

# For more information about working safely with Helix please visit our website



Please see the Australian and New Zealand SDS documents as follows



# Respirable Crystalline Silica

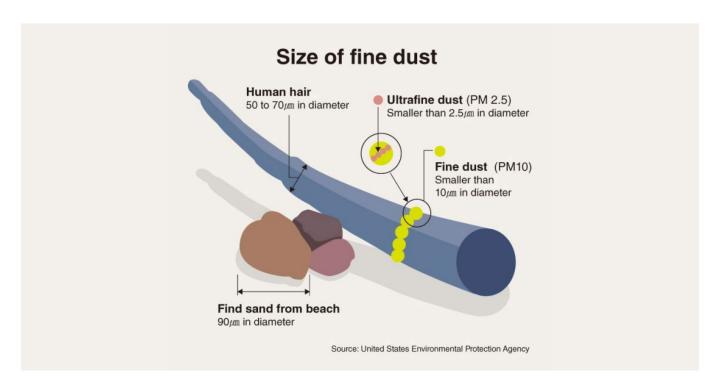
Workplace Exposure is Preventable

What is Crystalline Silica? — Crystalline Silica is found naturally in stone, rocks, sand, gravel and clay.

What is Respirable Crystalline Silica Dust? — Respirable crystalline silica is dust generated from materials and products containing silica. It is released when mechanically treated (e.g., cutting, sawing, abrading such as rasping, scaping, grinding down, chasing or crushing).

This dust is of concern due to its size — it can become trapped deep in the lungs and cause long-term damage.

Independent testing has determined the amount of Crystalline Silica that may become respirable size particles when conducting these activities. (Helix testing recorded under 4% RCS in dust generated.)



#### Section 1. Product Identification

PRODUCT NAME	Helix Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Building Panels
PRODUCT USE	As load bearing and non-load bearing component for interior and exterior walls and floors.
SUPPLIER	Helix AAC Dalton Rd, Thomastown VIC 3074 Ph 1300 435 427 www.helixaac.com.au

#### Section 2. Hazard Identification

#### **Hazardous Nature**

Helix AAC as supplied is non-Hazardous. Dust from this product is classified as Hazardous according to the Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances [NOHSC:1008] 3rd Edition. When concrete products are cut, sawn, abraded or crushed, dust is created which contains crystalline silica, some of which may be respirable (particles small enough to go into the deep parts of the lung when breathed in), and which is Hazardous.

The following GHS classifications refer ONLY to the dust of these products:

#### **GHS Classification:**

- Skin Irritation Category 2
- Eye Irritation Category 2A
- Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Single Exposure) Category 3
- Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Repeated Exposure) Category 2

## GHS Pictograms: GHS Signal Word:





The following GHS Hazard and Precautionary statements refer only to the dust produced by Helix AAC:

#### GHS Hazard Statements:

- H315 Causes skin irritation
- H319 Causes serious eye irritation
- H335 May cause respiratory irritation
- H373 May cause damage to organs through
- prolonged or repeated exposure by inhalation

GHS Precautionary Statements:

P260 - Do not breathe dust.

P264 – Wash thoroughly after handling.

P271 - Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. P280 - Wear eye/face protection and protective gloves. P302 + P352 - Use on skin, wash with plenty of soap and water.

P304 + P340 - If inhaled, remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.

P305 + P351 + P338 – If in eyes, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.

 $P312-Call\ a\ Poison\ Centre\ or\ doctor\ if\ you\ feel\ unwell.\ P332+P313-If\ skin\ irritation\ occurs,\ get\ medical\ advice/attention.$ 

P337 + P313 - If eye irritation persists, get medical advice/attention. P362 - Take off contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.

P403 + P233 – Store in a well-ventilated place and keep container tightly closed.

AAC is classified as Non-Dangerous Goods according to the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail.

#### Section 3. Ingredients Composition & Information

Component	Synonyms	Proportion	CAS Number
Calcium Silicate Hydrate	Tobermorite	<60%-80%	1344-95-2
Crystalline Silica	Quartz	20%-40%	14808-60-7
Portland Cement	Concrete	10%-60%	65997-15-1
Additives	Glenium, Superplasticiser	<5%	

Note: Cement in concrete contains traces (2-20 ppm) of Chromium VI (hexavalent)

## Section 4. First Aid Measures

INHALATION	Provide fresh air. If persistent irritation, severe coughing, or breathing difficulty occurs, seek medical attention.
EYE CONTACT	Flush eyes, including under eyelids, with clean flowing water for 15 minutes. If irritation persists, seek medical attention.
SKIN CONTACT	Remove any contaminated clothing. Wash skin thoroughly with soap and water. Shower if necessary. Seek medical attention for persistent redness, irritation or burning of the skin.
INGESTION	Rinse mouth and lips with water. Do not induce vomiting. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.

## **Section 5.** Fire Fighting Measures

Suitable Extinguishing Media	Use carbon dioxide, foam, dry chemical or water spray as required for fire in surrounding materials.
Specific Hazards	None
Special protective Equipment & Precautions for Firefighters	As required for fire in surrounding materials.
HAZCHEM Code	None Allocated

#### Section 6. Accidental Release Measures

Personal Precautions, PPE & Emergency Procedures	Avoid generating dust. Recommendations on Exposure Controls / PPE (see Section 11 below) should be followed during spill clean-up if conditions are dusty.
<b>Environmental Precautions</b>	None Required
Methods & Materials for Containment & Clean up	Collect and reuse where possible. Dust is best cleaned up by vacuum device to avoid making dust airborne. Wetting down before sweeping up dust is recommended.

