

MAYPLAS PRODUCT SAFETY DATA SHEET

This data sheet applies to the Mayplas range of converted Insulation Products and their intended uses.

Intended Use

The standard applications for the products include insulation, acoustic insulation and fire protection.

GLASS AND ROCKFIBRE PRODUCTS (MMMMF)

Composition

Inert vitreous silicate mineral wool which may be bonded with cured urea extended phenol formaldehyde resin, and may contain up to .05% of mineral oil as a dust suppressant.

Physical and Chemical Properties

Melting point in excess of 600°C for glassfibre and 1000°C for mineral wool fibre, but binder loss from hot face application will occur at temperatures of 230°C. Insoluble in water and generally chemically inert.

Appearance

May be in roll or slab form and can be faced or encapsulated with paper, aluminium foil, PVC or polythene. The products are supplied in either multiples or singles in polythene bags.

Health Statement

The latest scientific evidence supports the view that there is no causal link between mineral wool and cancer in humans. The evidence for this is substantial.

Epidemiological studies

Extensive research has examined the medical history of some 44,000 workers in Europe and the USA, some of whom have been employed in mineral wool production for more than 40 years.

The last report of this research has shown no evidence of any association between MMMF and mesothelioma - the malignant tumours of the pleura and the abdominal cavity, which are the 'fingerprints' of exposure to asbestos. Furthermore the research has not shown any link between the risk of lung cancer and exposure to airborne fibres from mineral wool products.

Fire

Although Mayplas products do not constitute a fire hazard, some of the facings or coverings may burn. Particular attention should be given to PVC and polythene faced or encapsulated products.

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At the point of burning, P.V.C gives off fumes that are both toxic and highly corrosive. If inhalation occurs seek medical advice **IMMEDIATELY**.

When burning, both P.V.C and polythene may give off flaming droplets which should be treated immediately with cold water if skin contact is made. **DO NOT REMOVE FROM SKIN SEEK MEDICAL ADVICE IMMEDIATELY**.

Storage/Transport Precautions

Products should be stored in a dry place, away from excessive heat and direct sunlight, as the packaging materials could be flammable.

Respiratory Protection

When installing any type in insulation in confined spaces it is recommended that a suitable disposable mask to BS 6016 is worn in order to minimise inhalation of dust and fibres.

Clothing

Most operators find it best to wear loose clothing and avoid tight constrictions at the neck and wrist etc. It is recommended that work clothes should be washed separately from other family clothing.

Skin Irritation

When handling insulation wear gloves. Should skin irritation be experienced after handling, it can be lessened by rinsing the affected area under luke warm running water before applying soap. The application of talcum powder before handling can also reduce skin irritation.

Eye Protection

When insulation material is being handled in confined spaces and especially when manipulated above head height, eye protection should be worn.

Emergency Action

If excessive irritation to skin, eyes or throat persists consult a doctor.

Personal Hygiene

The need for adequate standards of hygiene should be recognised

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Waste Disposal

The packaging of Mayplas Products are not considered hazardous, however, their disposal should be in accordance with the Local Authority Regulations. Special care should be taken in the disposal of polythene wrappings or bags. This product should be kept well away from the reach of children

Additional Information

H & SE guidance notes EH46 and EH4 0. Eurisol Health Statement

CHIPBOARD

Product Description

Unsurfaced chipboard for construction and flooring applications

Precautions

There are no non-synergistic reactions to these products. Ingestion and absorption risks are negligible, and precautions necessary relate to the normal control of exposure to inhalation of wood dust products.

Storage

Recently produced chipboard will expel a small volume of formaldehyde vapour.

High levels of formaldehyde can only cause problems if stored in large quantities with little or no ventilation. Normal levels of ventilation are adequate to prevent this; the use of protective equipment is not required.

The Health and Safety Executive have issued advice on stacking and material handling. The information sheet entitled 'Safe Stacking and Handling of Timber and Boards' (wood working sheet number two) is available from Wood Working National Interest Group HSE, 14 Cardiff Road, Luton, Beds, LUI 1PP - Telephone Luton (01582) 34121.

Handling and Workability

Work areas should be ventilated and machining tools should be ideally fitted with exhaust ventilation attachments. In dusty areas, disposable masks conforming to BS 6016 can be beneficial.

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GYPSUM BASED PRODUCTS (PLASTERBOARDS)

Natural Gypsum and de-sulphured Blue Gas Gypsum are both believed to be harmless substances, and are considered as nuisance dust in the Health and Safety Executive Guidance Notes. Under normal conditions Gypsum Plasterboards are under the occupational exposure limits (OEL) of 5mg/m³ for respiratory dust and 10mg/m³ for total dust.

Users are warned that machining plasterboard in confined areas should be avoided so as not to exceed the Health and Safety Executive limits.

Handling

Plasterboard products are supplied on wooden pallets. They are handled with appropriate forklift trucks, the forks being set so there is an even weight distribution and no deformation to the pack.

