Birchover Stone Limited

Fashioning Stone For The Future

Safety Data Sheet for Gritstone Products

Identification of the Substance	Medium to fine grained gritstone.
Composition	Quartz and Feldspar.
Hazards Identification	Respirable crystalline silica dust will be released during cutting or surface treatment.
First Aid Measures	Inhalation: If irritation occurs remove the affected person to fresh air and seek medical attention if necessary. Skin: Wash with soap and water and seek medical attention if irritation persists. Eyes: Irrigate with copious amounts of water and seek medical attention if irritation persists. Ingestion: Swallowing small amounts of dust is unlikely to cause significant reaction. Do not induce vomiting, provide plenty of water to drink and seek medical attention if necessary.
Fire Fighting Measures	No fire or explosive hazard.
Accidental Release Measures	The release of dust into the environment does not constitute a significant environmental hazard, if contained within the site boundary.
Handling and Storage	• The product should be handled and stored to minimise the creation of airborne dust. • Stacking of pallets and blocks requires care and they must be stable. • Individual blocks may weigh more than 20 kg and are subject to assessment under the Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992.
Exposure Controls / Personal Protection	Workplace Exposure Limit (WEL) for respirable crystalline silica = 0.1 $mg.m^{-3}$ (8hr time weighted average). When cutting, wet systems or local exhaust ventilation should be used. Respiratory protection equipment may be required in addition to engineering controls. Eye protection should be used to prevent dust entering the eyes. When manually handling building blocks, the normal protective equipment for use on building sites should be used, in particular; safety helmets, safety footwear with protective toe caps and abrasive resistant gloves.
Physical and Chemical Properties	Solid odourless material. Other chemical properties not applicable under ambient conditions.
Stability and Reactivity	No safety issues relating to stability and reactivity of product under normal conditions.

Toxological Information	Prolonged inhalation of dust can lead to the development of respiratory ill health, in particularly silicosis. Dust can cause irritation by abrasion to skin and eyes. Dust can cause gastrointestinal irritation if ingested.
Ecological Information	When used and disposed of as intended, no adverse environmental effects are foreseen.
Disposal Considerations	Classed as inert for disposal purposes. Disposal of surplus materials must be in accordance with Duty of Care requirements.
Transport Information	Classification for conveyance is not required.
Regulatory Information	CHIP Regulations 2002: no classification. COSHH Regulations 2004 (Occupational exposure limits: HSE Guidance Note EH40). Environmental Protection ACT 1990.
Other Information	The information contained within this safety data sheet does not in itself constitute a risk assessment or COSHH assessment. Employers have a duty to inform employees and others who may be affected, of the hazards and precautions to be taken regarding the use of products covered by this sheet. Purchasers of these products have a duty to ensure this sheet is passed to third parties. Attention is drawn to the following: • *HSE Construction Information Sheet No 36 Revision 1 - Silica* • *HSE Construction Sheet No 37 - Handling heavy building blocks* • *HSE Construction Sheet No 54 - Dust Control on concrete cutting saws used in the construction industry* • *HSE Chemical Hazard Alert Notice 35 – Respirable Crystalline Silica* • *HSE COSHH Essentials for Stonemasons ST3 – Hand held rotary tools*