

SECTION 1 – PRODUCT AND COMPANY INFORMATION

## CONCRETE MASONRY UNIT (aka CMU or Block)

2088 FM 949  
Alleyton, TX

(713) 393-3332  
Information Phone Number  
(877) 347-8096  
Emergency Phone Number

Prepared: July 21, 2010

SECTION 2 – MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION

COMPONENT <sup>(1)</sup>	FORMULA	% <sup>(1)</sup>	OSHA PEL <sup>(2)</sup>	ACGIH TLV <sup>(2)</sup>	
Aggregate (other than sand)	Shale, Clay, Other	25-35	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	
Portland Cement (reacted)		8-12	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	
Crystalline Silica (sand)	Total	SiO <sub>2</sub>	55-65	30/% SiO <sub>2</sub> +2 <sup>(4)</sup>	0.3
	Respirable	SiO <sub>2</sub>	See Note (5)	10/% SiO <sub>2</sub> +2 <sup>(4)</sup>	0.1
Iron Mineral Dusts <sup>(6)</sup>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> , Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	<3	10	5	
Aluminosilicate Glass (Fly Ash)	amorphous	1-3	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	Not Listed <sup>(3)</sup>	

Notes:

- Concrete Masonry Units are articles composed of a mixture of aggregate, sand, Portland cement (reacted) and water. It may also contain fly ash and color pigments. As an article, they may not require a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). However, possible exposure to hazardous chemical dusts and physically harmful (abrasive) dusts when sawing, grinding crushing (breakage), drilling or other machining requires an MSDS.
- Airborne exposure limits in mg/m<sup>3</sup>.
- Not listed specifically by substance name. Exposure to them may be covered by inert or nuisance dust limits of 15 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for total dust and 5 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for respirable portion. May contain some crystalline silica which is covered separately in this MSDS.
- The percentage of crystalline silica in the formula is the amount determined from airborne samples.
- Respirable crystalline silica dust may be created through cutting, grinding, crushing or breaking the CMU.
- Iron minerals may be used as pigments.

SECTION 3 – PHYSICAL / CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Boiling Point: N/A  
Vapor Pressure: N/A  
Vapor Density: N/A

Solubility in Water: Negligible

Appearance and Odor: Odorless solid block

Specific Gravity (H<sub>2</sub>O = 1): 2.2-2.8

Melting Point: N/A

Evaporation Rate: N/A

Water Reactive: Not Reactive

SECTION 4 – FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

Extinguisher Media: No special media required.

Flammability Limits in Air (% by Volume): Not flammable

Special Fire Fighting Procedures: No special procedures required

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: None. This material is considered non-flammable and non-combustible. Use fire extinguishing agent suitable for surrounding media.

Auto Ignition Temperature: N/A

LEL: N/A UEL: N/A

Flash Point and Method Used: N/A

SECTION 5 – REACTIVITY HAZARD DATA

Stability: Considered to be stable.

Hazardous Decomposition Products: Decomposition products are unknown and not suspected.

Hazardous Polymerization: Hazardous polymerization not known to occur.

Reactivity: Material is considered inert. Avoid contact with strong acids, reducing agents, and oxidizers.

Conditions to Avoid: None.

N/A = Not Applicable

## SECTION 6 – HEALTH HAZARD DATA

### PRIMARY ROUTES OF ENTRY:

**Inhalation:** Dust can irritate respiratory tract; long-term exposure to respirable silica above the PEL may produce silicosis in susceptible persons.

**Ingestion:** Possible, but very unlikely to occur in sufficient quantities.

**Skin and Eye Contact:** Dust can dry and irritate the skin and cause dermatitis; is not absorbed by skin. Can irritate eyes and skin through mechanical abrasion.

