

PRODUCT HEALTH AND SAFETY

Product

Cast Stone Building Components

Application

Custom made units resembling natural stone dressings, supplied on pallets to building sites, are incorporated into the work by traditional building methods (e.g. mortar bedding) or by metal mechanical fixings.

Physical Characteristics

The material as supplied is substantially inert. It is odourless, is not flammable and has a relative density of typically 2.2.

Ingredients

Predominantly carboniferous limestone and natural sands containing quartz, locked into a hydrated cement matrix.

Main Hazards

As supplied, products are not considered hazardous, there being no detrimental effects to skin or from ingestion. Correct lifting and handling methods should be used to comply with manual handling regulations and to avoid skin abrasion.

However, if site cutting of the product is undertaken, respirable dust containing quartz could constitute a long-term health hazard.

Exposure Limits

10mg/m³ total inhalable dust and 5mg/m³ respirable dust on a time-weighted average exposure of 8 hours.

Legislation

Health and Safety at Work, etc Act 1974 (HASAW)
Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 1988 (COSHH)
Chemicals (hazard, information and packaging) Regulations 1993 (CHIP)
Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992

Precautions

None normally required other than usual protection when handling and lifting heavy building materials.

Inhalation of dust generated by any cutting operations should be avoided. Dust masks to BS2091 type B; BS6016 type 2 or 3; BS EN 149, or their equivalent, should be worn particularly when cutting or grinding in enclosed spaces, where adequate ventilation is not provided. Suitable goggles, gloves, safety boots and overalls should be worn.

Transportation, Storage and Disposal

The carriage of cast stone is not subject to hazardous substance conveyance regulations and vehicle labelling is not required. Cast stone is inert and should be disposed of in accordance with local requirements.