



# GP CEMENT

GENERAL PURPOSE CEMENT (PORTLAND CEMENT) AS A BINDER IN CONCRETE, CONCRETE MASONRY, MORTAR AND GROUTS. IT IS ALSO USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FIBRE CEMENT PRODUCTS, IN SOIL STABILISATION IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECTS.

## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE / MIXTURE AND SUPPLIER

**PRODUCT NAME:**  
GENERAL PURPOSE CEMENT

**RECOMMENDED USE**  
USED AS A BINDER IN CONCRETE, CONCRETE MASONRY, MORTAR AND GROUTS. IT IS ALSO USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FIBRE CEMENT PRODUCTS, IN SOIL STABILISATION IN BUILDING CONSTRUCTION AND CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECTS.

**SUPPLIER:**  
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## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

**HAZARD CATEGORY:** HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE (HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES REGULATIONS 2001).  
NON - DANGEROUS GOOD.

**RISK PHRASES**  
**6.3A** - SKIN IRRITANT  
**6.9B** - TARGET ORGANIC TOXICANT  
**8.3A** - EYE CORROSIVE

**SAFETY PHRASES**  
**S24** - AVOID CONTACT WITH SKIN  
**S25** - AVOID CONTACT WITH EYES  
**S36** - WEAR SUITABLE PROTECTIVE CLOTHING  
**S37** - WEAR SUITABLE GLOVES  
**S39** - WEAR EYE / FACE PROTECTION.

**HAZARD STATEMENTS:**  
H315 IRRITATING IN CONTACT WITH SKIN. REPEATED EXPOSURE MAY CAUSE SKIN DRYNESS OR CRACKING. MAY CAUSE SENSITISATION BY SKIN CONTACT.  
H363 HARMFUL BY INHALATION AND IF SWALLOWED. H318 IRRITATING TO EYES.

## 3. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

PORTLAND CEMENT CONSISTS OF A CRYSTALLINE MASS MANUFACTURED FROM SUBSTANCES MINED FROM THE EARTH'S CRUST. IT CONTAINS TRACE AMOUNTS OF NATURALLY OCCURRING, BUT POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL ENTITIES INCLUDING METALS SUCH AS CHROMIUM AND NICKEL, CRYSTALLINE SILICA, POTASSIUM SULPHATE, CALCIUM / MAGNESIUM OXIDES AND NICKEL COMPOUNDS. ALL SIGNIFICANT CONSTITUENTS ARE LISTED BELOW:

| CHEMICAL IDENTITY           | CAS NUMBER | PROPORTION |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|
| PORTLAND CEMENT CLINKER     | 65997-15-1 | <97%       |
| 3CAO.SI02                   | 12168-85-3 |            |
| 2CAO.SI02                   | 1344-95-2  |            |
| 3CAO.AL203                  | 12042-78-3 |            |
| 4CAO.AL203.FE203            | 12068-35-8 |            |
| CRYSTALLINE QUARTZ          | 14808-60-7 | <1%        |
| HEXAVALENT CHROME (CRVI)    | 18540-29-9 | <20PPM     |
| GYPSUM (CASO4.2H2O)         | 13397-24-5 | 2 - 5%     |
| CALCIUM OXIDE (CAO)         | 1305-78-8  | 1 - 3%     |
| NONE HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS: |            | 4 - 5%     |

## 4. FIRST AID

**EYES:** FLUSH THOROUGHLY WITH FLOWING WATER FOR 15 MINUTES TO REMOVE ALL TRACES. IF SYMPTOMS SUCH AS IRRITATION OR REDNESS PERSIST, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION. IF WET CEMENT IS SPLASHED IN THE EYE, ALWAYS TREAT AS ABOVE, AND SEEK URGENT MEDICAL ATTENTION.

