

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

Natural Aggregates

Rugby™

The Professionals' Choice

1. Identification of substance/ preparation and company

Company:
RMC Packed Products Limited
RMC House
Evreux Way
Rugby
Warwickshire CV21 2DT.
Telephone: 0808 145 1900
Fax: 01788 514742

Natural aggregates include crushed rock (typically limestone, granite, basalt, dolerite, quartzite, etc), and all types of sand (washed and unwashed).

Products:
Rugby Building Sand
Rugby Sharp Sand
Rugby Kiln Dried Sand
Rugby 10mm Gravel
Rugby 20mm Gravel
Rugby 20mm Ballast

This data sheet also covers any other specific sands, gravel or aggregates that may be packed by RMC.

Issue Date: July 2003.

Hazard Information

2. Composition/Information on Ingredients

Natural aggregates are produced from naturally occurring rock or sand and gravel deposits. These products will contain a combination of various minerals, including silica.

The silica content of different aggregates will vary depending upon the mineral deposit. The following figures are given as an indication of the level of free silica in different mineral sources, but it must be noted that these figures do vary.

Quartzite	-	greater than 95%
Flint	-	greater than 90%
Sandstone	-	greater than 90%
Granite	-	up to 30%
Dolerite	-	up to 15%
Basalt	-	up to 5%
Limestone	-	usually less than 1%

2.1 Hazardous Ingredients

None.

3. Hazards Identification

The main health hazard from natural aggregates is airborne dust. Inhalation of respirable dust over a prolonged period can be harmful to health. Where respirable dust contains high quantities of free silica in the form of quartz, there is a risk of developing silicosis. The main symptoms of this chronic disease are difficulty in breathing and coughing. Long-term prolonged exposure to high levels of respirable crystalline silica, which can arise from a failure to implement adequate control measures, can lead to an increased risk of developing lung cancer.

Emergency Action

4. First Aid Measures

4.1 *Eye Contact*
Irrigate with eyewash solution or clean water. If symptoms develop, obtain medical attention.

4.2 *Skin Contact*
After repeated or prolonged skin contact, wash with soap and water.

4.3 *Ingestion*
If ingestion causes problems, remove from exposure and seek medical attention if required.

4.4 *Inhalation*
Remove the affected person to fresh air and seek medical attention if required.

4.5 *Further Medical Treatment*
Symptomatic, if necessary. No known delayed effects.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Non-flammable.

6. Accidental Release Measures

6.1 *Personal Precautions (See 8.2)*

6.2 *Cleaning Up*
In the event of spillage, avoid cleaning methods which generate airborne dust. Avoid breathing in dust by standing up-wind, damping down with water and wearing a suitable dust mask may be required.

If possible, use a vacuum or other dustless cleaning method. Avoid dry sweeping which produces airborne dust. Damp down surfaces, sweep/shovel up waste and dispose according to statutory restrictions.

6.3 *Environmental Measures*
The release of aggregate dust into the environment does not constitute a significant environmental hazard. However, where dust passes beyond site boundaries, this may be regarded as statutory nuisance under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Precautions

7. Storage and Handling

7.1 *Storage*
Natural aggregates should be handled and stored to minimise the creation of airborne dust.

7.2 *Handling*
Manual handling of the product should be minimised through the use of mechanical aids, etc. wherever possible. Account should be taken of the Manual Handling Regulations and care should be taken when lifting by hand.

8. Exposure Controls/Personal Protection

Wear suitable personal protection equipment.

8.1 *Occupational Exposure Standard (OES)*
The following Occupational Exposure Limits for airborne dust are given in HSE Guidance Note EH40:

Substance	OES	MEL	Period
Total inhalable dust	10 mg/m ³	-	8 hour TWA
Respirable dust	4 mg/m ³	-	8 hour TWA
Respirable Silica	-	0.3 mg/m ³	8 hour TWA

It should however be noted that the Health and Safety Executive have stated in their Chemical Hazard Alert Notice on Respirable Crystalline Silica (CHAN 35 published April 2003) that it should now be reasonably practicable for all industry sectors to control respirable crystalline silica exposure to 0.1mg/m³ (8 hour TWA) or below.

8.2 Personal Protective Equipment

- Respiratory Protection*
Suitable respiratory protection should be used to protect against inhalation of dust.
- Hand and Skin Protection*
Overalls and gloves should be used to prevent contamination of the skin.
- Eye Protection*
Eye protection should be used to prevent dust entering the eyes.

Product Information

9. *Physical/Chemical Properties*
Odourless particles of solid material in the form of crushed rock or sand and gravel. Other chemical properties not applicable under ambient conditions.

10. *Stability and Reactivity*
Conditions contributing to chemical instability: none
Hazardous decomposition products: none
Special precautions: none.

11. Toxicological Information

- Eye Contact*
May cause transient irritation to the eyes.
- Skin*
Prolonged or repeated contact with mineral dust may cause the skin to dry out giving rise to dermatitis.
- Ingestion*
Extremely unlikely.



Packed Products

- d. *Inhalation*
Inhalation of mineral dusts over a prolonged period may give rise to a number of respiratory illnesses including chronic bronchitis, pneumoconiosis and silicosis (if silica present).
12. **Ecological Information**
- 12.1 *Aquatic Toxicity Rating*
Not applicable.
- 12.2 *Persistence and Degradation*
None.
13. **Disposal Considerations**
Disposal should be in accordance with current local and national legislation.

Additional Information

14. **Transport Information**
Classification is not required for conveyance.
15. **Regulatory Information**
- 15.1 *Chemicals (Hazardous Information & Packaging for Supply) Regulations 2002*
Classification – None.

Occupational Exposure Limits –
HSE Guidance note EH40.
16. **Legislation and Other Information**
- Health & Safety at work etc. Act 1974
 - Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (COSHH) 2002
 - HSE Guidance Note EH40 (Occupational Exposure Limits)
 - Any authorised manual on First Aid by St.John's/St. Andrews/Red Cross.
 - Manual Handling Operations Regulations.
 - Environmental Protection Act 1990
- Data Sheet prepared in accordance with directive 91/155/EEC.

Guidance references

Available from HMSO, HSE area offices, or local authority Environmental Health Departments:

- EH40/2002: Occupational Exposure Limits
- A step by step Guide to COSHH assessments (HS[G]97)
- Crystalline Silica (EH59)
- Dust General Principles of Protection (EH44)

Important Notes:

Data and advice in this Material Safety Data Sheet is provided to alert all purchasers and users to the possible hazards of use when the material is used as intended. The information should enable them to take the necessary precautions to protect the health and safety of personnel.

This Data Sheet does NOT constitute the user's own assessment of workplace risk as required by other safety legislation. If purchasing on behalf of a third party who will work with the material, it is your statutory duty to pass on this information to them BEFORE such work begins.

RMC Packed Products Ltd

RMC House
Evreux Way
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV21 2DT

Tel: 0808 145 1900
Fax: 01788 514742

Email: enquiries@rmcpackedproducts.com

www.rmc.co.uk

The information and advice contained on this sheet is given by RMC PACKED PRODUCTS LIMITED in good faith and, to the best of the Company's knowledge, was accurate at time of publication. However, no liability or responsibility of any kind can be accepted by the Company, its staff or representatives for problems arising directly or indirectly from the content of this sheet, from the actions or omissions of their parties or from poor practice.