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## General Maintenance Note:

Inspect the entire solar array system prior to cleaning to detect loose or broken wires, panels, or improperly functioning apparatus. Make necessary repairs before cleaning. Take before-and-after photos and system output readings for presentation to the customer. Schedule quarterly cleaning and maintenance with the customer to keep their system operating at its theoretical maximum output.

## **Solar Panel Wash SPW** Usage Recommendation:

Recommended dilution ratio is 1 part Solar Panel Wash SPW $^{\mathbb{M}}$  to 25 parts water (25-1). For heavily soiled areas, use either a higher SPW $^{\mathbb{M}}$  cleaner concentration or more rinsing. The cat #SPW-35HS hose adapter package has a selector switch atop the sprayer to toggle between the 25-1 and water-only ratios.

## Always schedule panel cleaning early in the morning, when it is cool to minimize thermal stress which could cause damage to the panels.

- 1) Use 25-1 Solar Panel Wash solution to rinse panels. Rinsing is done first to remove loose sand and debris from the panels, which helps prevent scratching when using brushes. In locales known for hard water, use deionized water to dilute the SPW<sup>™</sup>. It is okay to rinse with water only.
- 2) Allow the dirt to drain from the surface and spray the panels with Polywater<sup>®</sup> Solar Panel Wash SPW<sup>™</sup> diluted 25-1 again. Wet only the number of panels that can be brushed and rinsed before the SPW<sup>™</sup> solution dries. Large arrays may need to be cleaned section by section. Use heavier amounts of SPW<sup>™</sup> on bird dropping areas.
- 3) Scrub panels with a very soft brush. Rinse the brush bristles frequently when cleaning heavily soiled systems to reduce scratching. Using brushes also helps agitate the SPW<sup>™</sup>; dirt tends to "carry" or lift off the panels better. Water alone--even deionized water--will not lift or carry off dirt adequately. SPW<sup>™</sup> is far more effective at removing residue and cleaning panels.
- 4) Rinse the panels with 25-1 SPW<sup>™</sup> solution and allow to dry if you are looking to leave an antistatic finish, otherwise use deionized water or a water rinse. Observe the condition of the panels and repeat the process above if necessary.
- 5) If desired, buff the dry, clean panels with blue microfiber cloths followed by white microfiber cloths for a fine finish.