



## WARRANTY, CARE & MAINTENANCE FOR POLY 316 S/S MESH

### GENERAL:

Poly 316 S/S is a premium stainless steel mesh that is highly resistant to corrosion, however all insect mesh will tend to trap air borne dirt and impurities and when combined with salt and moisture, staining of the mesh may occur. This can present as reddish marks on the mesh surface know as "tea staining" or "fluffy" white marks due to salt build up. The brown discolouration, or tea staining, has been identified in coastal applications in Australia and overseas. Tea staining does not affect the structural integrity or the longevity of the S/S and it can be controlled.

### WHERE DOES TEA STAINING OCCUR:

Tea staining occurs most commonly within about 5 kilometres of the surf or a few hundred metres from sheltered coastal water. It becomes progressively worse closer to the marine source. Wind exposure, pollution and higher temperatures can create environments where tea staining can occur 20 kms from the sea (refer AS 2312 Guide to the Protection of Structural Steel Against Atmospheric Corrosion).

### MATERIAL SELECTION:

Stainless steel 316 should be used as a minimum to reduce the chance of tea staining.

### PERFORM REGULAR MAINTENANCE:

Washing removes contaminants (such as salt) that can cause surface corrosion and is necessary to avoid tea staining and maintain the mesh in good condition. Please refer to the following schedule:

| ENVIRONMENT   | DESCRIPTION                | CLEANING INTERVAL      |
|---------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Mild          | More than 10 km from coast | Every 6 months         |
| Moderate      | 1 km to 10 km from coast   | Every 4 months         |
| Marine        | 500 m to 1 km from coast   | Once per month minimum |
| Severe Marine | Less than 500 m from coast | 2-4 times per month    |

### CARE & MAINTENANCE

\*Wash both surfaces of the the S/S insect screen mesh in warm soapy water to remove any buildup of dirt, salt etc. Rinse in fresh water and dry. This is to be done in accordance with the above table.

\*Avoid physical damage to the black powder coating on the wire surface.

\*Avoid contact with disimilar metals as this can cause galvanic corrosion. Insect screen frames made from aluminium should be powdercoated to a uniform 0.05 mm minimum thickness.

\*Avoid installation in locations where the insect screen mesh is continuously exposed to damp conditions."

### WARRANTY:

PMI warrants its mesh to be free from defects in materials and workmanship and will provide replacement stock within 12 months of purchase for any mesh found to be defective due to poor materials or manufacturing faults. This warranty excludes claims relating to tea staining, contact with dissimilar metals or any other corrosion related claims.

### REFERENCES:

Australian Stainless Steel Development Association [www.assda.asn.au](http://www.assda.asn.au), AS 2312 Guide to the Protection of Structural Steel Against Atmospheric Corrosion.