

**Aggregate Industries H&S dept
Hulland Ward, Ashbourne,
Derbyshire DE6 3ET**

**Safety Data Sheet
Issue Date: January 2008**

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE

2. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

Mixed Mortar

Product description

Mortar is a durable cement-based product used in masonry applications. Mixed concrete is a tailored mix of raw materials and water, which is prepared in bulk at a mortar plant and delivered in bulk to site where it is discharged directly into site containers and is ready for use with no further mixing.

Ready mixed mortar is made from a mix of raw materials, including:

- Fine aggregate (sand)
- Cement
- Water
- Admixtures (e.g. retarder, air-entrainer and pigments)

The latter ingredients are added to alter or improve the properties of the mortar in either its plastic or hardened state and to meet customer requirements.

3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Wet mortar

The cement content of wet mortar can cause serious alkali burns if it is splashed into the eyes.

The cement content of wet mortar can also cause both dermatitis and burns or ulcers if it comes into contact with the skin.

Irritant dermatitis may be caused by the physical properties of the cement, such as the fine particles, that abrade and irritate the skin mechanically. Allergic dermatitis may be caused by sensitisation to the hexavalent chromium (chromate) present in the mortar, which penetrates the barrier layer of the skin.

Serious alkali burns, which may develop into ulcers, may occur if cement becomes trapped against the skin.

Dry mortar and mortar dust

There is a potential for respirable dust, including an element of respirable crystalline silica (quartz), to be released if the product in its hardened state is drilled, cut, sawn, crushed or accidentally broken up. This could pose a health hazard if inhaled over a prolonged period of time.

Dry mortar and mortar dust particles can also cause abrasion or irritation to skin and eyes

The weight of the product in its hardened state could pose a health hazard if inappropriate manual handling techniques are employed.

For further guidance see HSE Publications EH44 Dust: General Principles of Protection, Getting to Grips with

Wet mortar

General

Unlikely to be hazardous if handled correctly.

Skin

Wash thoroughly with clean water and soap as soon as contamination occurs and seek medical attention.

Note: This includes contact with the skin through contaminated clothing.

Eyes

Irrigate immediately and for at least 10 minutes with plenty of clean water and seek medical attention.

Ingestion

Drink plenty of water and seek medical attention.

Dry mortar and mortar dust

General

Unlikely to be hazardous if handled correctly.

Inhalation

Remove to a dust free area and seek medical attention if breathing difficulties are experienced.

Skin

Wash thoroughly with clean and soap water. If

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Manual Handling: a Short Guide and Information Sheet Number 26 (Revision 2) - Cement.	<p>prolonged contact causes irritation seek medical attention.</p> <p><u>Eyes</u></p> <p>Irrigate immediately with plenty of clean water and seek medical attention.</p> <p><u>Ingestion</u></p> <p>Drink plenty of water and seek medical attention.</p>
5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES	6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES
<p>No fire or explosive hazard.</p>	<p><u>Personal precautions</u></p> <p>Avoid contact with the eyes by wearing goggles. Avoid contact with the skin by wearing impervious protective clothing including safety boots, gloves and overalls with long sleeves and trousers. Avoid inhaling any dust by wearing a dust mask or respirator.</p> <p>Note: Steps should be taken to prevent cement becoming trapped inside gloves or boots.</p> <p><u>Environmental measures</u></p> <p>Prevent the product from entering water courses, drains or sewers.</p> <p><u>Method of cleaning</u></p> <p>Any spillage of wet mortar should be recovered immediately whilst the product is in its plastic state and the affected area washed thoroughly.</p> <p>Any deposits of dry product or mortar dust should be cleared by damp sweeping or vacuuming if possible. Dry sweeping should be avoided.</p>
7. HANDLING AND STORAGE	8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

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Wet mortar

Handling

Avoid direct and indirect contact with the skin and eyes. Do not sit or kneel on wet mortar.

Storage

Not applicable – used immediately.

Dry mortar and mortar dust

Handling

The product should be handled in a manner that minimises the generation of airborne dust.

Manual handling of product should be avoided so far as is reasonably practical. Where this is not possible, an assessment should be made, taking into account the load, environment, task, and individual capability and training. Always employ good lifting techniques.

