#### Roadstone Ltd.

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## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET - ROADSTONE ROOFING PRODUCTS

## 1. (a) <u>Identification of Product</u>

Concrete Roof Tiles

# (b) Name of Company

Roadstone Ltd. Fortunestown, Dublin 24 (01) 4041200

# 2. Composition and Manufacture

Roadstone concrete tiles are produced by a high-pressure extrusion and compaction process using a blend of sand, cement, pigment and water.

#### 3. Hazard Identification

Eye contact with dust may cause irritation or inflammation.

Prolonged skin contact may lead to skin irritation. (It is also wise to wash hands after handling tiles).

Dust can cause irritation of the airways and exposed mucosa (nose and throat)

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required.

#### **Handling**

Roof tiles have, by their nature, sharp and uneven edges. In order to avoid cuts and

abrasions it is advisable that protective gloves should be worn.

## Lifting

Roof tiles, as with other building materials, are heavy and therefore consideration to correct lifting procedures must be adopted on site to avoid injury. Being heavy objects, suitable footwear should be worn to avoid injury to feet if the product is dropped. We advise training for your staff in manual handling techniques.

# **Cutting, Drilling or Sanding**

Roof tiles are often cut using power tools. Correct procedures must be adopted when such tools are used. In addition, the use of these tools will create a considerable amount of dust. This dust can be hazardous, if inhaled, mainly due to the silica content from sand and its abrasive nature. A suitable well-fitted disposable facemask should be worn to protect the operatives' lungs. Such a mask should conform to EN 149 and offer protection to at least P3. It is also wise, when using such tools to wear eye protection and should the equipment generate noise above normal speaking volume then hearing PPE is required to be worn.

Should any hand held machine used for the purpose of cutting, drilling or sanding cause hand vibration then the machine should be evaluated for vibration frequencies to avoid vibration white finger.

Tiles should not be cut with a high-speed cutter in a confined space with lack of ventilation.

# Further important information on dust created by cutting, drilling or sanding tiles.

The inhalation of fine respirable quartz can lead to silicosis. According to the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC Monographs 1997) "Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans".

Occupational exposure limits for respirable crystalline silica can be found in the HSE publication EH40. The 8 hour time weighted average exposure limit is unlikely to be exceeded by a tiler cutting tiles in the normal course of their work but as the exposure has to be kept to a minimum then the wearing of a face mask and the suppression or extraction of dust generated on the cutting drilling or sanding tool is essential.

#### **Transportation and Storage**

Products are delivered with or without pallets, in combinations comprising shrink wrapped, spin wrapped or banded products. The recommended method of off-loading from vehicles is by a mechanical means. When using hand off-loading methods, follow safe lifting methods and procedures to avoid personal injury.

All products must be stored on a level, hard surface and not on slopes or soft ground.

When stacking products on top of each other, care must be taken to use safe lifting procedures and to ensure the stability of the stack. We recommend that you do not stack higher than 2m.

## **Waste Disposal**

Packing materials, when burnt, can give off toxic fumes. We recommend, therefore, that you dispose of such waste via specialist contractors. It is your responsibility to ensure that it is disposed of correctly.

For further guidance, please contact Technical Department at Dublin (01-4041200)

