

"ALUKU-RAIL"[®]



MANUFACTURERS OF PLASTIC HANDRAIL TOP
SPECIALIZING IN SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION

ALKU PLASTICS HISTORY

Our staff of highly skilled craftsmen have manufactured and installed vinyl handrail for a variety of facilities, such as commercial buildings, residential homes, hospitals, schools, airports, theme parks, and more. Our customer service representatives will be pleased to answer your inquiries and offer helpful suggestions. No project is too small or too large for us. Regardless of the size of the job, we will prepare a competitive quote. During our continued growth, we have never forgotten the main ingredient of our success: **"SERVICE AND QUALITY"**.

Please call or visit us at our website:

www.alkuplastics.com

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Alku-Rail is a decorative, thermoplastic covering for standard metal handrails. It is produced by extruding a blend of specially formulated P.V.C. compound and colour pigments. It lends itself to creative and imaginative railing designs. Alku-Rail is available in a variety of colours and profiles.

Alku-Rail provides a firm and safe gripping surface, which is pleasant to the touch. Its glossy finish is easily maintained and very wear resistant. The colour extends through the entire thickness of the material and does not fade or yellow with age (*exceptions being: Gold, Silver, and Metallic Blue, which are influenced only by ultraviolet rays*).



USES AND APPLICATIONS

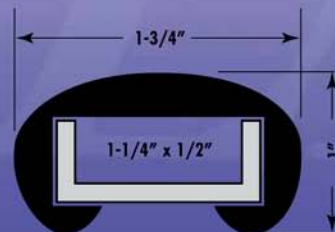
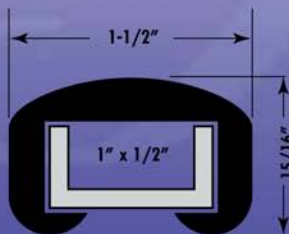
Alku-Rail can be used as a covering for stair, corridor, or other hand railings; checking counters; bumper guards; or cart handles. It is impact resistant, and can be applied over metal or adequately supported wooden bases. It can be used in offices, institutions, and residences.

Alku-Rail is used where functional or decorative considerations are involved. It is available in a variety of colours that will complement most decors. While providing a safe firm grip, as well as reducing the hazard of metal burrs or slivers, it has an attractive appearance and also protects walls and doors from damage if used as a bumper.

Alku-Rail is primarily intended for interior use, and may also be used for limited exterior applications. Excessive exposure to sunlight or extreme temperatures should be avoided. The Silver AP20, Gold AP32, and Metallic Blue AP38 colours are **not** recommended for outdoor use.



CHANNELS



DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Alku-Rail profiles fit standard channels and flat bars. All profiles can be used on curves as well as straight runs. Curved turns (**Fig.1**) are preferable to angle turns (**Fig.3**) because they eliminate the need for cutting and welding.

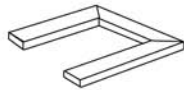
The minimum inside radius of a lateral curve is twice the width of the supporting rail. The minimum radius will be less depending on the angle of the slope at the curved section in the case of a compound curve (**Fig.2**). The minimum radius reduces proportionately to the steepness of the slope. It is recommended that the radii of the curves be greater than the minimum to facilitate easier application and achieve a more attractive finished appearance.



(Fig.1)
Lateral Curve



(Fig.2)
Compounded Curve



(Fig.3)
Angled Turn w/ mitted corners

Alku-Rail sections can be welded together to create a seamless appearance. Due to the pigmentation of the metallic colours, a dark welding seam is visible.

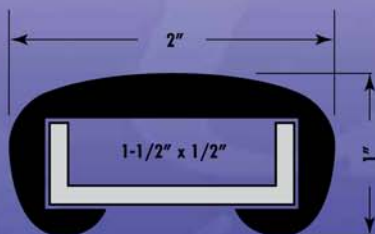
End caps are essential to provide a finished appearance and to keep the Alku-Rail in place (**Fig.4**). For wall-mounted handrails with a return to the wall, it is important to leave at least one inch of clearance between the end of the rail and the wall to facilitate proper application of the end cap and simplify cleaning of the wall (**Fig.5**).



Fig.4



Fig.5



QUALITY

Alku-Rail enhances the decor of all modern building designs. For uses in prestige office buildings, banks, hospitals, civic buildings, institutions, churches, airport terminals, schools, apartment buildings, shopping plazas, restaurants, hotels, private homes, department stores, and more.

SAFE AND DURABLE

Alku-Rail combines a fire resistant and pleasant to the touch surface, which can be securely gripped at all times. It is easily maintained, never requires polishing, and just the mere touch of a damp cloth will remove finger marks and surface dust.

COLOURFUL AND INEXPENSIVE

Alku-Rail is available in 19 decorative colours. It is up to 30% less expensive than all imported handrail and yet, through Canadian ingenuity, unsurpassed in quality.



MAINTENANCE

Alku-Rail is properly cleaned and polished during installation. A damp cloth will remove surface dust and finger marks. For the removal of accumulated grime and grease, a mild detergent solution can be used. **No wax is to be applied to the surface. USE ONLY A CLEAN DAMP CLOTH.**

INSTALLATION

We have expert installation crews who can install all handrail tops to perfection, effecting considerable economies in both time and labour.

