



**SINGLE SOURCE SOLUTION
for Architectural Finishing**

Concrete Removal Advisory

Concrete is always part of the jobsite. It is important to protect aluminum components including finished aluminum from any wet masonry work. Concrete and mortar in their uncured state have a very high pH. High pH substances readily attack aluminum and in particular, can very quickly damage anodized aluminum. In the event uncured mortar or concrete type materials come in contact with any aluminum material, finished or unfinished, it is critically important to remove the wet masonry as soon as possible as permanent damage can occur within minutes of contact.

If a large amount of concrete come in contact with finished aluminum and is allowed to cure, there is a very high likelihood the aluminum and finish will be damaged beyond repair and must either be replaced or field painted.

In the event small amounts of masonry come in contact with finished aluminum, it should be removed as quickly as possible using a plastic spatula or scraper. The paint will not easily stick to painted surfaces so it should be easy to remove. The painted surface should then be cleaned with a neutral detergent cleaner and rinsed. Concrete on anodize surfaces should be removed the same way. In the event the concrete leaves a mark on the anodize aluminum and where the anodize coating is still intact, it is recommended that the area be cleansed with a mild abrasive such as Soft Scrub or Barkeepers Friend. Copious amounts of water should be used afterward to ensure remnants of these mild abrasives are completely rinsed away. The anodized aluminum should be left to dry. There is some likelihood that the seal of the anodic coating has been compromised at this point due to the concrete attack. Therefore it is highly recommended that Linseed Oil be rubbed onto the anodic coating to help "re-seal" the anodic film from atmospheric attack. The Linseed Oil should not be used in direct sunlight. It should be applied, left to sit for a few minutes and the buffed or wiped dry. Linseed Oil is a natural polymer that crosslinks and protects the compromised anodized surface that can last for years.