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## Material Safety Data Sheet – Mortar, Renders and Screeds

<p>1. (a) <b><u>Identification of Product</u></b></p> <p>Mortar, Renders and Screeds.</p> <p>(b) <b><u>Name of Company</u></b> Roadstone Dublin Ltd. Fortunestown, Dublin 24.</p> <p><b><u>Phone</u></b> (01) 4041200</p> <p>(c) <b><u>Application</u></b></p> <p>A <b>bedding mortar</b> is designed to be laid between bricks, blocks, stone or other construction materials.</p> <p>A <b>rendering mortar</b> is designed to be applied to a wall in one or more thin coats.</p> <p>A <b>screed</b> is designed to be applied to an in-situ base and suitably finished to receive the flooring.</p> <p>Use of mortars, renders and screeds should be in accordance with the relevant National/European Union codes of practice.</p> <p>2. <b><u>Composition of Ingredients-</u></b></p> <p>(a) Mortar or render is composed of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i) Cementitious material (this may be cement or a mixture with lime).</li><li>ii) Fine aggregates.</li><li>ii) Water.</li><li>iv) Admixtures; these may be added to improve the properties of the fresh and hardened material. Pigments may be added to colour the product to customer's requirements.</li></ul>	<p>(b) The composition of a screed is similar to the above but lime is not added.</p> <p>(c) A lime sand mortar may be supplied. This is a mixture of lime and sand to which admixtures may be added. The cement is added on site. The resulting mixtures are abrasive &amp; alkaline.</p> <p>3. <b><u>Hazard Identification</u></b></p> <p>(a) <b><u>Fresh Mortar, Renders and Screeds</u></b></p> <p>Fresh mortar, renders and screeds contain cement and water with the result that an alkaline solution is produced.</p> <p>Prolonged skin contact with wet mortar, renders and screeds can result in cement burns. The abrasiveness of the constituents can aggravate the effect.</p> <p>Repeated skin contact with fresh mortar, renders and screeds over a period may cause irritant contact dermatitis. The abrasiveness of the constituents can aggravate the effect.</p> <p>Some skins are more sensitive to fresh mortar, renders and screeds and to the small amounts of chromate, which may be present and can develop allergic contact dermatitis; however this is rare.</p> <p>(b) <b><u>Hardened Mortar, Renders and Screeds</u></b></p> <p>Cutting, drilling or hammering of hardened mortar, renders or screeds can create dust. If inhaled in excessive quantities over extended periods, respirable dust can constitute a long-term hazard.</p> <p>Cutting, drilling or hammering of hardened mortar, renders and screeds unless adequately controlled, can project</p>
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### DISCLAIMER

This Material Safety Data Sheet has been prepared by the Irish Concrete Federation in consultation with its members and with technical assistance from the Industry's Safety Committee. Every care has been taken to ensure that the information contained herein is correct and accurate at the date of publication. However, the Irish Concrete Federation Ltd cannot accept any responsibility or liability for any errors, inaccuracies or omissions which may have occurred inadvertently.

particles at high velocity with consequent risk of impact damage and/or injury particularly to exposed areas of the body and eyes.



#### **4. First Aid Measures**

First aid treatment is as follows:

##### **4.1 Eye Contact (Fresh Mortar, Renders & Screeds)**

Immediately rinse under running water and seek medical advice.

##### **4.2 Skin Contact (Fresh Mortar, Renders & Screeds)**

Immediately rinse affected areas under running water.

##### **4.3 Cuts/Abrasions**

Cuts/abrasions from hardened mortar, renders or screeds, or particles of same, should be cleaned and treated using the normal First-Aid method. 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**

6.1 Avoid contact with skin.

6.2 Prevent entry of fresh mortar, renders or screeds into water courses, drains or other areas where hardened materials cause problems.

6.3 Take up product using appropriate equipment.

#### **7. Handling**

7.1 Avoid contact with eyes and skin.

7.2 Before lifting

7.3 Always size up the load. Always follow safe lifting and manual handling procedures.

#### **7.3 Mortar Tubs**

Mortar tubs should only be used as a container for mortars and are not designed for any other purpose i.e. cramage.

#### **8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection**

##### **8.1 Hand Protection**

Wear suitable protective gloves.

##### **8.2 Skin Protection**

Avoid contact with skin.  
Overalls should be worn.

##### **8.3 Eye Protection**

Wear goggles to prevent eye contact from splashing of fresh mortar, renders, and screeds, or flying particles when hammering hardened mortar, renders and screeds.

##### **8.4 Masks**

Wear appropriate respiratory protection when cutting, drilling or hammering hardened mortar, renders and screeds.

##### **8.5 Footwear**

Wear knee high rubber boots or similar with protective toecaps.

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<p>8.6 <b><u>Kneepads</u></b></p> <p>Wear kneepads when kneeling on fresh mortar, renders and screeds.</p> <p>9. <b><u>Physical &amp; Chemical Properties</u></b></p> <p>Density is typically 1.7 tonnes per cubic metre. pH level of fresh mortar, renders and screeds is typically 12.</p> <p>Mortar, renders and screeds harden through a chemical reaction between cement and water. The product is abrasive.</p> <p>10. <b><u>Stability &amp; Reactivity</u></b></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>11. <b><u>Toxicological Information</u></b></p> <p>No risk upon observance of safety instructions at 6, 7 &amp; 8 above.</p> <p>12. <b><u>Ecological Information</u></b></p> <p>Fresh mortar, renders and screeds may result in change in pH level and may influence aquatic life forms.</p> <p>Hardened mortar, renders and screeds have no ecological effects.</p> <p>13. <b><u>Disposal Considerations</u></b></p> <p>Hardened mortar, renders and screeds may be recycled or placed in approved licensed landfill site.</p> <p>14. <b><u>Transportation</u></b></p> <p>No risk on observance of safety instructions at 6, 7 &amp; 8 above.</p>	<p>15. <b><u>Regulatory Information</u></b></p> <p>Not applicable.</p> <p>16. <b><u>Other Information</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Storage</u></b></p> <p>Mortar, renders and screeds can remain fresh for several days, extending the period during which the precautions given above should continue to be taken and during which access by unauthorised persons should be prevented.</p> <p><b><u>Recommended Uses and Restrictions</u></b></p> <p>Mortars, renders and screeds must be adequately cured before structural loads are imposed.</p> <p>It is recommended that users refer to BS 8000 Part 3 1989, <i>Workmanship on Building Sites</i>, for guidance on heights of lifts to avoid over stressing of Mortar in the lower courses and to allow time for the mortar to develop sufficient strength.</p> <p>Care should be taken to prevent damage to finished work due to weather and building operations.</p> <p>Temporary support should be provided to structures to prevent damage by wind.</p> <p>Issued May 2011</p>
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