BGC FIBRE CEMENT SHEETS

1 - IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

PRODUCT NAME	BGC Fibre Cement Sheets
OTHER NAMES	Duraliner™ Plus / Durasheet™ / Duratex™ / Duralattice™ / Duralux™ Plus / Duraplank™ / Ultraform™ / Compressed / Ceramic & Tile Underlay / Vinyl & Cork Underlay / Nuline™ Plus / Duracom™ / Duragrid™ / Durascape™ / Duragroove™ / Stonesheet™ / Stratum™ / Stratum™ Duo / Stratum™ Trio / Stratum™ Contour / Stratum™ Era / Durafloor™ / Durabarrier™ / Intergroove™ / Duracom Greystone™ Charcoal / Duracom Greystone™ Natural
UN NUMBER	None Allocated
DANGEROUS GOODS CLASS & SUBSIDARY RISK	None Allocated
HAZCHEM CODE	None Allocated
POISONS SCHEDULE NUMBER	None Allocated
USE(S)	Fibre cement sheets for use on internal/external wall linings and soffits and internal/external flooring. Refer to product manual for installation.
COMPANY	BGC (Australia) Pty Ltd T/A BGC Fibre Cement
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EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER	000 Fire Brigade and Police (available in Australia only)
POISON INFORMATION CENTRE	13 11 26 (available in Australia only)

2 - HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

The potential health hazards are related to dust generated from these materials during the use of power tools and sanding.

The intact BGC Fibre Cement products do not give off dust or fume during installation or when installed. However, cutting, breaking, drilling or sawing the boards may generate dust. Inhaling dust liberated from BGC Fibre Cement may aggravate pre-existing respiratory conditions and may cause cancer.

Smoking and inhalation of airborne particulates from other sources may increase the risk of lung disease.

Work areas and storage areas should be deemed smoke-free zones.

3 - COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS NUMBER	PROPORTION	EXPOSURE LIMITS
Calcium silicate hydrate	66997-15-1	40%-60%	10.0 mg/m³ measured as inspirable dust
Crystalline silica	14808-60-7	20%-60%	0.1 mg/m³ measured as inspirable dust
Paper pulp (cellulose)	9004-34-6	< 10%	10 mg/m³ measured as inspirable dust
Calcium silicate aluminate	21645-51-2	< 5%	10 mg/m3 measured as inspirable dust
Water		< 15%	
Other non-hazardous ingredients (pigments, sealers, coatings)		< 5%	

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4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

SWALLOWED	Give copious amounts of water to drink.
EYE	Flush thoroughly with flowing water for at least ten minutes. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.
SKIN	Wash thoroughly with soap and water.
INHALED	Remove to fresh air.
ADVICE TO DOCTOR	Treat symptomatically.

5 - FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS	BGC Fibre Cement products are non-flammable and non-combustible.
SUITABLE EXTINGUISHING SUBSTANCES	Not applicable.
UNSUITABLE EXTINGUISHING SUBSTANCES	Not applicable.
PRODUCT OF COMBUSTION	BGC Fibre Cement products are non-combustible and non-flammable.

6 - ACCIDENTAL RELASE MEASURES

SPILLS AND DISPOSAL	Use wet sweeping and/or vacuuming to clean up dust and waste. Bagged waste should be placed in containers and disposed of with other construction waste in accordance with local authority guidelines

7 - STORAGE AND HANDLING

STORAGE	Fibre cement sheets should be stored flat and level in a covered dry area.
HANDLING	Crystalline silica dust may be generated during processing and handling. Use appropriate personal protective equipment to reduce exposure to respirable silica dust. Keep dust generation to a minimum using proper tools. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination. Manual handling should be in accordance with Manual Handling Regulations and Codes.

8 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

EXPOSURE STANDARDS	BGC Fibre Cement has adopted the following maximum exposure limits, corresponding to the limits set out by the CoA, NOHSC; Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment:- • Calcium silica: 10 mg/m³ time-weighted average (TWA) as inspirable dust • Cellulose: 10 mg/ m³ TWA as respirable dust • Crystalline silica (quartz): 0.1 mg/ m³ TWA as respirable dust • Aluminium Trihydroxide: 10 mg/m³ time-weighted average as inspirable dust BGC Fibre Cement recommends keeping exposures to dust as low as practicable and work in a well-ventilated space.
ENGINEERING CONTROLS	No dust is generated, unless the fibre cement is cut. Keep exposures to dust as low as practicable, preferably below 5 mg/m³ TWA (time-weighted average) of inspirable dust, to prevent respiratory discomfort. Work in the open air or near external openings in the building, for adequate ventilation. Where dust is generated, in confined spaces, local mechanical ventilation should be used, to direct the dust away from the work areas. Personal protective equipment should be used in confined spaces and where dust levels exceed the maximum levels.