## **Section 7.** Handling & Storage

Precautions for Safe Handling	AAC is a heavy material, and appropriate control of manual handling risk is required. Manual handling should be in accordance with Manual Handling Regulations and Codes.
Conditions for Safe Storage	No special requirements. Safety aspects of stockpiles and storage areas require risk assessment and control.
Incompatibilities	None

## Section 8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protective Equipment

Respiratory Protection	The type of respiratory protection required depends on the concentration of the respirable crystalline silica dust in the air, and the frequency and length of exposure time. A suitable P1 or P2 particulate respirator used in accordance with AS 1715 and 1716 may be sufficient for many situations, but where high levels of dust are encountered, more efficient cartridge- type or powered respirators or supplied-air helmets or suits may be necessary. Use only respirators that bear the Australian Standards mark and are fitted and maintained correctly.  None required if engineering and handling controls are adequate to minimize dust generation and dust exposure. Where engineering and handling controls are not enough to minimise exposure to dust, personal respiratory protection may be required.
Eye Protection	Use of protective safety glasses or goggles is recommended for dust generating operations.
Incompatibilities	It is recommended to wear loose comfortable clothing and gloves

## Section 9. Physical & Chemical

Boiling Point	N/A	Specific gravity	0.4 - 0.7
Vapour Pressure	N/A	Evaporation rate	N/A
Vapour Density (Air=1)	N/A	Melting point	N/A
Solubility in Water (%weight)	N/A	Volatiles (by volume)	N/A
pH	8.010.0	VOC's (g/litre)	N/A
Appearance & Odour: Off white with no odour			
Flash Point		N/A	
Flammability (LEL, HEL)		N/A	
Hazardous Combustion Products		None	
Unusual Fire & Explosion Hazards		None	
Special Firefighting Procedures		Applicable for surrounding materials	s and substances

## Section 10. Stability & Reactivity

Stability	Stable
Conditions to Avoid	None
Incompatible Materials	None as this is an inert material
Hazardous Decomposition Products	None
Hazardous Polymerisation	Will not occur

## Section 11. Toxicological Information

SWALLOWED	Unlikely under normal industrial use, but swallowing the dust from this product may result in abdominal discomfort.
EYES	<b>Short-Term:</b> Dust is irritating to the eyes causing watering and redness. Exposure to dust may aggravate pre-existing eye conditions.
	Long-Term: Dust may cause irritation and inflammation of the eyes and aggravate pre-existing eye conditions.
SKIN	<b>Short-Term:</b> The dust from this product, particularly in association with heat and sweat, may cause irritation. The dust is not absorbed through the skin but, may be mildly irritating and drying to the skin due to its physical characteristics.
	<b>Long-Term:</b> Repeated heavy contact with the dust may cause drying of the skin and can result in skin rash typically affecting the hands. Over time this may become chronic and can also become infected.
INHALED	<b>Short-Term:</b> Dust is mildly irritating to the nose, throat and respiratory tract and may cause coughing and sneezing. Preexisting upper respiratory and lung diseases including asthma and bronchitis may be aggravated.
	<b>Long-Term:</b> Repeated exposure to the dust may result in increased nasal and respiratory secretions and coughing. Inflammation of lining tissue of the respiratory system may follow repeated exposure to high levels of dust with increased risk of bronchitis and pneumonia.

## Section 12. Ecological Information

<b>Eco-Toxicity</b>	Products as delivered are not biodegradable, have low ecotoxicity and are not regarded as posing any ecological risk. Crushed product and dust may form a mildly alkaline or neutral slurry when mixed with water.
Persistence & Degradability	Product is persistent and would have a low degradability.
Bioaccumulative Potential	There is no evidence to suggest bioaccumulation will occur.
Mobility in Soil	A low mobility would be expected in a landfill situation.

#### Section 13. Disposal

Waste Disposal	AAC can be treated as a common waste for disposal or dumped into a landfill site in accordance with local, state or federal authority guidelines. Crushed product and dust should be kept out of storm
	water and sewer drains. Measures should be taken to prevent dust generation during disposal, and exposure and personal precautions should be observed.

#### Section 14. Transport Information

UN Number	None Allocated
UN Proper Shipping Name	None Allocated
Class & Subsidiary Risk	None Allocated
Packaging Group	None Allocated
Special Precautions for User	None
HAZCHEM Code	None Allocated

#### Section 15. Regulatory Information

Poisons	None Scheduled

Exposures by inhalation to high levels of dust may be regulated under the Hazardous Substances Regulations (State) as they are applicable to Respirable Crystalline Silica, requiring exposure assessment, controls and health surveillance.

#### Section 16. Other Information

Further Information Contact	Helix AAC Dalton Rd, Thomastown VIC 3074 Ph 1300 435 427
	www.helixaac.com.au

#### **DISCLAIMER**

The information contained in this material Safety Data Sheet is believed to be reliable. No guarantee is implied or expressed regarding the accuracy of this information or the use of the product since the conditions of use are beyond manufacturer's control. Nothing contained herein should be construed as a recommendation to use this product in conflict with existing patents covering any material or its use.

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