**SKIN:** REMOVE HEAVILY CONTAMINATED CLOTHING IMMEDIATELY. WASH OFF SKIN THOROUGHLY WITH WATER. USE A MILD SOAP IF AVAILABLE. SHOWER IF NECESSARY. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION FOR PERSISTENT IRRITATION OR BURNING OF THE SKIN. MUCOUS MEMBRANES OF THE RESPIRATORY TRACT. SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION IF IRRITATION OCCURS

**SWALLOWED:** RINSE MOUTH AND LIPS WITH WATER. DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. GIVE WATER TO DRINK TO DILUTE STOMACH CONTENTS. IF SYMPTOMS PERSIST, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION.

**INHALED:** REMOVE TO FRESH AIR, AWAY FROM DUSTY AREA. IF SYMPTOMS PERSIST, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION.

**FIRST AID FACILITIES:** EYE WASH STATION. WASHING FACILITIES WITH RUNNING WATER.

**ADVICE TO DOCTOR:** FOR ADVICE CONTACT THE NATIONAL POISONS CENTRE



## 7. HANDLING & STORAGE

### PRECAUTIONS:

DO NOT BREATHE DUST. WEAR PROTECTIVE GLOVES, EYE AND FACE PROTECTION.

### HANDLING:

WHEN SUPPLIED IN BAGS THESE NEED TO BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH MANUAL HANDLING REGULATIONS AND CODE OF PRACTICE. AVOID CONTACT WITH EYES. WEAR EYE PROTECTION. AVOID SKIN CONTACT AND INHALATION. WASH EXPOSED SKIN THOROUGHLY AFTER HANDLING.

### STORAGE:

PROTECT FROM MOISTURE TO PREVENT HARDENING. STORAGE OF CEMENT MAY BE IN CONCRETE SILOS, STEEL BINS, OR PLASTIC LINED MULTI-WALL PAPER BAGS. ENSURE PACKAGES ARE ADEQUATELY LABELED, SEALED AND PROTECTED FROM PHYSICAL DAMAGE. STORE IN COOL, DRY, WELL-VENTILATED AREA. AVOID CONTACT WITH OXIDISING AGENTS, ACIDS, ETHANOL AND HALOGENS.

## 8. PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>APPEARANCE:</b>          | GREY POWDER   |
| <b>SPECIFIC GRAVITY:</b>    | 3.0 - 3.2   |
| <b>VAPOUR PRESSURE:</b>     | NOT APPLICABLE  |
| <b>PH</b>                   | NOT APPLICABLE  |
| <b>BOILING POINT:</b>       | >1200°C   |
| <b>MELTING POINT:</b>       | NOT APPLICABLE  |
| <b>SOLUBILITY:</b>          | SLIGHT, REACTS ON MIXING WITH WATER FORMING AN ALKALINE (CAUSTIC) SOLUTION (PH >11)<br>NOT APPLICABLE |
| <b>FLASH POINT:</b>         | >350°C  |
| <b>FLAMMABILITY LIMITS:</b> | NOT APPLICABLE  |
| <b>PARTICLE SIZE:</b>       | UP TO 50% OF THE FRESH DRY MATERIAL MAY BE RESPIRABLE (BELOW 10 MICRONS)                              |

0800 POISON 0800 764 766) OR A DOCTOR. TREAT SYMPTOMATICALLY. WET CEMENT BURNS TO SKIN OR EYE MAY RESULT IN CORROSIVE CAUSTIC BURNS. INGESTION OF SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF CEMENT DRY OR WET IS UNLIKELY. DO NOT INDUCE EMESIS OR PERFORM GASTRIC LAVAGE. NEUTRALIZATION WITH ACIDIC AGENTS IS NOT ADVISED BECAUSE OF INCREASED RISKS OF EXOTHERMIC BURNS. WATER-MINERAL OIL SOAKS MAY AID IN REMOVING HARDENED CEMENT FROM THE SKIN. OPHTHALMOLOGICAL OPINION SHOULD BE SOUGHT FOR OCULAR BURNS.