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ENGINEERING CONTROLS	Use safe work practices to minimize dust release and exposure. Clean work areas regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming with a HEPA filtered vacuum.
VENTILATION	Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place, ventilation is not normally required. Use local mechanical ventilation and or dust extraction in confined areas and where dust could escape into the working environment.

Tools and Equipment

REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE	Vacuum and or wipe down all tools and equipment prior to maintenance and repair work. Avoid compressed air cleaning where possible, and wear eye and respiratory protection, and clothing as listed below.
SKIN PROTECTION	Avoid direct skin contact with fibre cement products. Wear loose appropriate clothing, such as long sleeved shirts and long trousers, head protection and standard duty leather or equivalent gloves, which comply with Australian Standard AS 2161: Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens. Wash work clothes regularly and do not shake out dust.
EYE PROTECTION	Wear dust resistant non-fogging safety goggles or glasses, which comply with Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1336: Recommended Practices for Eye Protection.
RESPIRATORY PROTECTION	Where safe work practices, adequate engineering and material handling controls are in place and used none may be required. However, BGC Fibre Cement suggests that L or M particulate respirator (dust mask), which comply with Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1715: Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices, and Australian and New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1716: Respiratory Protective Devices when Exposed to Dust), be used at all times.
PERSONAL HYGEINE	Do not smoke whilst handling and working with fibre cement. Wash dust from skin with mild soap and water after working with fibre cement.
FLAMMABILITY	Fibre cement products are non-combustible and non-flammable.

9 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

APPEARANCE	Factory applied blue tint on face of the Duratex™, and a white tint to the face of 4.5, 6.0, 9.0 and 12mm Compressed while all other products are cement grey finish.	BOILING POINT (°C)	Not Applicable
VAPOUR PRESSURE	Not Applicable	SPECIFIC GRAVITY (H_2O = 1)	Not Relevant
FLASH POINT	Not Applicable	FLAMMABILITY LIMITS	Not Flammable
SOLUBILITY IN WATER	Not Relevant	REACTIVITY (I.E. WITH WATER OR AIR)	Not Reactive
AUTO-IGNITION TEMPERATURE (°C)	-	ODOUR THRESHOLD	Slight cement odour
LOWER EXPLOSION LIMIT	-	UPPER EXPLOSION LIMIT	-
SELF ACCELERATING DECOMPOSITION	-		

10 - STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

CHEMICAL STABILITY	Stable and non-reactive.
HAZARDOUS REACTIONS	None
CONDITIONS TO AVOID	Dust generation during handling, processing and inhalation.
INCOMPATIBLE MATERIALS	None
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS	None

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11 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Health Effects: Acute (short term)

SWALLOWED	Unlikely to occur, however may result in symptoms of acute indigestion.
EYES	Excessive dust may cause eye irritation.
SKIN	The dust, particularly in association with heat and sweat, can cause irritation, but it is not absorbed through skin.
INHALED	Inhaled dust may cause nasal, throat and lung irritation, symptomatic through excess mucus and coughing.

Health Effects: Chronic (long term)

INHALED	If respirable crystalline silica levels are not controlled, repeated exposure to excessive dusts of fibre cement products could result in chronic lung disease Silocosis. However, if the practices noted in this SDS are followed during cutting and sanding, exposure to airborne dusts should be within recommended occupational exposure standards and no long-term effects are expected.

12 - ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

ECO-TOXICITY	BGC Fibre Cement products are not toxic to aquatic and terrestrial organisms.
PERSISTENCE AND DEGRADABILITY	No data
BIOACCUMULATIVE DATA	No data
MOBILITY IN SOIL	A low mobility would be expected in a landfill situation.

13 - DISPOSAL CONSIDERATION

DISPOSAL	BGC Fibre Cement products must be disposed into a landfill site in accordance with local authority guidelines. Measures should be taken to prevent dust generation during disposal, and exposure and personal precautions should be observed (see above).

14 - TRANSPORT INFORMATION

TRANSPORT	No special transport requirements are necessary.

15 - REGULATORY INFORMATION

Not scheduled.

16 - OTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this product, please contact:

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Australian Standards References

AS/NZ 1336	Recommend Practices for Occupational Eye Protection
AS/NZ 1715	Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices
AS/NZ 1716	Respiratory Protection Devices
AS 2161	Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens (excluding electrical and medical gloves)

Other References

NOHSC:1008 (2004)	Approved Criteria for Classifying Hazardous Substances
MODEL CODE OF PRACTICE	Preparation of Safety

AUTHORISATION

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