

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Product

Pre-cast concrete block paving and small element kerbing units.

Composition

Cement, cement extenders, coarse and fine aggregates, organic and inorganic pigments, chemical admixtures, water.

Hazard Identification

Cutting of concrete will produce dust that may contain respirable crystalline silica. Inhalation of this dust over long periods may constitute a chronic health hazard.

Abrasion and cuts may result from the handling of concrete.

Repetitive handling of products may result in strain injury.

First Aid Measures

There are no specific first aid requirements. Use appropriate minor injury treatment.

Inhalation (dust) – Move to fresh air, give water to drink.

Skin Damage – wash with soap & water, apply sterile dressing.

Eye contact (dust) – flush thoroughly with water.

Ingestion (dust) – give water to drink.

In all cases further medical attention should be sought if the injury is considered severe or symptoms of the injury persist.

Fire Fighting Measures

Products do not support combustion.

Accidental Release Measures

Not applicable.

Handling & Storage

Products are delivered in banded/strapped packs or on pallets. Use suitable mechanical handling devices to off-load and to move product around site i.e. clamps and forks. Ensure forks are correctly spaced and that all handling devices are capable of taking the required load. Do not attempt to lift packs by the shrink-wrapping or the banding. Do not slide the packs.

Packs should be stored on firm, dry, level ground. Do not stack more than three high. Always ensure stacks are stable. Only dismantle packs that are on ground level. Do not re-stack opened packs.

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Product that has been in storage for a time should be periodically inspected to check strap and pallet integrity.

Banding is under tension, when cut the ends may fly. Ensure that the band is weighted down on either side of the cutting point and use a suitable cutting device. Cut ends may be sharp, ensure that loose ends are cut as close to the pack as possible.

When blocks are manually handled use the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 as guidance to avoid the risk of injury. Where possible use mechanical handling to move product around site.

Exposure Controls / Personal Protection

Dust must be controlled within the Occupational Exposure Limits for crystalline silica. When using a mechanical saw to cut blocks use water to control the dust or a suitable method of dust extraction. Do not dry sweep the dust, wash away or use a vacuum instead. Where appropriate use European safety standard approved respiratory protection to protect against the inhalation of crystalline silica,

When splitting blocks, sharp concrete chips may fly out; wear suitable impact resistant eye protection.

When cutting banding wear suitable eye protection or face shield.

Wear suitable gloves to protect against cuts and abrasion from handling concrete products and to protect against the sharp ends of the banding.

Wear steel toe capped foot protection.

If there is a risk of product falling from above wear head protection.

Implement basic industrial hygiene before breaks and at the end of work.

Physical & Chemical Properties

Concrete products in various colours and shapes.

Stability and Reactivity

Not applicable.

Toxicological Information

Not applicable.

Ecological Information

Non-hazardous, not bio-degradable.

Disposal Considerations

Concrete is inert and should be disposed of in accordance with local and national regulations. As it is readily

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recyclable, this is the preferred method of disposal.

Shrink-wrapping and banding should be disposed of according to local and national regulations. Shrink-wrap should be recycled where facilities exist. On no account should the packaging be burnt, as this will liberate toxic fumes.

Timber pallets can be re-used if in good condition. Pallets unsuitable for re-use should be recycled.

Advice on the preferred method of disposal of any of these materials can be obtained from the local authority.

Transport Information

The product is not classed as dangerous goods.

Regulatory Information

Classified as non-hazardous for conveyance and supply.

Risk Phrases – Not applicable.

Safety Phrases – S22, do not inhale dust.

Occupational Exposure Standard - crystalline silica dust - 10mg/m³ total dust, 5mg/m³ respirable dust.

Other Information

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations, employers must carry out a risk assessment to ensure the health and safety of their employees and non-employees who may be affected by their actions.

For further information refer to:

www.hse.gov.uk

EH40 – Occupational Exposure Limits

Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992

Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 (amnd 2004)

Waste Disposal – Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991

Cutting Paving – cutting precast concrete blocks, flags and kerbs - efficient design and managing the risk.

Available from: www.paving.org.uk/downloads.php