

# SHEERFILL® Architectural Membrane

## Cleaning Technical Bulletin

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### Cleaning SHEERFILL® Architectural Membrane

SHEERFILL® Architectural Fabrics made by Saint-Gobain typically require no cleaning after installation. However, situations may exist where the self-cleaning properties of the fabric cannot be fully realized. These conditions would include areas that have little yearly rain or congested metropolitan areas where airborne soot and dust are constantly being deposited on the fabric.

To clean SHEERFILL fabric that has become dirty, care should be taken in the choice of cleaning solution and method of loosening the dirt for removal.

The **only** recommended soap for the cleaning operation is Murphy® Oil Soap (if not available in your area, contact Saint-Gobain for sourcing information). Because of its excellent cleaning properties, only 1/3 of a fluid ounce (10 ml) per gallon (3.8 liters) of water is needed (1 cup of soap per 24 gallons of water).

To loosen the dirt, only **soft** nylon bristled brushes should be used. This will insure that the polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) will not be scratched or displaced. If the PTFE is removed from any area, the fiberglass fibers will become exposed to the elements and may begin to deteriorate and lose strength. This would adversely affect the life of the fabric and the structure. Cleaning should have no effect on the life of the SHEERFILL fabric if done in the prescribed manner.

To finish the operation, the cleaned fabric area should be rinsed with water; garden-type hoses can be used for large areas. However, high-pressure hoses should **never** be used (over 80 psi - 550 kPa).

Small, badly soiled areas can be cleaned with the use of toluene. Pour the solvent on a cloth, and rub the area until clean. Solvent should **never** be directly applied to the fabric. When the area is clean, it should be flushed with water to remove any residual dirt and solvent.

Frequency of cleaning is very dependent on the environment, size of the structure, cost of cleaning, etc. In general, cleaning should be needed infrequently and, if done properly, will not shorten the expected life of SHEERFILL Architectural Fabric.

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