

WARNING

WORKING SAFELY WITH CONCRETE and QUARRY PRODUCTS

Note: a Material Safety Data Sheet for our products is available on request

PREVENTION of CONTACT WITH WET (PLASTIC) CONCRETE

WET (PLASTIC) CONCRETE CAN HARM SKIN AND EYES.

To prevent this, avoid contact with cement or concrete in the plastic state if possible, but if unavoidable, use protective clothing including eye protection conforming to AS/NZS 1337 and gloves conforming to AS2161. WHERE CONTACT OCCURS, WHETHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH SATURATED CLOTHES, WASH THOROUGHLY IMMEDIATELY.

PREVENTION of INHALATION of DUST CONTAINING CRYSTALLINE SILICA

ACTIVITIES SUCH AS CUTTING, DRILLING, SAWING, ROUTING, CHASING, SANDING, BREAKING UP OR GRINDING CERTAIN QUARRY PRODUCTS OR CONCRETE, WILL RELEASE DUST, WHICH MAY CONTAIN CRYSTALLINE SILICA. THE REPEATED BREATHING OF DUST CONTAINING CRYSTALLINE SILICA OVER TIME MAY LEAD TO LUNG DAMAGE AND / OR LUNG DISEASES INCLUDING SILICOSIS.

Avoid generating dust if possible, but if unavoidable, use silica dust control measures as follows (listed in priority order):

- Fully enclose dusty processes
- Use local exhaust ventilation or dust collection equipment to remove dust from the operator
- Use tools fitted with dust extraction (vacuum) devices
- Use tools fitted with a water attachment to suppress dust
- Fit the cabs of machinery such as excavators and bulldozers with an effective air filtering system (not just normal air conditioning which cannot remove fine silica dust)
- Use an alternative to sand for abrasive blasting (e.g. metallic shot, slag products, grit)
- Wear suitable respiratory protection.

The following respiratory protective devices are recommended in order of increasing dust levels:

- A disposable mask
- A half-mask with a disposable cartridge
- A battery powered respirator with a dust filter
- An airline respirator.

The respiratory protection used must comply with AS/NZS 1716. It must be used in accordance with AS/NZS 1715: *Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protection*. Respiratory protection should not be used with facial hair and must be regularly cleaned and maintained. Eye protection conforming to AS/NZS 1337 is also recommended, as is protective clothing and gloves.

If dust is inhaled, move immediately out of the dusty area and into fresh air. Seek medical attention if symptoms such as irritation persist.

Safe working procedures include:

- Placing warning signs where dust generating processes are carried out
- Avoiding dust generating areas where at all possible
- Cleaning up work areas every day
- Wetting down dusty work areas and processes
- Wetting down and sweeping OR dry vacuuming all dust
- Collecting solid waste and placing in a covered container
- Washing work clothes often, keeping them separate from other clothes
- Wearing clean coveralls at every shift, removing them before removing dust mask
- Washing all dust from exposed skin surfaces
- Creating a non-smoking environment

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