Ensure handling equipment is of adequate capacity and that personnel are advised of handling procedures. Care should be taken at all times to avoid strain by handlers. Single boards must be carried by two people each holding one end and in a vertical plane to avoid sagging and board strain.

Fire

Gypsum plasterboard carries a BS476 non-combustibility certificate, fire situations may be extinguished by normal methods.

Disposal

Disposal of plasterboards should be as designated by the local authority for building products, or on authorised land fill sites. Plasterboard products contain small quantities of glassfibre strands, in the event of eye contact wash the eye immediately with plenty of clean water. Seek medical attention if discomfort persists.

Inhalation of Gypsum particles may occur when cutting and sanding the plasterboard products. To minimise exposure to dust the work should be carried out in a well-ventilated area with dust extraction equipment. If irritation occurs seek fresh air.

Ingestion

Ingestion offers no biological hazard but should be avoided by taking normal hygiene precautions. If consumed wash out the mouth and drink plenty of fresh water.

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FELT PRODUCTS

Product Information

Felt products are manufactured from recycled textile fibres and polythene substrate

Handling

The normal handling of this product during installations and the subsequent use of the material as a sleeve or loose wrap insulation does not present a hazard to health as far as present knowledge extends.

The Fibres

The fibrous component of the wrapping is a blend of animal and vegetable fibres with a small proportion of man-made material. These fibres do not ordinarily present a hazard to health during the course of normal handling. Some people may experience mild skin irritations when touching the fibres without forearm protection. We recommend that long sleeves are worn when installing the product. There is a small, but unavoidable, amount of dust created when the product is cut and fitted. This dust does not usually cause any irritation, but in the event of discomfort, a dust mask should be worn on the face.

Fire

Felt will burn when introduced to an existing fire. If the flames are extinguished quickly, there will be no hazard to health. However, if burning persists in an enclosed space there will be a health risk through the inhalation of smoke. Water, dry powder, foam and carbon dioxide are all suitable for extinguishing the fire.

First Aid

Persons suffering from skin irritation should wash and apply barrier cream before resuming contact with the material, preferably wearing forearm protection and/or gloves. Persons suffering from the effects of smoke inhalation (in the event of a fire) should take plenty of fresh air and seek medical advice.

POLYETHYLENE PIPE INSULATION

Pipe insulation is manufactured from polyethylene which are chemically unreactive and may be regarded as chemically inert.

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Ingestion

Ingestion of foam should be avoided, although the material is inert and can be regarded as toxicologically harmless.

Physical Contact

Polyethylene foams are not considered to be skin irritants. Under some circumstances, foams can have a very minor abrasive effect on skin during handling. If this is the case it is recommended that gloves are worn.

Handling & Storage

The product is normally supplied in tubular form packaged in cardboard cartons or plastic bags. At normal room temperature, no special precautions need to be taken.

It is recommended that the materials are stored out of direct sunlight, and good housekeeping is necessary to minimise the chance of fire due to the effect of excess heat causing the foam to decompose and give off combustible fumes.

Therefore the foam should be stored away from any direct heat source, and users who stock large quantities are recommended to review their precautions with regard to fire and consult the local fire prevention officer.

Fire

When heated in the air, softening will occur at 95°C – 100°C and decomposition will occur at 300°C. Above this temperature the foam will pyrolyse oxidatively to produce carbon monoxide and water, plus a small amount of various hydrocarbons and aldehydes. The evolved gases may ignite, and if they do they will provide heat of combustion pyrolysing more foam and possibly other flammable material in the vicinity.

Under flaming conditions, the main combustion products are carbon dioxide and water, although if insufficient oxygen is present, or when the flame is extinguished, the smoke may contain appreciable quantities of carbon monoxide, acrolein and other aldehydes. Burning can be accompanied by the release of flaming molten droplets of polymer which could ignite adjacent flammable materials.

Any available fire extinguisher can be used. However it is recommended that advice should be sought from the local Fire Authority on fire fighting equipment and procedures.

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First Aid

Any material entering the eye should be flushed out with copious quantities of water. Medical attention should be obtained if aggravation persists. If there has been inhalation of fumes (under combustion conditions) the affected person should be removed as quickly as possible into fresh air, kept warm and artificial respiration applied as necessary. Qualified medical attention should be obtained immediately. Any molten material on the skin should be cooled as quickly as possible e.g. in cold water, but should not be pulled off. Again proper medical assistance should be sought immediately.

Copies of this document should be made available to any member of the medical staff if requested.

Waste Disposal

Due to the fire risk with all organic foams, discarded wastes should not be allowed to accumulate in loose quantities. Good housekeeping practices should prevail at all times. Waste may be disposed of by controlled incineration or burial, but the requirements of pollution control legislation must be observed. Advice on the preferred method should be obtained from the local Authority Waste Disposal Officer.

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