PRODUCT HEALTH AND SAFETY DATA SHEET MORTARS

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1. **Product identification Mortars, Renders, Concretes, Cements and Screeds**

Produced by Flomix UK Dry Mortar Ltd Contact *info@flomixuk.com* for any advice.

2. Composition

2.1 A mortar is comprised of: • A cementitious material. This may be cement or a mixture of cement with pulverised fuel ash, ground granulated blast furnace slag, silica fume and lime. • Course or fine aggregate. • Admixtures or additives may be added to improve the properties of the fresh or hardened material. Pigments may be added to colour the product.

2.2 The components vary in concentration according to the required properties of the product. The resultant mixture is abrasive and alkaline.

2.3 Cement may be CEM I cement or a mixture of CEM I with pulverised fuel ash or ground granulated blast furnace slag.

3. Hazard Identification

3.1 Skin Contact with mixes containing cementitious material such as mortar can cause skin disease. Irritant contact dermatitis is caused by a combination of the wetness, alkalinity and abrasiveness of the cement mixture. Allergic-contact dermatitis may be caused by individual sensitivity to chromium compounds, which may occur in cement. Cement burns, a form of skin ulceration, may result from contact with freshly mixed material.

3.2 Eyes Wet material can cause irritation, inflammation or burns on contact with eyes.

3.3 Ingestion The swallowing of small amounts mortars and cements is unlikely to cause any significant reaction. Larger amounts can cause irritation of the stomach and intestines.

3.4 Inhalation Inhalation of dry material can irritate the nose and throat and cause inflammation of the respiratory tract.

4. First Aid Measures

4.1 Eye Contact Irrigate eyes immediately with eyewash or clean water for at least fifteen minutes. Seek medical advice without delay.

4.2 Skin Contact Where skin contact occurs with wet mortars or cements, either directly or through saturated clothing, the material must be washed off immediately with soap and water. Where mortars or cements enter boots or gloves or saturates clothing, the article should be removed immediately and washed before further use.

4.3 Ingestion Where mortars or cements are swallowed, wash out mouth and drink plenty of water. Do NOT induce vomiting. Seek medical advice if a large amount is swallowed.

4.4 Inhalation Remove from exposure if dry product is inhaled. If respiratory tract becomes inflamed, seek medical advice.

4.5 General In all cases of doubt, or where symptoms persist, medical advice should be obtained.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Mortars or cements are non-flammable and do not support combustion of other substances. No special fire fighting procedure, extinguisher media or explosion hazard is identified.

6. Accidental Release Measures

6.1 Personal Protection In the event of spillage avoid cleaning methods that generate airborne dust. Avoid breathing in dust by standing up-wind, damping down with water and wearing a suitable dust mask if required.

6.2 Environmental Measures The release of dust into the environment does not constitute a significant environmental hazard. However, where dust passes beyond site boundaries this may be regarded as a statutory nuisance.

6.3 Method of Cleaning If possible, use a vacuum or other dustless cleaning method. Avoid dry sweeping which produces airborne dust. Damp down surfaces, sweep/shovel up waste and dispose of according to statutory restrictions.

7. Handling and Storage

7.1 Handling Avoid direct contact with skin and eyes. Bagged material should be stacked in a safe and stable manner.

7.2 Storage Bulk storage of mortars should be in purpose built silos. For materials in bags, due regard should be paid to risks outlined in the Manual Handling Operations Regulations. Some bags may have traces of material on the outer surface. The appropriate personal protective clothing should therefore be used whilst handling.

8. Personal protection

8.1 Precautions Direct skin contact with mortars, renders concretes, cements and screeds should be avoided. It is also important not to kneel or sit on the wet material as harmful contact can occur through saturated clothing.

8.2 Protective Clothing Protective clothing should be worn when handling wet mortars particularly covering arms, hands, legs and feet. For example, long-sleeved clothing and gloves, full-length trousers and impervious boots.

9. Physical and Chemical properties

The detailed properties of mortar will vary according to the specific mix of the material. These properties are dependent on the ingredients of each mix including admixtures and additives; however, all mixes are abrasive and alkaline.

10. Stability and Reactivity

All products react with moisture and become alkaline.

11. Toxicology Information

11.1 Eye contact Mild exposure may cause soreness. Untreated mild or gross exposure can lead to chemical burns and ulceration of the eye.

11.2 Skin Contact Short term exposure may cause mild alkali burns and acute allergic dermatitis. Long term exposure may cause irritant contact dermatitis.

11.3 Ingestion If small amounts are swallowed there is unlikely to be a significant reaction. If large quantities are swallowed this could result in irritation to the gastro intestinal tract.

11.4 Inhalation Dry product may cause inflammation of mucous membranes. Inhalation of large quantities may cause progressive lung damage.

12. Environment In the event of spillage

Entry of material to watercourses should be avoided to prevent pollution.

13. Spillage and Disposal

13.1 Entry into Watercourses Prevent entry of spillages into watercourses. Under no circumstances should mortar be disposed of where they may enter a watercourse. Spillage into watercourses must be alerted to the appropriate regulatory body.

13.2 Personal Protective Equipment Spillages should be dealt with wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (as 8.2). Spilled wet product should be placed in an appropriate container and allowed to harden.

13.3 Disposal The hardened product should be disposed of in accordance with local regulations and legal requirements.

14. Transportation

The carriage of mortar is not subject to hazardous substances conveyance regulations and vehicle labelling is not required.