

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Product

Precast Concrete Products

Application

Precast concrete products are manufactured for the construction of structures, walls, fences, paved and blocked areas in accordance with any relevant standards and local codes of practice.

Physical and Chemical Characteristics

Concrete products are manufactured by compacting a mixture of aggregates, cements and water into a mould to produce the required shape and strength. Admixtures may be added to improve production techniques or the properties of the finished product. Pigments may be also added to colour the product as required.

Main Hazards

- (i) Hardened concrete is inert, but edges and surfaces can be sharp and abrasive.
- (ii) Surface treatment and machine cutting of hardened concrete can create dust. If inhaled in excessive quantities over extended period respirable dust can constitute a long term health hazard.
- (iii) Consideration should be given to the weight of the larger units.

Protective Clothing and Equipment

Protective clothing particularly on hands and feet should be worn when handling concrete products, i.e. industrial gloves and industrial steel toe-cap boots. Respiratory protective equipment and eye protection should also be worn during surface treatment or cutting operation of concrete products.

Transport, Storage and Disposal

The carriage of precast concrete products is not subject to hazardous substance conveyance regulations and vehicle labelling is not required. Good safe transport loading and tying down practices should be employed.

Concrete products should be off loaded onto firm, level sites and not stacked to excessive heights.

Correct lifting practices should always be employed especially on larger products.

Hardened concrete is inert, but unused or waste concrete should be disposed of in accordance with local legal requirements.

If the products are re-distributed for sale, details of their hazards and recommendations for safe handling should be passed to all customers.

Information on Safety and Handling is continuously being updated and further advice, as it becomes available, can be given on request.