STEP #1 - MOUNTING

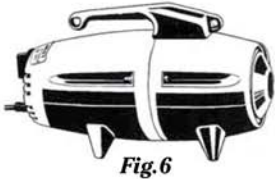


Fig. 6

The plastic handrail should be sufficiently heated to about 170°F in order to make it pliable when mounting. For short installations, hot water will suffice, but the Bicotherm hot air blower will render the best and most efficient service (Fig. 6). The handrail is slowly guided through the hose, leaving it flexible for easy installation (Fig. 7). After opening the lateral rims, the handrail is simply hooked on the flat bar (Fig. 6) and pressed on by hand. While cooling, the handrail will adopt its original shape and by slight contraction tighten itself upon the banister.

For narrow bends, (*minimum inside distance twice the width of the flat bar*), the handrail must be heated longer than usual until maximum flexibility is achieved. During the installation, the handrail must be pulled and stretched on the outside to prevent wrinkles on the inside. To assure proper fitting, use masking tape around and along the bend right after installation and until the materials have cooled. This process requires a certain experience and should be tried out first in the workshop.

STEP #2 - WELDING



Fig. 13

If handrails are heated above 250°F, they become soft like wax. For continuous runs, mitred joints, and the fitting of end caps, Alku-Rail must be welded before the installation with a welding blade (as shown in Fig. 8 & 13). After careful measuring and cutting (Fig. 13), the cut ends are placed against each side of the welding blade until the P.V.C. reaches the melting point. Carefully slide the heated ends off the blade and hold them together under pressure for at least ten

seconds. A thick seam must be formed. The blade should be cleaned immediately. Allow cooling, then trim away the excess welding seam (Fig. 10) and file down rough edges (as shown in Fig. 11).

STEP #3 - POLISHING

When installation is complete, the Alku-Rail should be cleaned and polished with our special polishing liquid, *tetrahydrofuran* (Fig. 12). The polishing liquid should be applied very carefully. If the handrail is exposed to the liquid for a long period, it will start to dissolve. Soak a rag in the polish liquid and glide it over the handrail once in a fast, wiping motion. A second or lingering application of the liquid will probably result in a blurred surface finish.



Fig. 7



Fig. 8



Fig. 9



Fig. 10

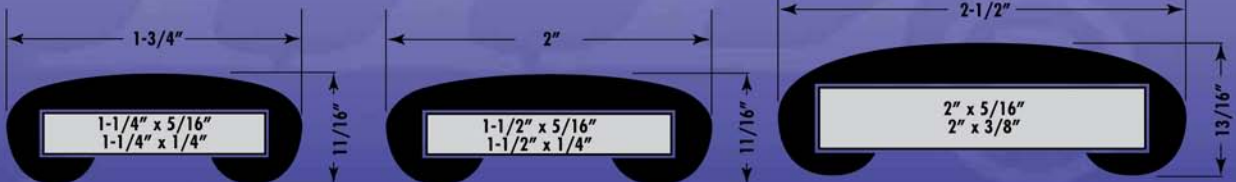


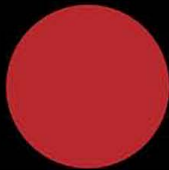
Fig. 11



Fig. 12

FLAT BARS





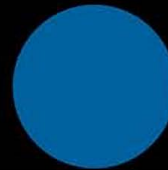
AP18
RED



AP20
SILVER



*AP22
YELLOW



AP24
ROYAL BLUE



*AP26
IVORY



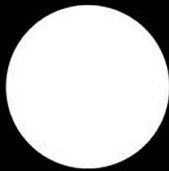
AP28
GREY



*AP30
GREEN



AP32
GOLD



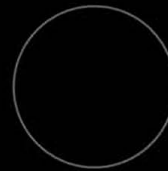
AP34
WHITE



AP36
BROWN



*AP38
METALLIC BLUE



AP40
BLACK



*AP42
CORAL



AP44
NAVY BLUE



AP46
TURQUOISE



AP48
CHOCOLATE



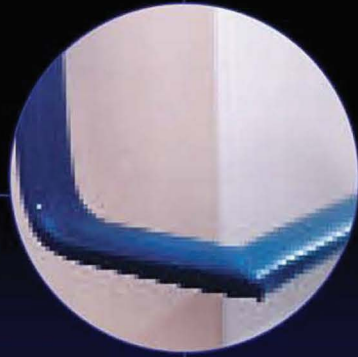
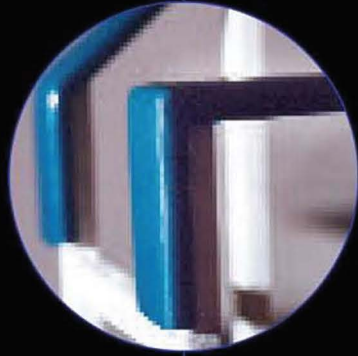
AP50
BATTLE GREEN



AP52
BURGUNDY



AP54
BEIGE



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