

# CARE & PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE GUIDE

## FOR CADET TRUCK BODIES

Model Year 2014



# CADET



## COMPOSITE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

To keep the exterior of your fiberglass truck body in good condition, periodic preventative care and maintenance should be followed.

### FINISH PROTECTION

#### Washing

The Johnson fiberglass body has a beautiful, natural glass finish that will stay this way if washed periodically with common strength soap and water (**NOTE:** heavy doses of acetone or lacquer should not be used.) High caustic soaps and solutions will cause premature color fade and panel surface deterioration. It is acceptable to use a hot water pressure washer system for cleaning; however to prevent premature deterioration of exterior finish, the water pressure against the surface of the panel should not be extreme. Mild to moderate amounts of pressure are efficient to apply soap and remove surface dirt.

#### Waxing

For good finish protection, we recommend applying a coat of wax one or two times a year. Waxing helps protect against every day elements and ultra violet rays, which cause surface deterioration and fading. Many automotive or fiberglass boat waxes can be used. Check the product label for recommended surfaces and application.

A mild, abrasive rubbing compound is recommended to be used with wax. Johnson Refrigerated Truck Bodies uses a product manufactured by "Maguire". Any fiberglass boat or automobile parts supplier should be able to provide this or an equivalent product. If you prefer a one step process, you may also use a variable compound such as "3M Imperial" which polishes and refines smaller scratches at the same time.

### Contents:

#### **Fiberglass Repair**

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- Exterior fiberglass surface repair
- Interior fiberglass liner
- Fiberglass floor

#### **Other Body Care And Maintenance**

- Cleaning body interior
- Interior drain holes
- Body doors: gaskets, door hardware, strip curtain repair

## FIBERGLASS REPAIR

### Exterior walls, interior walls and floor

Johnson Refrigerated Truck Bodies are extremely durable, but occasional accidents do occur. If so, repairs are simple, amazingly inexpensive and easily done in your own shop. Fiberglass repair kits from local boat or hardware stores are readily available. Observe all manufacturers' instructions, which include safety precautions.

### Exterior fiberglass sheet

(Rub Rails, Fenders, Doors and Corners)

If a fracture ever appears, it should be repaired as soon as possible.



1. Sand entire area to remove all foreign matter, and rough up to assure a good bond
2. Fill voided foam area with a urethane based foam product
3. Allow foam to dry, and trim excess foam to within 1/4" of exterior of finished sheet
4. Sand area again to assure a good bond
5. Feather thickness of sheet
6. Fill area with Mar glass to within 1/8" of exterior of finished sheet
7. Allow to harden and sand
8. Cut oversized strips of fiberglass mat to cover area (approximately 2" larger than damaged area and about 3-4 strips)
9. Lay mat on clean cardboard
10. Saturate mat with resin and catalyst mixture
11. Place coated mat into hole
12. Remove all air bubbles from the layers of wet mat with brush or roller
13. Allow to dry

After area has hardened:

1. Sand, flush and feather edges to original liner
2. Prime and paint as needed

### Exterior fiberglass surface repair

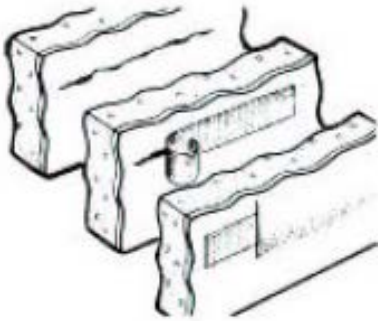
If Fiberglass Reinforced Plastic (FRP) surface has superficial cracks or a porous surface:

1. Remove any decals from area of repair
2. Sand the area with 180-grit sandpaper
3. Wipe area clean and tack with a tack cloth
4. For light to moderate repairs, apply DuPont 4724 Lightweight Polyester Filler to area
5. For moderate or heavy repairs, apply DuPont Z-Chrome Rust Defender to area
6. Allow to dry and sand area with 220-grit sandpaper
7. Wipe area clean and tack with a tack cloth. May need to repeat steps 4 or 5, 6 and 7
8. Prime the area, using a DuPont Tufcoat Primer

9. Using a topcoat sealer, seal area according to customer's specifications (i.e. gel coat with Cooks Armorcoat Gel Coats or paint with DuPont's Imron or PPG's Ditzler Paints)

#### Interior fiberglass liner

If a fracture ever appears, it should be repaired as soon as possible.



