



# DUAL-ETCH®

## Metal Cleaner and Conditioner W4-K263

### PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 is a phosphoric acid based cleaner and brightener for aluminum. W4-K263 removes light oils and oxidation to promote paint adhesion and corrosion resistance.

### TECHNICAL DATA

• Color	Clear, colorless	• Freezing point	32°F
• Photochemically reactive	No	• Flash point	None
• Viscosity	Consistency of water	• Treatment area	1,600 sq. ft./gallon

### SUITABLE SUBSTRATES

Untreated aluminum or anodized aluminum.

### SURFACE PREPARATION

1. To remove dirt and water soluble contaminants, wash with mild detergent and hot water. Rinse well and wipe dry with a clean cloth.
2. To remove grease, oil, and other solvent soluble contaminants, solvent clean metal substrate with SHER-WILL-CLEAN® Solvent Cleaner R7-K156, AQUA-MATE™ Low VOC Surface Cleaner W4-K157, or UltraClean® Surface Cleaner R7-K158. Wipe dry with a clean cloth.

### MIXING

Mix in clean plastic containers only.

*Full strength for heavily oxidized metal:*

Dilute **one** part by volume of DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 with **two** parts of clean water.

*Half strength for lightly oxidized metal:*

Dilute **one** part by volume of DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 with **four** parts of clean water.

### APPLICATION

Untreated aluminum, anodized aluminum

1. Protect areas not to be treated with polyethylene sheets and masking tape. Apply masking tape to seams into which solution may collect. Do not allow W4-K263 to enter seams or collect in areas that can not be properly rinsed and dried.
2. Apply diluted W4-K263 to bare metal by brush, **gray nylon scuff pad**, spray, or dip. Keep surface wet for one to three minutes, if surface is allowed to dry, re-wet with W4-K263 for an additional one to three minutes.
3. Rinse well with clean water. Water should curtain with no breaks or beading; if this occurs, repeat step 2.
4. Blow dry with clean, high pressure air.
5. For maximum corrosion protection follow with Alodine® 1201<sup>1</sup> or Alodine® 1001<sup>1</sup>; omit step 4. **Or**, apply CORROSION SHIELD® E2-G973, G.B.P.® Etching Filler E2-G980 or E2-G983. Refer to individual Product Data Sheets.

*Note: Do not use DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 below 60°F.*

*(For the above products refer to product label or data page for complete information)*

### RECOATING

1. Recoat using any Sherwin-Williams Automotive primer. For maximum corrosion protection, follow W4-K263 within 4 hours\* with Alodine® 1001, Alodine® 1201, CORROSION SHIELD® E2-G973, G.B.P.® Etching Filler E2-G980 or E2-G983.  
*\* See E2-G973 and E2-G980/983 product data sheets for maximum recoat times.*
2. Follow with a Sherwin-Williams Automotive Topcoat compatible with the primer system.

### NOTES

1. DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 contains acid. Read and follow all label directions and cautions. Wear protective clothing, rubber gloves, and eyewear.
2. **Mix and store in plastic containers only.** Do not use metal containers.
3. Do not apply DUAL-ETCH® with steel wool; use a gray nylon scuff pad.
4. For polished aluminum and castings, use MET-L-ETCH® Steel Cleaner W4-K288 as directed (test for staining before use). Follow with Alodine® 1001.
5. Protect DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 from freezing.

<sup>1</sup>Alodine® 1001 and Alodine® 1201 are registered trademarks of the Henkel Corp.

# PRODUCT AT-A-GLANCE

**PRODUCT**

**DUAL-ETCH® Metal Cleaner and Conditioner**

**W4-K263**

**USE**

- Cleans, brightens, and conditions aluminum.
- Removes oxidation from aluminum.
- Insures paint adhesion and promotes corrosion protection.

**SUITABLE SUBSTRATES**

- Untreated aluminum
  - Anodized aluminum
- For polished aluminum to be clearcoated only, see MET-L-ETCH® W4K288 Product Data Sheet.

**SURFACE PREPARATION**

- **Wash** with mild detergent and hot water, rinse well, and wipe dry with clean cloth.
- **Solvent clean** with SHER-WILL-CLEAN® Solvent Cleaner R7-K156, AQUA-MATE™ Low VOC Surface Cleaner W4-K157, UltraClean™ Surface Cleaner R7-K158.

**MIXING**

- *Full strength for heavily oxidized metal:*  
Dilute 1 part by volume of DUAL-ETCH® with 2 parts clean water. *For best results, use distilled water.*
- *Half strength for lightly oxidized metal:*  
Dilute 1 part by volume of DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 with 4 parts clean water.



1  
W4-K263      2  
Water



1  
W4-K263      4  
Water

**APPLICATION**

- Apply diluted solution to metal with **gray nylon scuff pad**, brush, or dip.
- Allow contact for 1-3 minutes. Do not allow solution to dry; if it does, re-apply.
- Rinse well with clean water.
- When rinsing, water should curtain without breaks, If this occurs, repeat application.
- Blow dry with clean, high pressure air.

**RECOAT**

**Sealers**

- ULTRA-FILL II® Sealer
- JET SEAL® Primer-Sealer
- PRIME-SHIELD® 4.6 Epoxy
- PRIME-SHIELD® Urethane
- SHER-JET™ 3.5 Enamel Sealer
- SHER-LOK™ 3.5 Epoxy

**Primer-Surfacers**

- ULTRA-FILL II® Primer-Surfacer
- COLOR-PRIME® Tintable Primer-Surfacer
- ULTRA-FILL® Acrylic Primer-Surfacer
- Super COMBO® Primer-Surfacer
- CORROSION SHIELD® Primer
- G.B.P.® Etching Filler
- ULTRA-FILL® HS/NP Primers

**NOTES**

- Mix and store in clean plastic containers only. Do not use metal containers.
- DUAL-ETCH® contains acid. Handle with care.
- Do not apply with steel wool. Use nylon scuff pad when abrasive action is needed.
- For polished aluminum and castings, use MET-L-ETCH® W4-K288 as directed.
- Protect DUAL-ETCH® W4-K263 from freezing.

**PERSONAL PROTECTION**

**J2**

- Read all label directions before use.
- Refer to MSDS for specific information.
- Wear a NIOSH approved respirator when mixing and applying.
- Wear a NIOSH approved dust particulate mask when sanding.
- Wear safety goggles, coveralls, and latex gloves when using product.

*To learn more about Sherwin-Williams Automotive products, visit our Web site at [www.sherwin-automotive.com](http://www.sherwin-automotive.com).*