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# HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCT DATA SHEET AERATED CONCRETE BLOCKS

The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1994 (COSHH) requirements of The Health and Safety at Work Act, The Consumer Protection Act and The Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 1994 requires us to provide relevant information regarding our products in respect of its properties, correct use, storage/handling and disposal without risk to health.

# PRODUCTS

Autoclaved aerated concrete building blocks.

# COMPOSITION

Pulverised fuel ash, sand, cement, lime, anhydrite, aluminium slurry and water.

### HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

When used correctly for their intended purpose, and provided normal good standards of building practice are followed, no significant hazards exist.

### FIRST AID MEASURES

There are no specific requirements when using aerated concrete blocks other than the appropriate treatment of minor injuries.

Damage to skin - Wash with soap and water and apply sterile dressing.

Dust in mouth or eyes - Irrigate liberally with water.

Accidents where products strike or crush parts of the body should be referred to a suitably qualified medical practitioner. In all cases of doubt or where symptoms persist, medical advice should be obtained.

# FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Products will not support combustion.

# ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Not applicable.

### HANDLING AND STORAGE

When blocks are banded or wrapped, care should be taken when releasing or removing this packaging to avoid injury from the band when under tension and the possibility of loose blocks falling from the pack. Packs should not be lifted by polythene or plastic banding alone, but by a suitable grab capable of carrying the weight of the pack, or by correctly positioned handling forks. Packs should be stacked on dry level ground no more than 3 packs high to reduce the risk of loose blocks falling. Where blocks are handled manually, personal injury due to strains or ruptures should be avoided if the requirements of The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 are implemented.

# EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

When cutting blocks with a mechanical saw, it is advisable to use water to minimise the generation of dust from this process. A dust mask to current H.S.E. or European approved standard should be worn to protect against the inhalation of dust, which may contain respirable crystalline silica. Protective goggles, spectacles or face shield to BS 2092 or relevant European standard must be worn when cutting plastic bands under tension. Suitable gloves should be worn to prevent skin abrasion, which could be caused by the rough edges of the blocks. Suitable head and foot protection should be worn where there exists the risk of products falling from a height.

# PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Aerated concrete blocks are inert and solid when supplied. The main constituents are pulverised fuel ash, which contains amorphous silica and various metal oxides, and cement, which is predominantly made up of calcium silicate and calcium aluminate.

# STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Not applicable.

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# TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Not applicable.

### **ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

Not applicable.

# **DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Redundant plastic strapping and waste polythene can be recycled where this facility exists, or disposed of by a registered carrier at an approved landfill site. Waste polythene can be incinerated under approved conditions in compliance with the Control of Pollution Act 1974.

Advice on the preferred method should be obtained from the local authority waste disposal officer.

# TRANSPORT INFORMATION

No special precautions required.

### **REGULATORY INFORMATION**

Classified as non hazardous for conveyance and supply.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

In accordance with the Management of Health & Safety at Work Regulations 1992, 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 undertaking.

For further information contact our Product Services at:

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