Easy to Mix Concrete
Safety Data Sheet

1. Identification of Substance & Company

Product	
Product name	Easy to Mix Concrete
HSNO approval	HSR002545
Approval description	Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006
UN number	NA
Proper Shipping Name	Not allocated
Packaging group	NA
Hazchem code	NA
Uses	Concrete

Company Details	
Company	**Drymix NZ Ltd**
Address	PO Box 109, Greenhithe, Auckland 0756, New Zealand
Telephone	0800-379-746
Fax number	0800-379-649
Website	www.drymix.co.nz

Emergency Telephone Number: 0800 764 766

2. Hazard Identification

Approval and

This product has been approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO, Approval HSR002545, Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006), and is classified as follows:

Classes	Hazard Statements
8.3A	Causes serious eye damage.
6.3A	Causes skin irritation.
6.7A	May cause cancer
6.9A	Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure
9.1D	Harmful to aquatic life.

Note: concrete is considered irritating to the skin under the classification system; however, there is a possibility of burns if wet concrete is left in contact with the skin for a prolonged time.

SYMBOLS

DANGER

Other Classifications

There are no other Classifications that are known to apply.

Precautionary Statements

Keep out of reach of children.
Read label before use.
Obtain special instructions before use.
Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
Wear protective gloves/eye protection/face protection.

Avoid breathing dust.
Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.
Avoid release to the environment. Collect spillage.

Further precautionary statements can be found in Section 4 – First Aid.

3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS/ Identification	Class for ingredient(s)	Conc (%)
sand	NA	non hazardous	50-60
stone	NA	non hazardous	20-30
cement	65997-15-1	8.3A. 6.3A, 6.7A, 6.9A, 9.1D	10-20

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary. Trace quantities of impurities are also likely.

4. First Aid

General Information

If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. You should call the National Poisons Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON) (24 hr emergency service).

Recommended first aid facilities Ready access to running water is required. Accessible eyewash is required.

Exposure

Swallowed IF SWALLOWED: Do NOT induce vomiting. Rinse mouth. Contact a doctor if you feel unwell.

Eye contact IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Apply continuous irrigation with water for at least 15 minutes holding eyelids apart. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor.

Skin contact IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

Inhaled IF INHALED: If breathing is difficult, remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. If patient is unconscious, place in the recovery position (on the side) for transport and contact a doctor. If experiencing respiratory symptoms: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.

Advice to Doctor

Treat symptomatically

5. Firefighting Measures

Fire and explosion hazards: There are no specific risks for fire/explosion for this chemical. It is non-combustible.

Suitable extinguishing substances: Not applicable.

Unsuitable extinguishing substances: Unknown.

Products of combustion: Product does not burn. Dust may form irritating atmosphere. Product will react exothermically with water. Contaminated water wil be strongly alkaline. Product may decompose in a fire and produce toxic or corrosive fumes.

Protective equipment: Self-contained breathing apparatus. Safety boots, non-flammable overalls, gloves, hat and eye protection.

Hazchem code: 1T (recommended)

6. Accidental Release Measures

Containment
If greater than 1000kg (wet product or dust) is stored, secondary containment is required. Emergency plans to manage any potential spills must be in place. Prevent spillage from spreading or entering soil, waterways or drains.

Emergency procedures
In the event of large spillage (>100kg) of the dry or wetted mixture alert the fire brigade to location and give brief description of hazard.
Wear protective equipment to prevent skin, eye and respiratory exposure. Clear area of any unprotected personnel. Contain spill. Prevent by whatever means possible any spillage from entering drains, sewers, or water courses.

Clean-up method
Collect product avoiding any dust formation, and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal. If contamination of crops, sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.

Disposal
Mop up and collect recoverable material into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. Recycle containers wherever possible. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Dispose of only in accord with all regulations.

Precautions
The dust may form irritating atmosphere. Contaminated water will be strongly alkaline. Do not allow contaminated water to enter the environment.
Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and the inhalation of dust. Work up wind or increase ventilation.

