

## Tips to Extend the Life of Your Canvas

Proper cleaning, maintenance, and storage of canvas, vinyl windows, and upholstery will extend their life and keep your investment looking newer—longer.

### Cleaning

- Remove any loose dirt with a brush or vacuum.
- Always try spraying with water first.
- Never put your canvas in the washing machine or bring to the Laundromat.
- Any tough stains can be scrubbed with a soft bristle brush using a mixture of 1/4C mild soap (e.g., Ivory Snow, Dreft or Woolite) in lukewarm water.
- Allow solution to soak into the fabric.
- Rinse thoroughly. Air dry.

### Stubborn Stains

Most marine material do not promote mildew growth, however, mildew may grow on dirt and other foreign substances. Always spot clean as soon as possible.

To clean mildew, or other stubborn stains:

- Soak canvas in a solution of 1C bleach, 1/4C mild soap and one gallon of water.
- Allow mixture to soak into fabric for up to 15 minutes.
- Rinse thoroughly until all soap residue is removed.
- Repeat if necessary
- Re-treatment of fabric for water resistance will be necessary.

### Clear Vinyl Windows (Strataglass™)

- Windows should be cleaned with a soft cotton cloth, never paper towels, using the strataglass recommended Imar Strataglass protective cleaner.
- Before storing your windows for the winter, it is recommended the glass be cleaned and then polished using Imar Strataglass protective polish.
- Glass panels should be stored dry, flat and layered between sheets or towels.
- If you have the room, Seacoast Canvas can make a hanging system for your panels that can be installed in a clean, well ventilated area.
- Never handle panels with sunscreen.
- Never use Rainex or Windex on your clear vinyl.

### Cockpit Seating

- Clean vinyl seating with the same mild detergent solution from above.
- Rinse any soap residue off.

It is highly recommended to treat your vinyl at least twice a year with a UV protectant such as 303 Aerospace protectant. This solution bonds to the surface of the fibers creating a protective skin keeping the vinyl soft, newer looking and extending the life of your seating.

### Fixtures (e.g., zippers, snaps and fasteners)

Always rinse fixtures off with water. Fixtures on the boat and canvas should never be introduced to hard chemicals. As long as you do this regularly, fixtures should not need any further treatment.

**Before you store your canvas for the season, be sure to check the stitching and overall condition. Simple repairs will save you from lengthier, more expensive repairs down the road. Seacoast Canvas & Upholstery carries a full line of cleaners, protectants, and lubricants to help you keep your investment in its best shape possible.**