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T/A: BGC Fibre Cement
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MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

In accordance with the National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) criteria, BGC Fibre Cement products are not classified as hazardous materials.

Identification:-

Product Name:	Duraliner / Durasheet / Duratex / Duralattice / Duralux / Duraplank Ultraform / Compressed / Ceramic & Vinyl Underlays / Nuline / Silhouette/ Duragrid/ Durascape/ Duragroove
Other Names:	Fibre Cement Sheets
Manufacturer's Product Code:	Duraliner / Durasheet / Duratex / Duralattice / Duralux / Duraplank Ultraform / Compressed / Ceramic & Vinyl Underlays / NuLine / Silhouette/ Duragrid/ Durascape/ Duragroove
UN Number:	None allocated
Dangerous Goods Class & Subsidiary Risk:	None allocated
Hazchem Code:	None allocated
Poisons Schedule Number:	None scheduled
Uses:	Fibre cement sheets for use on internal / external wall linings and soffits, also ceramic and Vinyl / Cork Underlays

Physical Description/Properties:-

Appearance:	Factory applied green tint on the face of Duraliner and Duralux, blue tint on face of the Duratex, pink tint on face of Duragrid.and a white tint to the face of 4.5, 6.0, 9.0 and 12mm Compressed while all other products are cement grey finish.
Boiling Point: (^{O}C)	Not applicable
Vapour Pressure:	Not applicable
Specific Gravity (H_2O = 1)	Not relevant
Flashpoint:	Not applicable
Flammability Limits:	Not flammable
Solubility in water:	Not relevant
Reactivity (e.g. with air or water):	Not reactive
Auto-ignition Temperature (^{O}C):	-
Odour Threshold:	Slight cement odour
Lower Explosion Limit:	-
Upper Explosion Limit:	-
Self accelerating Decomposition:	-

Ingredients

Chemical Name:	CAS Number:	Proportion:	Exposure Limits
Cement (Calcium silicate)	66997-15-1	> 30%	10.0 mg/m^3 measured as inspirable dust
Sand (Crystalline Silica)	14808-60-7	> 50%	0.1 mg/m^3 measured as inspirable
Paper pulp (Cellulose)	9004-34-6	< 8%	10 mg/m^3 measured as inspirable dust
Aluminium Trihydroxide (Hydrated Ground Alumina)	21645-51-2	< 5%	10 mg/m^3 measured as inspirable dust

HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

The potential health hazards are related to dust generated from these materials during the use of power tools and sanding.
Inhaling dust liberated from BGC Fibre cement may aggravate pre-existing respiratory conditions.
The intact BGC Fibre cement does not give off dust or fume during installation or when installed.
However, cutting, breaking, drilling or sawing the boards may generate dust.

Health Effects

Acute:

Swallowed:
Unlikely to occur, however may result in symptoms of acute indigestion.

Eye:
Excessive dust may cause eye irritation.

Skin:
The dust, particularly in association with heat and sweat, can cause irritation, but it is not absorbed through the skin.

Inhaled:
Inhaled dust may cause nasal, throat and lung irritation, symptomatic through excess mucus and coughing.

Chronic:

Inhaled:
If respirable crystalline silica levels are not controlled, repeated exposure to excessive dusts of fibre cement products could result in the chronic lung disease Silicosis. However, if the practices noted in this MSDS are followed during cutting and sanding, exposure to airborne dusts should be within recommended occupational exposure standards and no long-term effects are expected.

First Aid

Swallowed:
Give copious amounts of water to drink.

Eye:
Flush thoroughly with flowing water for at least ten minutes. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.

Skin:
Wash thoroughly with soap and water.

Inhaled:
Remove to fresh air.

Advice to Doctor: Treat symptomatically.

PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Standards:	BGC Fibre Cement has adopted the following maximum exposure limits, corresponding to the limits set out by the CoA, NOHSC; Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment:- • Calcium silica: 10 mg/m^3 time-weighted average (TWA) as inspirable dust • Cellulose: 10 mg/ m^3 TWA as respirable dust • Crystalline silica (quartz): 0.1 mg/ m^3 TWA as respirable dust • Aluminium Trihydroxide: 10 mg/m^3 time-weighted average as inspirable dust BGC Fibre Cement recommends keeping exposures to dust as low as practicable and work in a well-ventilated space.
Engineering Controls:	No dust is generated, unless the fibre cement is cut. Keep exposures to dust as low as practicable, preferably below 5 mg/m^3 TWA (time-weighted average) of inspirable dust, to prevent respiratory discomfort. Work in the open air or near external openings in the building, for adequate ventilation. Where dust is generated, in confined spaces, local mechanical ventilation should be used, to direct the dust away from the work areas. Personal protective equipment should be used in confined spaces and where dust levels exceed the maximum levels. Use safe work practices to minimize dust release and exposure. Clean work areas regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming with a HEPA filtered vacuum.
Ventilation:	Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place, ventilation is not normally required. Use local mechanical ventilation and or dust extraction in confined areas and where dust could escape into the working environment.
Tools and Equipment;- Repair / Maintenance	Vacuum and or wipe down all tools and equipment prior to maintenance and repair work. Avoid compressed air cleaning where possible, and wear eye and respiratory protection, and clothing as listed below.
Personal Protection:	Use personal safety protection at all times.

Skin Protection:	Avoid direct skin contact with fibre cement products. Wear loose appropriate clothing, such as long sleeved shirts and long trousers, head protection and standard duty leather or equivalent gloves, which comply with Australian Standard AS 2161: Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens. Wash work clothes regularly and do not shake out dust.
Eye Protection:	Wear dust resistant non-fogging safety goggles or glasses, which comply with Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1336: Recommended Practices for Eye Protection.
Respiratory Protection:	Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place and used none may be required. However, BGC Fibre Cement suggests that L or M particulate respirator (dust mask), which comply with Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1715: Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices, and Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1716: Respiratory Protective Devices when Exposed to Dust), be used at all times.
Personal Hygiene:	Do not smoke whilst handling and working with fibre cement. Wash dust from skin with mild soap and water after working with fibre cement.
Flammability:	Fibre cement products are non-combustible and non-flammable

SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport:	Fibre cement sheets should be stored flat and level in a covered dry area. Lift, handle and carry fibre cement sheets on edge. All lifting should be done with a straight back and bent knees. No other special transport requirements are necessary.
Spills and disposal:	Use wet sweeping and/or vacuuming to clean up dust and waste. Bagged waste should be placed in containers and disposed of with other construction waste in accordance with local authority guidelines.
Fire/explosion hazard:	.
Smoking and Other Dust:	Smoking and inhalation of airborne particulates from other sources may increase the risk of lung disease. Work areas and storage areas should be deemed smoke-free zones.

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CONTACT POINTS

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