


# FIRTH MASONRY PRODUCTS



<b>Includes:</b>	Firth Masonry Block, paving, segmental retaining wall, brick veneer, concrete dust	
<b>Group Standard</b>	HSR002545 - Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006	
<b>HSNO Classes</b>	<b>6.3A</b>	Irritating to skin
	<b>8.3A</b>	corrosive to eyes
	<b>6.7A</b>	known carcinogen (contains crystalline silica)
	<b>6.9A</b>	known human target organ toxicant (may cause silicosis and related effects to the lungs)
	<b>9.1D</b>	harmful to the aquatic environment

TYPES OF HAZARD	Effects of Exposure	Precautions	Response
<b>INHALATION</b>	Masonry block products contain crystalline silica. Inhalation of respirable silica appears linked to development of silicosis followed by complications and, eventually lung cancer. Inhalation of the dust may cause irritation of the upper respiratory tract.	  <p>In the event that this product is altered in anyway by sawing, crushing or grinding, it is expected that worker exposure to hazardous substances will be controlled to a level as far below the WES as practicable by applying the hierarchy of control required by the Health and Safety at Work Act (2015) and the Health and Safety at Work (General Risk and Workplace Management) Regulations 2016. Exposure to dusts can be mitigated through a point source, local exhaust ventilation (LEV) system fitted to machinery. Wet cutting may also be used as long as slurry is contained and is at no risk of entering a storm water drain or waterway. In addition a fine particulate half or full face respirator rated to P2 or higher shall be worn when sawing, crushing or grinding this product. The respiratory equipment should be fit tested to ensure integrity of the seal.</p>	Fresh air, rest. If exposed or concerned: Get medical attention.
<b>SKIN</b>	Masonry products are not irritating to the skin; however, there is a possibility of burns if concrete dust is wetted and is in contact with the skin for a prolonged time.	 <p>Avoid repeated or prolonged skin contact with concrete dust. Wear overalls, waterproof boots and impervious alkali-resistant gloves (e.g., nitrile, PVC, rubber, neoprene). Tuck overalls inside boots and seal with duct tape to reduce risk of concrete dust entering boots.</p>	IF ON SKIN: Immediately wash with plenty of soap and water. If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.
<b>EYES</b>	Contact of dry concrete dust may cause effects ranging from irritation to serious eye damage/burns and blindness	 <p>Protect eyes with goggles, safety glasses or full face mask. Avoid wearing contact lenses.</p>	First rinse with plenty of water for several minutes (remove contact lenses if easily possible), then take to a doctor immediately.
<b>INGESTION</b>	Concrete dust may cause Irritation of the digestive tract.	Do not eat, drink, or smoke during work.	IF SWALLOWED: Do NOT induce vomiting. Rinse mouth. Contact a doctor if you feel

**POISONS CENTRE: 0800 POISON (0800 764 766)**

## SPILLAGE DISPOSAL

Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and the inhalation of dust. Stop spill if safe to do so. Contain spill and prevent from entering drains, sewers and water ways. Collect product avoiding any dust formation, and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal. Collect recoverable material into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. Recycle containers wherever possible. Contaminated water will be strongly alkaline. Do not allow contaminated water to enter the environment. If contamination of sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.

## STORAGE

Containers should be kept closed in order to avoid contamination. Incompatible materials: Strong acids, ammonium salts, and aluminum metal. Avoid the creation of respirable dust particles.