Storage

Not applicable – in situ when dried

Wet mortar

Prevention measures

Control measures and working practices should be instigated, which prevent or minimise the direct and indirect contact of wet mortar with the skin or eyes. To reduce the risk of allergic dermatitis developing, hands and other potentially exposed areas should be washed at regular intervals throughout the working day.

Protection of skin and eyes

Goggles and impervious protective clothing including safety boots, gloves and overalls with long sleeves and trousers should be worn.

Note: Steps should be taken to prevent cement becoming trapped inside gloves or boots.

Dry mortar and mortar dust

Workplace Exposure Limits

- Total Inhalable Nuisance Dust: 10.0 mg/m³ (WEL)
- Total Respirable Nuisance Dust: 4.0 mg/m³ (WEL)
- Respirable Crystalline Silica: 0.1 mg/m³ (WEL)

All are given as maximum concentrations and expressed as an 8 Hour Time Weighted Average (8 Hr TWA).

Prevention measures

Use dust extraction, containment and suppression where possible. Undertake regular occupational dust surveys where personnel may be exposed to respirable dust and identify and implement further preventative measures as necessary.

Respiratory protection

Dust masks or respirators should be worn during handling and use of the product to accord with the relevant WEL listed above.

Protection of skin and eyes

Gloves, overalls and goggles should be worn during handling and use of the product.

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9. PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL PROPERTIES	
<p><u>Appearance</u></p> <p>Plastic when wet and hardened when dry. Natural and coloured.</p> <p><u>Other Chemical Properties</u></p> <p>Detailed properties vary according to the required mix, however, all mortars are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abrasive ▪ Alkaline (typically pH value 10 – 14) 	
10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY	11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION
<p><u>Conditions and materials to avoid</u></p> <p>Not applicable.</p>	<p><u>Description of toxicological properties</u></p> <p>Wet mortar may cause irritation, dermatitis and burns or ulcers to the skin and irritation and burns to the eyes, due to the alkalinity and chromate content of cement. Dry mortar may impact on the respiratory system due to the generation of airborne dust, which may be inhaled. The behaviour, deposition, fate of and response to any particular particle after entry into the human respiratory system depends on their nature and size. Respirable dust approximates to the fraction that penetrates to the gas exchange region of the lung and is associated with health effects (see Hazards Identification).</p>
12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION	13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS
<p><u>Environmental Assessment</u></p> <p>When used as intended no environmental impact is anticipated. However, do not allow material to enter water courses, drains or sewers.</p>	<p><u>Handling of any residues/waste products</u></p> <p>As an inert material, hardened mortar should be disposed of to an approved solid waste disposal or landfill site.</p>
14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION	15. REGULATORY INFORMATION
<p><u>Special carriage precautions</u></p> <p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Under the requirements of the Chemicals (Hazard Information and Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002 (CHIP 3) the Danger Classification for cement-based products is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Irritant (+hazard symbol) <p>In addition the following risk and safety phrases are applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ R38: Irritating to skin ▪ R41: Risk of serious damage to eyes. ▪ R43: May cause sensitisation by skin contact. ▪ S24: Avoid contact with skin. ▪ S25: Avoid contact with eyes.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ S26: If contact with eyes, rinse immediately with clean water and seek medical advice.
16. OTHER INFORMATION	
<p><u>Training advice</u></p> <p>Wear and use PPE</p> <p><u>Recommended uses</u></p> <p>As a construction material in infrastructure and public and private construction projects.</p> <p><u>Further information sources</u></p> <p>Aggregate Industries UK Limited Hulland Ward Ashbourne Derbyshire DE6 3ET</p> <p>Tel. (01335) 372222 Fax. (01335) 372223</p> <p><u>Sources of key data used to compile data sheet</u></p> <p>EH40 2005 Workplace Exposure Limits (supplementary amendment 01 October 2006) PPE Regulations 1992 Manual Handling Regulations 1992 (as amended) COSHH Regulations 2002 (as amended) COSHH (Amendment) Regulations 2004 CHIP Regulations 2002 Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996</p>	<p>LEGAL NOTICE</p> <p>The information contained in this Safety Data Sheet was considered the best available at the date of issue. However, no warranty is made or implied that the information is accurate or complete. It is the user's obligation to evaluate and use this product safely and to comply with all applicable laws and regulations.</p>