

PRODUCT HEALTH & SAFETY DATA SHEET

PAVING SLABS

THIS CONSTITUTES A FORMAL NOTIFICATION BY VIRTUE OF
THE HEALTH & SAFETY AT WORK ACT 1974
CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT 1987
CONTROL OF SUBSTANCES HAZARDOUS TO HEALTH ACT 2002

1. IDENTIFICATION OF SUBSTANCE

Precast concrete products manufactured and supplied by Ruthin Precast Concrete Ltd.

Ruthin Precast Concrete Ltd.
Quarryfields
Ruthin
Denbighshire
LL15 2UG

Tel: 01824 – 702493
Fax: 01824 - 704527

www.rpcltd.co.uk
enquiries@rpcltd.co.uk

2. PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Precast concrete paving slabs are produced and marketed in various sizes and finishes (See appended Specification Sheet).

3. APPLICATION

RPC Ltd Precast Concrete Products are designed to enable the user versatility in the construction industry. BS Paving Slabs are ideal for hard wearing, heavy duty municipal applications whereas Decorative Paving may be considered better suited to domestic applications.

4. PHYSICAL & CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

RPC Ltd. Precast Concrete Products are manufactured using natural aggregates and cement to produce concrete, which is subsequently hydrated and cured to form a homogeneous unit.

a) Natural aggregates are produced from naturally occurring rock, sand and gravel aggregates and may include crystalline silica, when the product is worked on.

b) Cement – predominantly compounds of calcium silicate and calcium aluminate with a proportion of gypsum.

5. HAZARDS

As a substance, hardened concrete is non-hazardous, however, manual handling of the products is hazardous by virtue of their weight. Persons should not attempt to handle the Products manually unless they have received suitable instruction and training in manual handling techniques.

Additionally, RPC Ltd BS Paving and Decorative Paving slabs are inherently safe. The main hazards are: -

- a) Sharp and abrasive edges may cause abrasive damage to hands.
- b) Excessive handling may cause drying of unprotected hands.
- c) Weight of products, particularly the larger units. Recommend a 2 man lift.
- d) Cutting of the units may give rise to respirable dust, and projectile particles at high velocity which could cause eye injury. If inhaled in excessive quantities over extended periods of time respirable dust can constitute a health hazard.
- e) Some products will contain colour pigments.
- f) musco-skeletal injuries.

6. FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation (Dust) Remove to fresh air, give water to drink.

Skin contact Wash thoroughly and apply suitable dressings.

Eye contact Flush from eyes with copious amounts of water or saline solution.

Ingestion (Dust) Drink water slowly.

7. PRECAUTIONS IN USE

RPC Ltd. Paving slabs are generally delivered on vehicles with crane-off-loading facilities. The Company's policy is to off-load the packs of product in one location or site as designated by site personnel. The packs of products should be stacked on firm and level ground. If packs are to be moved around after site delivery, it is recommended that the product is placed on pallets of the correct size and strength. Normal site safety precautions should be observed such as netting and securing packs before further movement takes place. Care should be taken not to subject the packs to any abnormal shock or movement. On site, packs should be stacked to a height not exceeding two metres. Packs should be placed on level ground before attempting to split them.

Care should be taken when removing the banding/shrink wrapping to avoid injury from the banding/shrink wrapping or any loose slabs when the banding or wrapping is released.

Care should be taken when handling individual products to avoid injury from sharp edges, abrasive texture and dust fragments; inhalation of any dust produced from the finished products should always be avoided.

Lifting of individual slabs: note should be made of the current HSE guidance on Manual Handling particularly with reference to repetitive handling of heavy units.

8. PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Protective clothing should be worn when handling RPC Ltd Paving slabs. In particular safety footwear, head protection and gloves should be worn when dismantling packs of product. Dust masks to BS2091 Type B should be worn when cutting concrete products together with eye protection.

9. OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES

10 mg/M³ Total Inhalable Dust – Occupational Exposure Standard (OES)

4 mg/M³ Respirable Dust – Occupational Exposure Standard (OES)

0.3 mg/M³ Respirable Quartz – Maximum Exposure Limit (MES)

10. SAFETY PHRASES

S22 – Do not inhale dust.

11. TRANSPORTATION, STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

The transportation of paving slabs is not subject to hazardous substance conveyance regulations and vehicle labelling is not required. The paving slabs are inert but should be disposed of in accordance with local legal requirements.

Waste shrink wrapping and plastic strapping must not be burnt as toxic fumes are given off e.g. carbon monoxide etc. Waste material must be disposed of in accordance with local disposal regulations or re-cycled by a specialist company.

12. OTHER INFORMATION

Sources of Key Information

EH 40 – Occupational Exposure Limits

PPE Regulations 1992

Manual Handling Regulations 1992

The Chemical (Hazard Information & Packaging) Regulations

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002

Waste Disposal – Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991

Management Regulations

December 2004

