

Light Plane Maintenance

Lowering maintenance costs and extending engine life

VOLUME XVI, NO. 6

JUNE 1994

Product Review

More powerful than Mr. Clean, it's Powerfoam

Powerfoam from Jet Stream Aviation

Aside from honey buckets and pilot relief tubes, there's no nastier cleaning jobs on an aircraft than landing gear and exhaust stains.

A couple of years ago, we tried a product called Ultrashield (now Permashield—see the article on paint restorers) for cleaning exhaust stains and found it to be pretty effective. But now comes a new product that does an even better job.

The folks at Jet Stream Aviation Products sent us a can of Powerfoam out of the blue, ostensibly for our evaluation. Well, we promptly took it out to the airport to check it out.

About a week later, we got an Aerostar in for an annual. The flaps were absolutely filthy. They looked like they'd never been cleaned before. The exhaust hand actually built up to the point where it formed a crust. Since we

had the can of Powerfoam, and the flaps had to be cleaned one way or another, we figured we'd give it a shot.

Following the directions, we sprayed an even coat of Powerfoam on the exhaust crust from about eight inches away. We let it foam and soak in for a minute or so, then took a swipe with a rag. To our surprise, the exhaust wiped away. In about two minutes, we had the entire upper flap cleaned—it looked brand new.

We tried Powerfoam on the flap undersides and it the flap wells.

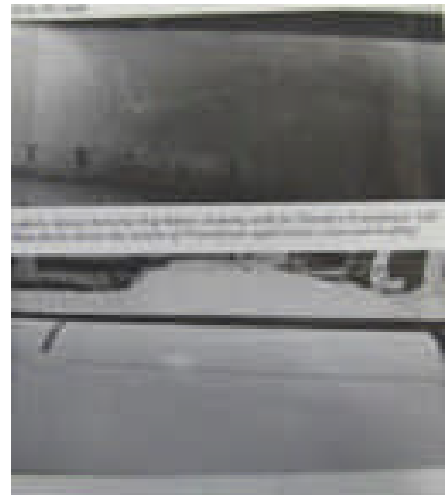
On the whole, we can recommend Powerfoam for cleaning exhaust stains. It did an excellent job on the gloss-painted surfaces, cleaning faster and better than anything we've ever tried.

According to the can and products literature, Powerfoam is also good for interior cleaning on vinyl, leather, plastics and other surfaces. And, according to the can, it kills HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) on contact. You may not have much use for that outside of lavs and honey buckets, but isn't

nice to know your airplane can be clean and disease-free at the same time?

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Top photo shows Aerostar flap before cleaning with Jet Stream's Powerfoam. Yuk! Bottom photo shows the results of Powerfoam application—clean and healthy!