

March 23, 2020

UPDATE: Minimizing damage to your aircraft upholstery

Local authorities for disease prevention are offering guidance as to how to properly disinfect surfaces against virus, bacteria and fungus. Authorities include the United States Center for Disease Control, the Environmental Protection Agency, the World Health Organization, the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control and the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

As previously communicated, the use of alcohol, hydrogen peroxide or chlorine-based disinfectants on most genuine or synthetic leather seating surfaces will cause damage to the integrity of the product's finish system.

This damage can be permanent, causing premature wear, color transfer and a noticeable difference in the look and feel of the upholstery. The result of this damage includes, but is not limited to, color transfer of material finish to passenger clothing, a tacky surface and noticeable color and gloss variations.

In addition to your internal or contracted cleaning and disinfecting team(s), many passengers are personally boarding aircraft with hand sanitizer and / or other harmful chemicals that can add to the damage of your seating upholstery.

The root cause of this issue can be found in the make-up of your upholstery's finish system, coupled with the chemical make-up of most disinfectants. Commercial aircraft leather finish systems are comprised mainly of urethanes and / or acrylics that are not built to withstand the chemical abuse of the disinfectants recommended and endorsed by any of the above listed authorities.

There are options for repairing this type of damage utilizing professional, proven repair processes through an FAA/EASA Part 145 Repair Station. During this process, in most cases the finish can be restored and sometimes enhanced by this process to minimize future damage.

Perrone Aerospace operates an FAA/EASA Part 145 Repair Station and is certified to provide both maintenance and cleaning services for your dress covers in the event that off-wing cleaning is required.

An informational video detailing the above is attached for your reference and can also be viewed on our website along with any additional communications.

Also attached is **PQP-183 Cleaning and Maintenance Specification for Performance Leathers & Textiles**.

Should you have any questions regarding the cleaning of your dress covers or services offered by Perrone's Repair Station, please do not hesitate to reach out to Kevin Shea, Vice President of Sales – Americas, kshea@perroneaero.com

Thank you.

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