## 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

FLAMMABILITY: NOT FLAMMABLE

EXTINGUISHING MEDIA: NONE REQUIRED

HAZARDS FROM COMBUSTION PRODUCTS: NONE

SPECIAL PROTECTIVE PRECAUTIONS: NONE REQUIRED

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

### SPILLS:

SPILLS ARE BEST CLEANED UP BY VACUUM DEVICE TO AVOID GENERATING AIRBORNE DUST. RECOMMENDATIONS ON EXPOSURE CONTROL AND PERSONAL PROTECTION SHOULD BE FOLLOWED DURING SPILL CLEAN UP. KEEP PRODUCT OUT OF STORM WATER AND SEWER DRAINS. WETTING DURING CLEAN UP WILL CAUSE FORMATION OF SETTING CEMENT.

## 9. EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

### EXPOSURE LIMITS:

EXPOSURE TO DUST SHOULD BE KEPT AS LOW AS PRACTICABLE, AND BELOW THE FOLLOWING LEVELS:

*PORTLAND CEMENT*: 10MG/M3 TWA (TIME-WEIGHTED AVERAGE) AS INSPIRABLE DUST.

*CRYSTALLINE SILICA (QUARTZ)*: 0.1 MG/M3 TWA AS RESPIRABLE DUST (7 MICRONS PARTICLE EQUIVALENT AERODYNAMIC DIAMETER).

*CHROMIUM VI (HEXAVALENT)*: 0.05 MG/M3.

**OUTSIDE WORKPLACE EXPOSURE LIMITS:** NO TEL OR EEL IS SET FOR THIS SUBSTANCE AT THIS TIME.

### ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

ALL WORK WITH DRY CEMENT SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MINIMISE DUST GENERATION, EXPOSURE TO DUST AND REPEATED OR EXTENDED SKIN CONTACT. WHEN HANDLING DRY CEMENT, USE LOCAL MECHANICAL VENTILATION OR EXTRACTION IN AREAS WHERE DUST COULD ESCAPE INTO THE WORK ENVIRONMENT. FOR BULK DELIVERIES, CLOSED PUMPING SYSTEMS ARE RECOMMENDED. FOR HANDLING OF INDIVIDUAL BAGS, FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS BELOW IF NO LOCAL EXHAUST VENTILATION IS AVAILABLE. LOCAL DUST EXTRACTION AND COLLECTION MAY BE USED, IF NECESSARY, TO CONTROL AIRBORNE DUST LEVELS. WORK METHODS AND ENGINEERING SHOULD AIM TO MINIMISE CONTACT WITH WET CEMENT ONTO EXPOSED SKIN. WORK AREAS SHOULD BE CLEANED REGULARLY.

### SKIN PROTECTION:

MINIMISE CONTACT WITH PORTLAND CEMENT MATERIALS. WHEN HANDLING DRY OR WET CEMENT, WET CONCRETE, MORTAR OR GROUT, PERSONNEL SHOULD WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND IMPERVIOUS FOOTWEAR, AND GLOVES SUCH AS PVC (SEE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS AS/NZS 4501 AND AS 2161). NEVER KNEEL IN WET CEMENT, OR ALLOW EXTENDED CONTACT OF SKIN WITH WET CEMENT. REMOVE CLOTHING WHICH HAS BECOME CONTAMINATED WITH WET OR DRY CEMENT TO AVOID PROLONGED CONTACT WITH THE SKIN. IF CEMENT GETS INTO BOOTS, REMOVE SOCKS AND BOOTS IMMEDIATELY AND WASH SKIN THOROUGHLY. WASH WORK CLOTHES REGULARLY. TO AVOID CONTAMINATION OF FACE AND LIPS AND INGESTION, WASH HANDS BEFORE EATING OR SMOKING.

### EYE PROTECTION:

SPLASH RESISTANT SAFETY GLASSES WITH SIDE SHIELDS OR SAFETY GOGGLES (AS/NZ 1336) OR A FACE SHIELD SHOULD BE WORN TO ENSURE ALL CONTACT WITH EYES IS AVOIDED.

**RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:**

WHERE ENGINEERING AND HANDLING CONTROLS ARE NOT ADEQUATE TO MINIMISE EXPOSURE TO TOTAL DUST AND TO RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA WEAR A SUITABLE P1 OR P2 PARTICULATE RESPIRATOR (AS/NZS 1715 AND AS/NZS 1716). USE ONLY RESPIRATORS THAT BEAR THE NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS MARK AND ARE FITTED AND MAINTAINED CORRECTLY. FOR DUST LEVELS APPROACHING OR EXCEEDING THE NES (SEE ABOVE) A MORE EFFECTIVE PARTICULATE RESPIRATOR AS DESCRIBED IN AS/NZS 1715 SHOULD BE WORN. PROCEDURES FOR EFFECTIVE USE OF RESPIRATORS SHOULD BE APPLIED AND SUPERVISED.

**ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** ENSURE EFFECTIVE VENTILATION TO CONTROL THE CONTAMINATION OF AIR.

**PERSONAL PROTECTION:**

WEAR FULL OVERALLS, GLOVES AND SAFETY GOGGLES WHEN HANDLING THE PRODUCT. AVOID SKIN AND EYE CONTACT AS WELL AS INHALATION.. ALWAYS WASH HANDS BEFORE EATING, DRINKING, SMOKING OR USING THE TOILET. WASH ANY CONTAMINATED CLOTHING OR PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT BEFORE REUSE OR STORAGE

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## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

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**CHEMICAL STABILITY:** CHEMICALLY STABLE

**CONDITIONS TO AVOID:** KEEP FREE OF MOISTURE

**INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS:** NONE

**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:** NONE

**HAZARDOUS REACTIONS:** NONE

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## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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PORTLAND CEMENTS ARE STABLE SUBSTANCES, COMPATIBLE WITH MOST OTHER BUILDING MATERIALS, WILL NOT DECOMPOSE INTO HAZARDOUS BY-PRODUCTS AND DO NOT POLYMERISE.

**SHORT TERM (ACUTE) EXPOSURE:**

SWALLOWED: UNLIKELY UNDER NORMAL INDUSTRIAL USE. MILDLY ABRASIVE AND CORROSIVE TO MOUTH AND THROAT IF SWALLOWED. MAY CAUSE NAUSEA, STOMACH CRAMPS AND CONSTIPATION.

**EYES:** IRRITATING AND CORROSIVE TO THE EYES AND MAY CAUSE ALKALINE BURNS. CEMENT DUST IS IRRITATING TO THE EYES. EXPOSURE TO DUST MAY AGGRAVATE EXISTING EYE IRRITATIONS.

**SKIN:** DUST IS IRRITATING AND DRYING TO THE SKIN. DIRECT CONTACT WITH WET CEMENT MAY CAUSE SERIOUS SKIN BURNS. WITHIN 12 TO 48 HOURS (AFTER ONE- TO SIX-HOUR EXPOSURES) POSSIBLE FIRST, SECOND OR THIRD DEGREE BURNS MAY OCCUR. THERE MAY BE NO OBVIOUS PAIN AT THE TIME OF THE EXPOSURE. CHRONIC SKIN DISORDERS MAY BE AGGRAVATED BY EXPOSURE TO DUST OR CONTACT WITH WET CEMENT.

**INHALED:** CEMENT DUST IS IRRITATING TO THE NOSE, THROAT AND RESPIRATORY TRACT CAUSING COUGHING AND SNEEZING. PRE-EXISTING UPPER RESPIRATORY AND LUNG DISEASES INCLUDING ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS MAY BE AGGRAVATED.

**LONG TERM (CHRONIC) EXPOSURE:**

**EYES:** DUST MAY CAUSE IRRITATION AND INFLAMMATION OF THE CORNEA.

**SKIN:** REPEATED CONTACT CAUSES IRRITATION AND DRYING OF THE SKIN AND CAN RESULT IN SKIN REDDENING AND SKIN RASH (DERMATITIS). OVER TIME THIS MAY BECOME CHRONIC AND CAN ALSO BECOME INFECTED. PERSONS WHO ARE ALLERGIC TO CHROMIUM MAY DEVELOP AN ALLERGIC DERMATITIS WHICH AGGRAVATES THE IRRITANT EFFECTS AND THIS COMBINATION CAN LEAD TO CHRONIC CEMENT DERMATITIS AND SERIOUS DISABILITY PARTICULARLY AFFECTING THE HANDS.

