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# Aluminium Corrosion

Aluminium window and door manufacturers have been concerned for some time with the instance of corrosion attack to aluminium sections. Although not a common phenomenon, instances of such deterioration detract from the low maintenance qualities of aluminium.

Industry funded research conducted by Comalco Research, Monash University, James Cook University and more recently Curtin University has established that corrosion is due to an accumulation of chloride salts forming in the crevices between the brickwork and the aluminium section. Moisture, combined with high levels of chloride and airborne salts and other contaminants interact to create an environment where corrosion can develop.

Results of the research are unanimous in concluding that the deterioration is **not** as a consequence of defective aluminium, inadequate pre-treatment or substandard manufacture of the product.

The corrosion mechanism involves:

- The breakdown of the protective aluminium oxide film due to the presence of chloride ions
- Corrosion and hydrolysis (reaction with water) of the aluminium ions causing acidification of the crevice between the brickwork, and
- The attraction of more chloride ions into the crevice

The mechanism results in a highly corrosive and self-perpetuating corrosion process occurring in the crevice area. The presence of white efflorescence on the brickwork can signify the presence of compounds than can contribute to corrosion activity.

Jason Windows offers a service to treat and repair the affected sections. This involves site visits to treat the corrosion with chemicals and then the installation of angles to repair and dress the corrosion affected areas.

The chemicals used are:

- **Neutra** – neutralises the attack
- **Aquaphobic** – seals the brickwork and restricts further attack

The corrosion residue is removed from the affected area thereby exposing the damage to the window sections. The area is then treated with the chemicals outlined above. Upon completion of the chemical treatments angles and custom pressings are installed to dress and repair the corrosion affected area.

**Please Note: Jason Windows has no control over the manifestation of the corrosive agents and is therefore unable to guarantee that the corrosion will not return.**

*Should you have any further questions or wish to book a corrosion treatment please contact the Jason Windows Service Department on 9351 3400 for further details.*