1. Sand entire area to remove all foreign matter and rough up to assure a good bond
2. Fill voided foam area with a urethane based foam product
3. Allow foam to dry and trim excess foam to within 1/8" of sheet
4. Sand area again to assure a good bond
5. Putty over foam to allow mat to adhere
6. Cut strips of fiberglass mat to cover area
7. Coat area with resin (mixed according to manufacturer's instructions)
8. Lay pre-cut pieces of fiberglass mat over fresh resin
9. Work resin into mat with clean brush or roller
10. Saturate mat with resin and catalyst mixture
11. Apply enough mixture to make a convex over the damaged area
12. Use small roller or brush to work into place removing any air bubbles
13. Trim any edges or excess mat before completely hardened

After area has hardened:

1. Sand flush to original liner
2. Recoat with resin to give a smooth, glossy finish

#### Fiberglass floor

If a definite fracture or crack appears, it can be repaired in the same manner as you would the liner.

If an entire area of the floor wears thin, repair as follows:



1. Sand entire area to remove all foreign matter and rough up to assure a good bond
2. Cut strips of fiberglass mat to cover area
3. Coat area with resin (mixed according to manufacturer's instructions)
4. Lay pre-cut pieces of fiberglass mat over fresh resin
5. Apply additional resin to completely saturate top of mat
6. Use paint roller to smooth the surface and remove the air bubbles

If grit for a non-slip surface is desired:

1. Sprinkle grit on repaired area while resin is still wet
2. Allow to harden
3. Recoat area with mixed resin and catalyst to lock in grit

## **OTHER BODY CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

### Cleaning body interior

Clean and sanitize body interior after cold plate defrost.

- ✓ After defrosting unit, spray down walls using an all-purpose cleaner.
- ✓ Rinse down walls using a water hose or pressure washer (2,600 lbs or less).
- ✓ Wipe down or let air dry.

### Interior drain holes

- ✓ After defrost, make sure drains are clear of debris and check for proper drainage.
- ✓ If drains are backed up or draining slowly, clean out with pressure washer or water hose.

### Body doors

#### Gaskets

It is recommended that gaskets be checked monthly.

- ✓ Wipe away any build-up and make sure surfaces are kept clean.
- ✓ Check for any visible tears.
- ✓ Check that adhesive is holding. If coming loose, use 3M 4799 rubber cement glue to re-attach.
- ✓ If flattened out, gasket needs to be replaced.

Make sure doors are sealing properly and correct leaks:

1. Place a dollar bill between the door gasket and jam while you open and close the door.
2. Try to pull the dollar bill back out. There should be some resistance as you pull.
3. Do this around the perimeter of the door checking resistance on the bill as you go. If there is no resistance either tighten the lock handle, shim the hinge at that location, or replace the door gasket if it appears to have lost its resilience or is missing.

#### Door hardware

Check and treat door hinges and hardware monthly to prevent rust and corrosion.

- ✓ It is recommended to apply Fluid Film, a lanolin based rust and corrosion preventative over tightly adhering rust, dry or damp metal surfaces and painted surfaces.
- ✓ Shake can before using.
- ✓ Hold can 6-8 inches from work surface. Do not spray with can in inverted position.
- ✓ Grease square-butt hinges.
- ✓ Check that set-screws on handles are tight.
- ✓ Check and tighten Cadet mounting bolts.
- ✓ Disassemble internal door release handle and lubricate threads annually to assure proper door handle release function.

#### Strip curtain repair

1. Remove damaged curtain section by removing screws in aluminum strap.
2. Measure curtain length, and contact JRTB Parts Department to order replacement curtain material.

**For more information** call Customer Service at 855.FLT.WISE (358.9473) or email us at [FleetWise@johnsontruckbodies.com](mailto:FleetWise@johnsontruckbodies.com).