7. Storage & Handling

Storage
Avoid storage of harmful substances with food. Store out of reach of children. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination. Keep in a cool, dry place. Avoid contact with incompatible substances as listed in Section 10.

Handling
Keep exposure to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Minimise dust generation and accummulation. See section 8 with regard to personal protective equipment requirements. Avoid skin and eye contact and inhalation of dust.

8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protective Equipment

Workplace Exposure Standards

A workplace exposure standard (WES) has not been established by the NZ Department of Labour for this product. There is a general limit of 10mg/m^3 for dusts and mists when limits have not otherwise been established.

NZ Workplace Exposure Stds (OSH – DoL 2011)	Ingredient	WES-TWA	WES-STEL
	sand	10mg/m^3 (as nuisance dust)	no data
	cement	10mg/m^3 (as nuisance dust)	no data
	limestone	10mg/m^3 (as nuisance dust)	no data
	crystalline Silica	0.2mg/m^3 (as respirable dust)	no data

Engineering Controls

In industrial situations, it is expected that employee exposure to hazardous substances will be controlled to a level as far below the WES as practicable by applying the hierarchy of control required by the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE). Exposure can be reduced by process modification, use of local exhaust ventilation, capturing substances at the source, or other methods. If you believe air borne concentrations of mists, dusts or vapours are high, you are advised to modify processes or increase ventilation.

Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes

Protect eyes with goggles, safety glasses or full face mask. Avoid wearing contact lenses.

Skin

Avoid repeated or prolonged skin contact. Wear overalls, waterproof boots and impervious alkali-resistant gloves (e.g., nitrile, PVC, rubber, neoprene). Tuck overalls inside boots and seal with duct tape to reduce risk of concrete entering boots.

Remove protective clothing and wash exposed areas with soap and water prior to eating, drinking or smoking. Take special care to ensure that cuts/abrasions or irritated skin are not exposed to this product. It is also important to ensure that wet concrete does not become trapped within gloves, boots or clothing – leaving concrete in contact with the

skin for extended period of time may cause skin burns.

It is important that skin is also covered when concrete dust is created (e.g., sanding, grinding, crushing or cutting concrete). The dust may also irritate and/or damage the skin.

Respiratory

To prevent irritation a well fitted dust mask should be used (this is not recommended when exposure is close to the WES). A fine particulate half or full face respirator with an effective seal is recommended when airborne concentrations approach the WES (section 8). If sanding, grinding, crushing or cutting concrete, it is possible that the silica dust WES (0.02 mg/m^3) will be exceeded, hence a respirator will be required. If exposure to the concentrated aqueous solution, dust and mist is likely, a full face respirator with a particulate filter is recommended.

WES Additional Information

Not applicable

9. Physical & Chemical Properties

Appearance	Grey solid
Odour	Bland
pH	>12 (wet concrete)
Vapour pressure	Not applicable
Viscosity	No data
Boiling point	Not applicable
Volatile materials	No data
Freezing / melting point	No data
Solubility	Insoluble in hardened state, slightly soluble in wet state to form alkaline solution (pH >12)
Specific gravity / density	~2.4g/cm^3
Flash point	Not applicable
Danger of explosion	No data
Auto-ignition temperature	No data
Upper & lower flammable limits	Not applicable
Corrosiveness	May be corrosive when wet. Note that dust is also corrosive when mixed with water.

10. Stability & Reactivity

Stability	This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions. Keep dry until used.
Conditions to be avoided	Containers should be kept closed in order to avoid contamination.
Incompatible groups	Strong acids, ammonium salts, and aluminum metal.
Substance Specific Incompatibility	Concrete dissolves in hydrofluoric acid producing corrosive silicon tetrafluoride gas. Silicates react with powerful oxidizers such as fluorine, chlorine, trifluorides, and oxygen difluoride.
Hazardous decomposition products	Does not readily decompose. Respirable dust particles may be generated when concrete is sawed, drilled, sanded or grinded.
Hazardous reactions	Will not polymerise

11. Toxicological Information

Summary

No specific data is available for this product. Where available, toxicological data has been researched and data for the mixture calculated. The results of these calculations are presented below. The product is considered to have the following toxicity:

