hartika
wood composite system

empowered by nature

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE
HARTIKA PARKAN SYSTEM

GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HARTIKA PARKAN COMPOSITE FENCING SYSTEM.

We would like to present to you the Hartika Parkan Composite Fencing System. It is a high-quality product whose raw material recipe was developed based on the experience and research results of renowned European research institutes in the field of polymers and composites.
The material used in production consists of selected wood dust and PVC (polyvinyl chloride) polymer. Thanks to the properties of the material from which the Hartika Parkan system is made, it is not necessary to protect it with protective agents such as oil or varnish, which are customarily used for products made of solid wood. It is also not permissible to paint the boards with wood protection products against fungi and discolouration. This has a negative impact on the surface quality.
As the homogeneous polymer mass is formed in the process of high-temperature extrusion of the polymer-wood mixture, typical soiling occurring during use does not have the possibility to deeply penetrate the structure of the board and remains on its surface from where it can be easily removed.
The polymers used in the Hartika Parkan system are characterised not only by the absence of danger to the environment, but above all by high resistance to weather and chemical agents.

POST-INSTALLATION ACTIVITIES.

Immediately after installation, it is advisable to remove all residues from the installation work, such as material residues and dust from sanding and cutting. Water with a non-corrosive detergent, a stiff bristle brush and a pressure washer can be used for this purpose. It is important to rinse the surface thoroughly with water in order to remove small parts and dirt from the installation.

It is advisable to carry out the initial cleaning before the surface is even used.

FACTORS AFFECTING COLOUR STABILITY.

The colouring of Hartika Parkan system components is the result of the use of appropriately selected colouring pigments. These pigments are distributed throughout the whole mass during the production process (the so-called colouring in the mass), thanks to which the elements of the system are characterised by uniform colouring even after a deep mechanical cut. In addition, the material used in the production of the sys-tem is enriched with substances that protect against solar radiation,

One of the stages in the production process is surface brushing, during which the outer surface is mechanically treated. This allows the system elements to be given a structure similar to natural wood.

The colour and appearance of the system elements stabilise for approximately four weeks after laying. During this time the surface of the boards undergoes natural processes shaping its final colour.

Cutting and brushing are used in the production of the system elements. This process leaves behind free dust particles and pigment in the structure of the system components, which can cause local colour changes (darker spots) when in contact with rainwater. This discolouration disappears naturally after several rainfalls, which wash the particles completely off the system surface. In order to accelerate this process, it is recommended to rinse the surface of the fence intensively with water using a pressure washer after installation.

MAINTENANCE OF THE HARTIKA PARKAN SYSTEM.

A basic rule in the proper maintenance of a Hartika Parkan system is the periodic removal of dirt that arises during operation.

Removing the dirt prevents the formation and growth of mould, for which the dirt provides an excellent breeding ground. The boards themselves are resistant to mould and mildew, although the presence of organic elements has a negative impact on the appearance of the fence, so periodic cleaning is recommended.

For cleaning composite fences we recommend HARCLEAN, which has been developed and tested on Hartika composite boards. This preparation is available from Hartika distributors, a list and address details of which can be found at www.hartika.com.

For temporary maintenance, the boards can also be cleaned with household products such as a brush, water, soap or mild, non-irritating kitchen detergents.

BASIC CLEANING (DIRT).

A water rinse is sufficient to maintain the fence in good visual condition. Periodic water cleaning is also recommended to refresh the entire surface of the fence.

If rinsing with water alone does not have a sufficient effect, we recommend the use of a high pressure cleaner (max. 60°C, 100 bar, at a minimum distance of 50cm, jet directed along the corrugations), and the use of detergents and cleaning agents generally available for cleaning WPC materials. The use of rotary nozzles and acidic/bacis or intensely coloured detergents is not recommended.

Dirt from animal faeces can be removed, like other dirt, with water, mild detergents or a high-pressure cleaner.

OILS AND GREASY SUBSTANCES.

Staining caused by greasy substances must be dealt with quickly because of the particular colour contrast these stains give. For this reason, it is recommended to remove the soiling immediately using readily available means, i.e. water with detergent and a cloth. For more severe soiling, we recommend using a hard-bristled brush and hot water with detergent.

Commercially available cleaners dedicated to WPC composites can also be used to remove dried grease stains. Please note that stains that are not removed within a sufficiently short period of time will fade slowly, especially in direct sunlight.