**INHALED:** REPEATED EXPOSURE TO THE DUST MAY RESULT IN INCREASED NASAL AND RESPIRATORY SECRETIONS AND COUGHING. INFLAMMATION OF LINING TISSUE OF THE RESPIRATORY SYSTEM MAY FOLLOW REPEATED EXPOSURE TO HIGH LEVELS OF DUST, WITH INCREASED RISK OF BRONCHITIS AND PNEUMONIA.

REPEATED AND PROLONGED EXPOSURE TO DUST LEVELS WHICH EXCEED THE OES FOR CRYSTALLINE SILICA (SEE ABOVE) MAY OCCUR. THIS CAN CAUSE BRONCHITIS, AND SILICOSIS (SCARRING OF THE LUNG). LONG TERM OVEREXPOSURE TO RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA DUST MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF OTHER IRREVERSIBLE AND





## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

NOT SCHEDULED

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

### DATE OF PREPARATION:

12 NOVEMBER 2014

### DATE FOR REVISION:

12 NOVEMBER 2019

### REASON FOR ISSUE:

THIS DATA SHEET AND THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION IT CONTAINS HAS BEEN PREPARED BY CEMIX LTD ACCORDING TO CURRENT REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS AS AT DATE OF ISSUE. THE PRECAUTIONS AND ADVICE PROVIDED MAY NOT BE ACCURATE FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS AND/OR SITUATIONS. IT IS THE USER'S OBLIGATION TO EVALUATE AND USE THIS PRODUCT SAFELY AND COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LEGISLATION.

SERIOUS DISORDERS INCLUDING SCLERODERMA (A DISEASE AFFECTING THE CONNECTIVE TISSUE OF THE SKIN, JOINTS, BLOOD VESSELS AND INTERNAL ORGANS).

CEMENT (PORTLAND CEMENT) IS NOT CLASSIFIED AS A CARCINOGEN BY NOHSC. OF THE INGREDIENTS HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (CR VI) IS CLASSIFIED AS A CARCINOGEN BY NOHSC. THERE IS DEBATE IN THE MEDICAL LITERATURE CONCERNING WHETHER THERE IS ANY RISK OF LUNG CANCER ARISING FROM LONG TERM HIGH OVER EXPOSURE TO RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA. RISK OF LUNG CANCER HAS NOT BEEN IDENTIFIED FROM USING PORTLAND CEMENTS CONTAINING SILICA. THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (IARC) HAS CLASSIFIED CRYSTALLINE SILICA, INHALED IN THE FORM OF QUARTZ OR CRISTOBALITE FROM OCCUPATIONAL SOURCES, AS CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS (GROUP 1). NOHSC HAS NOT CLASSIFIED CRYSTALLINE SILICA AS A CARCINOGEN.

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

CLASSIFIED AS AN AQUATIC ECOTOXIC UNDER THE HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND NEW ORGANISMS ACT. CLASSIFIED AS NON-TOXIC IN SOILS OR TO TERRESTRIAL VERTEBRATES / INVERTEBRATES.

**ECOTOXICITY:** PRODUCT FORMS AN ALKALINE SLURRY WHEN MIXED WITH WATER.

**PERSISTENCE AND DEGRADABILITY:** PRODUCT IS PERSISTENT AND WOULD HAVE A LOW DEGRADABILITY.

**MOBILITY:** A LOW MOBILITY WOULD BE EXPECTED IN A LANDFILL SITUATION.

## 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

PORTLAND CEMENT CAN BE TREATED AS A COMMON WASTE FOR DISPOSAL OR DUMPED INTO A LANDFILL SITE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL AUTHORITY GUIDELINES. KEEP MATERIAL OUT OF STORM WATER AND SEWER DRAINS. MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PREVENT DUST GENERATION DURING DISPOSAL, AND EXPOSURE AND PERSONAL PRECAUTIONS SHOULD BE OBSERVED (SEE ABOVE).

## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

IS NOT CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD BY THE CRITERIA OF THE DANGEROUS GOODS CODE FOR TRANSPORT BY ROAD AND RAIL.

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