

## Cleaning, Handling and Repair Procedures Accuride Accu-Shield® Aluminum Wheels

Congratulations on the purchase of your Accuride Accu-Shield® aluminum wheel. You have chosen the lowest maintenance aluminum wheel available from Accuride Wheel End Solutions. Accuride recommends the following cleaning, handling, and repair procedures to keep your Accu-Shield® wheel bright and shiny. Be sure to share this information with your service technician, **prior to having service work performed.**

### Cleaning:

To keep your Accu-Shield® wheels looking their best, follow these simple cleaning steps:

1. Rinse the wheel with high-pressure water to remove any debris, grit or dirt particles. High-pressure water is recommended.
2. Use a 100% cotton cloth dipped in a mild soap solution to help remove stuck-on dirt and grease.
3. Rinse the remaining soap residue from the wheel.
4. Dry the wheel thoroughly with a 100% cotton cloth.
5. Commercial Bug/Tar/Grime Cleaners may be used to remove stuck-on particles from the wheel. Accuride recommends you test the cleaner in an inconspicuous area for discoloration before treating the wheel.
6. Do not scrub the wheel before rinsing off loose particles with high-pressure water. Rubbing debris against the surface of the wheel can result in scratches.
7. Do not use synthetic cleaning pads. Synthetic cleaning pads can result in streaking of the surface.
8. Do not use wire brushes to remove dirt or grime from the wheel surfaces.
9. Do not use strong detergents, alkaline or acidic cleaners to clean an Accu-Shield® aluminum wheel. These solutions can attack the surface of the wheel and leave dull areas.
10. Do not use strong solvents to remove grease or grime from the surface of the wheel. Damage to the wheel surface finish might occur.
11. Do not allow soap solution to dry on the surface of the wheel.
12. Do not use polishes or wax on an Accu-Shield® aluminum wheel. The finish will maintain the bright and shiny surface for years to come without the need for special polishes.

### Handling:

Always use the following handling precautions during tire changes:

1. When changing tires manually, always place the tire/wheel assembly on a protective pad such as a piece of carpet. Do not lay the wheel on pavement or concrete.
2. Always use tire tools and tire irons with protective ends designed for protecting alloy wheels.
3. Always use tire tools in good repair with no burrs or sharp edges.
4. Only use tire-changing machines equipped with mount/demounting tools with protective plastic cushions designed for protecting alloy wheels.
5. Avoid “dry-wiping” brake dust and other debris on appearance surfaces.
6. Use only approved tire-mounting lubricants and avoid splashing lubes on the appearance surfaces. This may create water spotting on dirty wheels.

Cont.

## **Repair:**

If you damage the finish on your Accu-Shield® aluminum wheel, it can be repaired by following the procedure outlined below:

**NOTE:** This repair procedure can be used to repair minor damage to the Accu-Shield® finish. This repair is meant to remove or hide small areas of scuffing or abrasion that do not penetrate the thickness of the finish. It is not intended to repair deep gouges or abrasion marks that penetrate the base material or for damaged areas greater than several square inches.

1. Minor Scuffs and Abrasions
  - a. Using an orbital sander, 3 inch backing pad and 3 inch wool buffing pad, apply a small amount of the finessing material to the scuff and buff it out. If the marks do not buff out, you will need to go to the more aggressive repair procedure shown below.
  
2. Heavy and deeper scuffs and abrasions
  - a. Using an orbital sander and a 9-micron micro-finishing disc, apply a small amount of water to the scuff and sand it out, keeping light pressure on the sander and moving it continuously. Caution: Do not sand through the .002 to .003 inch surface finish. If you do, you will dull the base aluminum surface and there is no repair.
  - b. Using an orbital sander, 3 inch backing pad, and a 3 inch wool buffing pad, apply a small dab of the finessing material to the sanded area and buff it out.

## **Materials List of Commercially Available Products**

- Small hand-operated random orbital sander
- Micro-finishing disc with a 1000 grit or 9-micron texture (3M model 268L Finesse-it disc is one example)
- Sander backing pad
- Wool buffing pad
- Finishing material such as 3M Finesse-it Finishing Material (P/N 13084)

**DynaBrade, Inc. provides kits containing these materials and should be available through any of their distributors.**

You can contact DynaBrade directly at:

DynaBrade, Inc.  
8989 Sheridan Drive  
Clarence, NY 14031-1490  
Phone: (888) 396-2272  
Web: [www.dynabrade.com](http://www.dynabrade.com)

For technical assistance contact Accuride Field Engineering at (800) 869-2275

Or visit us on-line at [www.accuridecorp.com](http://www.accuridecorp.com)

ATTENTION: To avoid accidents, OSHA regulations require employers to train their personnel who service multi-piece and single-piece rims/wheels. Contact your local OSHA area office or Accuride for safety information and charts. For free safety manuals, charts and videotapes write to Accuride Corporation, 7140 Office Circle, Suite 200, Evansville, IN 47715. Or visit us on the web at [www.accuridecorp.com](http://www.accuridecorp.com). For more information on Accuride Wheels call (800) 823-8332.