Please follow the principle of removing greasy or colour-intensive contaminants (oils, fats, wine, etc.) as quickly as possible. An immediate reaction prevents the exposed fibres on the surface of the board from penetrating. In most cases, a quick wipe with warm water and available kitchen detergents (e.g. washing-up liquid, non-corrosive detergent) is sufficient.

SALT.

The material used for production if Hartika Parkan system is resistant to salt in terms of physical and mechanical properties. However, traces of salt may cause local discolouration (light spots), which can be easily removed with water, preferably using a pressure washer.

When removing salt traces, avoid cleaning with water in cold conditions. Water accumulated in the chambers of the system components after freezing can cause the joints and components exposed to the spreading force of freezing water to burst.

MECHANICAL DAMAGE.

Mechanical damage can be effectively removed by rubbing the board surface with an abrasive material (e.g. sandpaper, metal brush or metal wool). The abrasion affects the original texture of the material. Therefore, care must be taken to ensure that the abrasion follows the original brushing direction (parallel). The Hartika Parkan system components have homogeneous material throughout, so there is no need to worry about colour changes. In the event of mechanical damage to the surface, it is recommended that the surface is first lightly abraded with 60-80 grit sandpaper for levelling.

MOLD.

Mold and fungi should be removed using water with HARCLEAN or a mild detergent that does not contain intensive dyes. In the case of mold, fungi, green blooms - moss, developing for a long time, cleaning should be repeated several times until the mycelium is completely removed from the surface of the boards. In specialist stores, agents against mold and fungi are available. **If they are used, first check in an inconspicuous place whether the agent does not cause discoloration.**

Be sure to provide adequate ventilation (distance from the foundation or ground) in accordance with the current Installation Manual.

CORROSION.

All original components of the Hartika Parkan system have been manufactured from corrosion-resistant materials.

Use original Hartika Parkan system components (screws, angles, etc.) for installation. The use of other fixing elements may lead to corrosion and destruction of the fixing elements.

SNOW AND ICE.

Snow and ice should under no circumstances be removed with sharp tools. Salt can also be used to remove snow and ice, which, although it leaves traces, are easily removed as part of normal maintenance operations.

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DIRT REMOVAL.

To remove any stains, both light and heavy, we recommend using the cleaning methods described below:

STAINS							
LIGHT		MEDIUM INTENSIVE			SCORCHINGS		
COLD WATER	WARM WATER	HARCLEAN AGENT OR MILD DETERGENT	HARCLEAN OR OTHER DEDICATED WPC CLEANING AGENT	RICE BRUSH WITH HARCLAN AGENT OR HIGH-PRESSURE WASHER	SANDPAPER	STEEL WOOL	STEEL BRUSH

The action of water, detergent and dedicated WPC cleaning agents will be more effective if a hard bristle brush is used to remove the dirt. In any case, cleaning should be carried out according to the brushing direction (parallel to the long surface of the component).

Please note that when using a high-pressure cleaner, it is necessary to protect the work area, especially surrounding walls and facades.

WPC material is resistant to most household detergents available on the market. Particular care should be taken when using acidic substances, which may cause local color changes. Therefore, before using the agent, test its effect on the material surface in an inconspicuous place.

PROTECTING THE SURFACE OF MATERIAL.

The Hartika Parkan system retains its original features throughout its entire service life and does not require impregnation. Regardless of the aforementioned durability of the Hartika Parkan system, it is possible to apply surface protection to the material using agents dedicated to WPC wood composites.

Such an action may be a good opportunity to refresh the entire fence, and it also facilitates subsequent maintenance activities. Protective agents create an additional hydrophobic coating on the surface of the board that makes it difficult for water and other substances and particles carried by water (e.g. pollen from plants, dust) to settle.

Protective agents also facilitate the removal of all impurities from the surface of the material during maintenance activities.

The following chemicals are recommended for Hartika:

SCUDO WPC

The formulation is characterised by its colour-neutrality, which makes it possible to apply it to any type of composite board without a trace. Particularly suitable for light-coloured boards. Creates an invisible hydrophobic film.

REMMERS WPC-IMPRÄGNIER-ÖL

An oil-based impregnator, available in three colours: grey, brown and colourless. Due to its oily base, it penetrates deep into the wood fibres and thus protects the decking permanently against moisture. Particularly suitable for darker-coloured boards, which are deepened by the oil content.

When using surface protectants, always follow the recommendations of the product manufacturer.

CONTACT.

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