

1. APPLICATION

The Use of Paving Blocks should be in accordance with the relevant National and European Union Codes of Practice

2. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

Paving Blocks are abrasive and typically weigh 2 to 3 kg each, depending on shape and density and should be handled accordingly. Bales of Paving Blocks may vary in size and weigh up to 1.5 tonnes, depending on size, quantity and bale configuration. Strapping is only designed to facilitate handling during manufacture and should not be relied upon to provide stability of bales during transport, site handling or storage. Strapping is sharp and tensioned and can cause injury when removing or otherwise handling it. Cutting, drilling or hammering of paving blocks can create dust. If inhaled in excessive quantities over extended periods, respirable dust can constitute a long-term hazard. Cutting, drilling or hammering of paving blocks, unless adequately controlled, can project particles at high velocity with consequent risk of impact damage and/or injury particularly to exposed areas of the body and eyes

3. COMPOSITION

Paving Blocks are a mixture of natural aggregates, cement and water. Admixtures may be added to modify the properties of the finished product.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Eye Contact (Fresh concrete, dust or other particles): Immediately rinse under clean running water and seek medical advice

Cuts/Abrasions: Clean and treat cuts/abrasions using normal First-Aid methods. Wounds must receive prompt medical attention.

In all cases of doubt or where symptoms persist medical advice must be obtained

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Not Applicable

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Avoid contact with skin. Tidy up debris from broken blocks

7. HANDLING & STORAGE

- Protect skin when handling paving blocks
- Use suitable handling and transport equipment when handling bales of blocks
- Before lifting always size up the load
- Always follow safe lifting and manual handling procedures
- Ensure adequate load-bearing capacity of ground, floors or platforms when placing or storing bales of blocks on site
- Bales of blocks can become unstable over time and should not be stacked to excessive heights

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS & PERSONAL PROTECTION

- Wear suitable protective gloves, overalls and safety helmets in all situations
- Avoid block and strap contact with skin as this can cause cuts and abrasions
- Wear goggles to prevent eye contact from flying particles when cutting, drilling or hammering paving blocks or from breaking straps
- Wear suitable footwear with protective toe-caps when cutting, drilling, hammering paving blocks
- Wear suitable respiratory protection {such as dust masks} when cutting, drilling or hammering paving blocks

9. PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Paving blocks vary in colour and are also abrasive

10. STABILITY & REACTIVITY

Ensure integrity and stability of bales whilst stored on site

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Not applicable

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Paving blocks have no ecological effects

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Paving blocks may be recycled or placed in approved licensed landfill sites

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

No risk on observation of safety instructions detailed in clause 6, 7, and 8

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Not applicable

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