

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

ACUTE HEALTH EFFECTS

Swallowed

May cause minor burning sensation and abdominal discomfort. Mild corrosive to mouth and throat.

Eye

Short term exposure: irritating

Long term exposure: irritating, may cause inflammation of the cornea.

Skin

Short term exposure: irritating

Long term exposure: wet cement, especially as an ingredient in plastic (unhardened) concrete, mortar, or slurry, is slightly caustic and can dry the skin and cause alkali burns. There may also be trace amounts of water-soluble hexavalent chromium present in Portland Cement (0-20pm), which may cause allergic dermatitis to some individuals.

Inhaled

Irritating to nose, throat and respiratory system causing coughing and sneezing.

CHRONIC HEALTH EFFECTS

Inhaled

Long term exposure and repeated inhalation of dust containing crystalline silica can cause bronchitis, silicosis (scarring of the lung) and lung cancer. Studies have shown that smoking can significantly increase the risk of these conditions in persons consistently exposed to crystalline silica. Under extreme exposure conditions it may also increase the risk of scleroderma (a disease affecting the connective tissue of the skin, joints, blood vessels and internal organs).

Crystalline silica is present in greater quantities in concrete by reason of the addition of sand and aggregate.

Crystalline silica dust derived from the use of this product in conjunction with pre-mixed concrete could be exacerbated if using dry concrete cutting equipment.

FIRST AID TREATMENT

Swallowed

Immediately wash mouth and lips with water. DO NOT induce vomiting. Drink plenty of water to dilute stomach contents. Seek medical attention if symptoms persist. No health hazard expected with small, ingested quantities.

Skin

Wash with tepid soapy water. A shower may be required.

Inhaled

Move to fresh air, flush nasal passages, wash mouth, lips and throat with water.

Seek medical attention if symptoms persist.

Advice to doctor/First Aid Facilities

Treat symptomatically, Eye wash station. Fresh, clean water readily accessible always.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

EXPOSURE LIMITS

Worksafe Australia exposure Standard

Classified as inert nuisance dust.

Crystalline silica (sand): 0.2 mg/m³ TWA (time-weighted average) as respiratory dust (<7 micron particle Equivalent aerodynamic diameter).

Dust (NOS - not otherwise specified): 10mg/m TWA as inspirable dust.

However, where a State or territory prescribes a lower exposure standard, the lower exposure standard applies.

MANUFACTURERS RECOMMENDATIONS

Keep exposure to dust as low as practicable. If inspirable dust levels are kept below 0.1 mg.m TWA avoid repeated skin contact with wet concrete and dry or wet cement.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS

Avoid generating dust. All work with cement should be carried out in such a way as to minimize exposure to dust and repeated skin contact. Where dust could be generated whilst handling cement, use local mechanical ventilation or extraction in areas where dust could escape into the work environment. For handling of individual bags, follow personal protection instructions below. Work areas should be cleaned regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming.

PERSONAL PROTECTION

Skin

Wear loose comfortable protective clothing and impervious boots. Wear gloves (AS 2161) or use approved barrier creams to protect hands. Wash skin- exposed areas thoroughly after handling. Launder clothes regularly and keep separate from other clothes.

Eyes

Wear safety spectacles with side shields or safety goggles (dust resistant AS/NZS 1336) if dust is likely to be generated.

Respiratory

If dust is generated, wear class P1 or P2 particulate respirator (AS/NZS 1715 & 1716). Note that persons with facial hair will have difficulty in obtaining satisfactory face seal.

Flammability

Not flammable. Does not support combustion of other materials.

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

STORAGE AND TRANSPORT

Storage Temperature:	Room Temperature
UN Class:	None allocated.
Packaging group:	None allocated.
UN Number:	None allocated.
EPG Number:	None allocated.
Correct Shipping Name:	None allocated.
Storage Advice:	Keep dry at all times. Storage of opened bags will effectively Reduce the quality of the product over time. Classified as a Non-dangerous good under the Australian Transport of Dangerous Goods Code.

Transport by rail, road, or ship in bag form. Keep dry in weatherproof vehicles and storage sheds.

SPILLS AND DISPOSAL

Follow safety requirements for personal protection. If spills occur, vacuum or wet sweep and shovel so as to minimize dust generation. Collect in containers and dispose of as trade waste in accordance with local authority guidelines. Keep out of sewer and storm water drains.

FIRE / EXPLOSION HAZARD

The material will not burn or explode. Does not cause dust explosions.

DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS

In case of small fire/explosion use:	Water
In case of major emergency:	Water
HAZCHEM CODE:	None Allocated
Extinguishment:	Water, or as for other chemicals present
Danger of violent reaction or explosion :	No
Protective clothing:	As for other chemicals present
Appropriate measures:	Dilute
Evacuate:	No

OTHER INFORMATION

Smoking: Cigarette smoking increases the risk of occupational respiratory diseases. It is Recommended that all storage and work areas should be smoke free zones.