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## Ampco Cleaning guidelines for Zamac Hardware

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### Chrome Notes:

- ✓ You do not polish chrome, you clean it.
- ✓ Unlike aluminum and stainless steel, chrome does not oxidize much. It is extremely hard and usually very thin (a few mils) plated.
- ✓ People have tried many types of polishes, including expensive ones, and have found nothing that will remove scratches from chrome. Once scratched, you live with it or re-chrome it.

#### Chrome Plating Process:

- 1) Copper underlay – a filler.
- 2) Nickel – for the mirror color.
- 3) Hard Chrome – outer surface.

### Zamac (Zinc) Notes:

- ✓ Please avoid using any cleaning solutions that contain acids such as muriatic acid. This solution will eat through the chrome plating and eventually corrode the underlying zamac material.

#### Zamac contents:

Zamak-3 is made mostly of Zinc (about 96%). The acronym name established from the combined materials listed below:

- 1) Z-Zinc
- 2) A - Aluminum
- 3) MA – Magnesium
- 4) K – Kopper (German)



## Cleaning Materials

- Sponge – Natural or artificial
- Nylon or other soft-bristle material brush
- SOFT cloths such as cotton terry or chamois (as used on automobile finishes)
- NOTE: Never use paper towels, paper-based wipes, cellulose or plastic sponges as well as fake chamois cloths as they are highly abrasive and could mar the chrome finish.

## Recommended Cleaning Solutions

- Hand dishwashing liquid/soft water solution
- Mild soap/soft water solution
- White vinegar/soft water solution
- Club soda and sponge

NOTE: To clean sticky or hard built-up material we suggest using baking soda and a damp sponge or a non-alcohol glass cleaner. Check a small area for streaking or fading before applying on the entire part.