**Hazardous:** Is not considered hazardous.

### CARCINOGEN LISTED IN:

**NTP:** Yes (Crystalline Silica)\*

**IARC Monograph:** Yes (Crystalline Silica)\*

**OSHA:** No

\* *Concrete and concrete products are not carcinogens.*

*Crystalline silica has the potential to become respirable during sawing, grinding crushing (breakage), drilling or other machining of CMUs. Respirable crystalline silica from occupational sources is listed as carcinogenic to humans (Group 1) by IARC. NTP lists silica, crystalline (respirable) as a compound that may reasonably be anticipated to be a carcinogen.*

### HEALTH HAZARDS:

**Acute:** Direct contact with dust may cause irritation to the respiratory tract, eyes, or the skin. Skin affected by dermatitis may become red, itchy, scaled or cracked.

**Chronic:** Prolonged inhalation exposure to dust may cause pulmonary fibrosis, chronic bronchitis, silicosis or other respiratory problems.

**Signs and Symptoms of Exposure:** Irritation of eyes, skin, and respiratory system.

**Medical Conditions Generally Aggravated by Exposure:** May aggravate existing pulmonary condition if high dust situation is created. Skin rashes or dry skin may be aggravated.

### EMERGENCY FIRST AID PROCEDURES:

**Eye Contact:** Flush for 15 minutes with water. Seek medical care as needed to remove particles and treat scratched cornea. Contact a physician if irritation develops or persists.

**Skin Contact:** Wash with mild soap and water. Contact a physician if irritation develops or persists.

**Inhalation:** Remove to fresh air; seek medical attention if respiratory symptoms (coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath) persist.

**Ingestion:** Rinse mouth out with water. Do not induce vomiting. Seek medical attention.

## SECTION 7 – CONTROL AND PROTECTIVE MEASURES

**Respiratory Protection:** If airborne dust exposure approaches the TLV or PEL (Section 1), use half-mask or full-face air purifying respirator equipped with NIOSH or MSHA-approved high efficiency filters for protection against pneumoconiosis-producing dust. An airline respirator may be required where dust levels are extremely high. Recommend use of a NIOSH or MSHA-approved mask or respirator for nuisance dusts below TLV or PEL.

**Protective Gloves:** Limit dust contact with skin. Use cloth and/or leather gloves as necessary.

**Eye Protection:** Wear ANSI approved glasses, goggles, or face shield as appropriate. Avoid contact lenses.

**Foot Protection:** Wear ANSI approved hard-toed safety shoes when handling CMUs.

**Ventilation to be Used:** Keep dust levels below PEL. Use general and local exhaust ventilation and dust collection systems to keep dust levels within acceptable limits.

**Other Protective Clothing and Equipment:** Protective clothing may be necessary under heavy dusting conditions.

**Hygienic Work Practices:** Do not allow dust to get into eyes, to be inhaled, to be swallowed, or to remain on skin if irritation occurs. Minimize dusting. Practice good personal hygiene. Wash or shower after exposure to dust.

## SECTION 8 – PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING / LEAK PROCEDURES

**Steps to be Taken If Material is Spilled or Released:** Do not create unnecessary airborne dust. Avoid inhalation. Use water mist to reduce dust. Provide ventilation as appropriate. Use PPE: respiratory, skin, and eyes.

**Waste Disposal Methods:** Considered a non-hazardous waste. Follow applicable federal, state, and local rules.

**Precautions to be Taken in Handling and Storage:** Avoid dust inhalation. Use water and other available means to minimize dusting. Use personal protection. Follow good housekeeping and personal hygiene practices.

**Other Precautions and/or Special Hazards:** No special precautions.

*This MSDS has been prepared in accordance with the Hazard Communication Rule 29 CFR 1910.1200. Information herein is based on data considered to be accurate as of date prepared. No warranty or representation, express or implied, is made as to the accuracy or completeness of this data and safety information. No responsibility can be assumed by vendor for any damage or injury resulting from abnormal use, failure to adhere to recommended practices, or from any hazards inherent in the nature of the product.*