work best. You can use a 1% ammonia solution but don't use bleach, it's just too easy to make the solution too strong making it difficult to properly rinse it off the surface afterwards. After washing, thoroughly rinse with clean water and wipe the surface dry with a soft absorbent cloth. On brushed Zinc Alloy Diecast, follow the direction of the grain for best results. An excellent cloth to use is 3M's Scotch-Brite High Performance Cleaning Cloth.

### **AVOID SCRATCHES**

Note that Satin Stainless Steel or ABS can be scratched by careless handling or aggressive scrubbing.

Avoid dragging rough items across the surface and be aware that grit trapped under other materials on the unit can actually cause surface scratches.

### **HANDLING TOUGH MARKS & STAINS**

For fingerprint, oil and grease marks a mild detergent or dishwashing detergent works best. If this type of product doesn't shift unsightly finger marks, a quality glass cleaner on a soft cloth should eliminate these. Use of a small amount of alcohol, methylated spirits, acetone or mineral turpentine will also remove these types of marks. Thoroughly rinse with clean water and dry immediately after. Longer protection for high volume usage items can be achieved by lightly rubbing with olive oil or baby oil followed by a polish and shine using a soft cloth.

## **CLEANING THE INTERNAL COMPARTMENT OF YOUR METLAM AUSTRALIA SOAP DISPENSER:**

### ***Stainless Steel Soap Dispensers***

To ensure best performance of your Metlam Soap Dispenser, it is recommended that the unit be periodically (every 12-16 weeks) removed from the wall and flushed out using hot water.

The unit can be removed from the wall by releasing the grub screw located inside refill lid and lifted up off the wall bracket.

The valves also require a similar maintenance schedule, by pumping hot water through these to clear any soap build up trapped inside.

In some cases where a Soap Dispenser has lay dormant and unused for some time, the valves can clog. In this scenario we recommend the valves be unscrewed from the face of the unit (be sure to empty any remaining soap first) and soaked in hot water for at least 30 minutes, pumping the valve 15-30 times while submerged to clear any soap residue from inside.

### ***ABS Soap Dispensers***

First remove soap dispenser from wall bracket where possible and then remove the tank from the unit (if there is a tank insert). Empty all soap from tank and flush tank with warm water to remove any dried or thickened soap residue. Once clean, reinstall tank into unit.

### **Note for both Stainless Steel and ABS Dispenser Units:**

After you refill soap tank on manual push button Soap Dispensers you **MUST** prime valve in order to start soap flow. Place finger on drip spout and push valve in. Remove finger and let valve come out. Repeat this until valve starts to dispense liquid soap in hand.

### **NEVER USE:**

- Steel wool (wire wool) or scraping with steel tools
- Stainless Steel scouring pads including pre-used scourers as these will scratch the finish of both your Stainless Steel or ABS Soap Dispenser
- Rubbing plastic scourers across the grain of brushed surfaces
- Using concentrated bleach or hydrochloric acid-based cleaning products
- Contact with product containing chlorine bleach, hydrochloric or muriatic acid

## HOW TO FIX TARNISHING?

304 Grade Stainless steel Soap Dispensers are typically specified because of the longevity and ability to resist corrosion in a variety of environments. Occasionally a lack of correct maintenance, long term exposure to the elements or an overflow of soap or use of harsh chemicals can remove the native protective layer (chromium oxide) from the surface of the stainless steel and can cause stainless steel to tarnish or “tea stain”.

Removing Tarnishing from surfaces restores the appearance, but it's importance goes beyond appearance. Left unchecked, tarnish can lead to serious rust & pitting and structural damage to products and components and can impact the performance of instrumentation, contaminate flow paths, and impact reliability.

To remove tarnishing, we recommended to use a Stainless-Steel restorer such as Brasso or equivalent with a microfiber cloth and to use as per instructions. Brasso can be purchased from any general hardware store such as Bunnings.

### *Example:*

*How to recognise of tarnishing on a Stainless-Steel shelf*

*You will notice the discolouration on the side of the shelf, this is tarnishing/ tea staining*



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