## Equine Concepts, LLC General Maintenance Guide

Thank you for choosing the Equine Concepts, LLC Equi-Cover! Now is the time to take proper care of your cover to ensure that you will get many productive, long-lasting years out of your cover.

## Securing Mechanism:

First, let's discuss the fact that your vinyl has a tendency to stretch and give over time. We recommend that you inspect the condition and tension of your rope or ratchets every Fall or Spring. At that time, you may need to manually tighten them or replace them. Always check your ropes or ratchets the same time you check the tension of your vinyl. It is a lot less expensive to replace a few hundred feet of rope or a couple ratchets than an entire vinyl cover. Check all bolts, hardware and cable at the same time.

#### Snow:

The Equi-Cover Vinyl is not designed to accommodate heavy, wet snow loads. In the event you receive unexpected amounts of snow of more than 3-4", inspect bolts, welds, and signs of bowing, especially at the crown, from the OUT-SIDE of your cover. DO NOT ENTER roundpen if there are ANY signs of structural duress. If pockets develop between your purlins, runners and rafters the best solution is to use a long handled push broom to gently lift up on the pockets from underneath OR a roof rake with rubber or poly blade to use from the outside. Please do not use any sharp or pointy objects on the cover. Please do not sit, stand or put heavy objects on the top of your cover. The tighter the vinyl, the less likely it will sag, so please tighten but take care not to over-tighten and inspect your vinyl annually.

## Cleaning:

If you would like to clean your cover please use a hose with a sprayer and gentle scrub brushes or mops. **DO NOT USE**A PRESSURE WASHER. DO NOT use harsh solvents, chemicals or cleaning products as these may harm the vinyl and destroy your UVand mildew protection. We recommend a vinyl/tent wash/cleaner or restorer from www.rainier.com direct or order a gallon of tent wash through Equine Concepts, LLC. Mild dish soap such as Ivory or Simple Green (diluted) is sufficient to bring back the brilliance of your vinyl. To get started all you really need is a ladder, bucket, source of water and a brush or awning sponge with an extension pole. The brush should be about the stiffness of a hog's hair brush. The bristles should be relatively short, around 2" in length. If the bristles get any longer they have a tendency to lay flat and this will inhibit your scrubbing effectiveness. You do not need to scrub hard as this could be damaging to your vinyl. For applying a restorative product the most effective way is with a pole, window washers' T-bar and a scrub sleeve, mop or towel fastened. This will give you a wide path of coverage and a soft applicator. You can go from a bucket and brush to a pump sprayer and even a boom truck. Rinse thoroughly. Regions affected by frequent fires may be subject to caustic ash. In these instances your vinyl MUST be cleaned to remove all ash.

#### Storage:

Do not store your cover where it is not allowed to breathe. Store it as clean and dry as possible and in a covered, well ventilated area. Folding it and putting it on a pallet works well if you have to move it and it keeps it off the ground.

Depending on where you store it, please be aware that mice and mildew may get to it so check it often.

#### Gate:

If your Equi-Cover has a gate, it may have a tendency to sag over time. We have made the gate adjustable to manually tighten the gate as needed. You will need a 15/16" deepwell socket with ratchet and a 15/16" wrench. All other bolts are 3/4" or 9/16". Remember to oil the spring in your gate latch as needed.

# Touch-Up:

Steel, even Gatorshield, will develop surface rust over time. If you see rust on the welds, channel, gate latch, etc. these can be easily retreated with Rustoleum Aluminum aerosol paint as needed.

## Vinyl Patching:

You are provided with a small patch kit that includes a swatch of vinyl and a container of HH-66 vinyl cement. In the event your vinyl tears, it is easily patched. Make sure area is clean and dry and above 50F degrees for proper adhesion. Make sure to inspect vinyl for signs of wear and tear periodically. If you notice any sharp edges on your steel frame causing wear and tear, please wrap area with foam padding if needed.

#### Footing:

If you have installed a wood ringliner on your Equi-Cover please note, you will have to manually pull any built up footing away from your bottom boards to alleviate bowing or possibly broken boards due to built up outgoing pressure. Please maintain your roundpen properly and with due diligence.

Please be advised that these are maintenance guidelines to ensure that your cover has the longest life expectancy as possible. This is not a warranty.