Supporting Data

Acute	**Oral**	The estimated LD_{50} (oral, rat) for the mixture is > 5,000 mg/kg. Ingestion of this product may cause gastrointestinal irritation.
	Dermal	The estimated LD_{50} (dermal, rat) for the mixture is > 5,000 mg/kg.
	Inhaled	The estimated LC_{50} (inhalation, rat) for the mixture is >5 mg/L (dust mist). Short term (acute) silicosis (see "systemic" below) can also occur with one-off exposures to extremely high levels of fine crystalline silica dust. Other short term effects include irritation, choking and difficulty breathing.
	Eye	Contact with wet (unhardened) concrete, cement mixtures or concrete dust can cause effects ranging from irritation to serious eye damage/burns and blindness. The pH of the mixture is >12. Note: the level of irritation/damage is dependent on the quantity of the dust, the pH, and the length of time exposed. E.g., if dust is washed out of the eye immediately, effects will be minor. However, if dust or wet concrete is left in contact with the eye, serious damage/blindness could result.
	Skin	Contact with wet (unhardened) concrete, cement, or cement mixtures can cause skin irritation, severe chemical burns (third degree). Drying concrete is hygroscopic, i.e. absorbs water. It will draw water away from any material it contacts-including skin. This may cause irritation – particularly in hot conditions or when sweating. Brief exposure to the skin (i.e., washed off immediately) will result in irritation. However, if the concrete or dust is left on the skin for an extended time (e.g., if inside boots or absorbed through overalls), burns to the skin are possible. Thickening of the skin and/or rash is also possible.
Chronic	**Sensitisation**	There is evidence that chromium present in some cement mixtures may induce occupational asthma and skin sensitisation (allergic reactions). This mixture contains less than 0.01% hexavalent chromium and hence is not considered sensitising.
	Mutagenicity	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a mutagen.
	Carcinogenicity	This mixture does contain crystalline silica. Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1). The mixture triggers 6.7A classification (confirmed carcinogen). The carcinogenicity of silica is related to long term (e.g., 10 years) inhalation of very fine particulate (e.g., from sand blasting or dry cutting of concrete). Carcinogenicity of silica appears linked to development of silicosis (see systematic below) followed by complications and, eventually lung cancer
	Reproductive / Developmental	No data for mixture is available. No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a reproductive or developmental toxicant or have any effects on or via lactation.
	Systemic	The mixture is considered to be a target organ toxicant, because of the presence of crystalline silica at greater than 1%. Crystalline silica triggers 6.9A classification if it is in the form of a fine respirable dust in an occupational (chronic exposure) setting. This is due to the development of acute silicosis which can occur following exposure to extremely high levels of fine silica dust. Silicosis is a type of pneumoconiosis – a disease of the lung that causes inflammation, scar tissue, lesions and fibrosis in the lung (alveolar). Symptoms include shortness of breath, cough, fever, loss of appetite and cyanosis (bluish skin). Silicosis can occur following prolonged exposure (e.g., 10 years) to relatively high levels of fine crystalline silica dust.
	Aggravation of existing conditions	Persons with existing lung conditions may be at a higher risk of further adverse health effects (as above). Smokers have an increased risk of lung cancer and silicosis.

12. Ecological Data

Summary

Concrete and cement dusts are considered to be harmful in the environment when in a soluble form. This is primarily due to the high pH of the product.

Supporting Data

Aquatic	No data for mixture is available. Using EC_{50}'s for ingredients, the estimated EC_{50} for the mixture is between 1 and 100 mg/L. This implies that concrete should be considered harmful in the aquatic environment. Water contaminated with this product is alkaline and should not be allowed to enter the environment.
Bioaccumulation	Not applicable
Degradability	Not applicable (predominantly natural products)
Soil	No data available for the mixture. The soil toxicity value for the mixture is estimated to be ≥ 100 mg/kg.
Terrestrial vertebrate	This product is not considered harmful to terrestrial vertebrates. No LC_{50} (diet) data for ingredients are available and the classification is based on the LD_{50} (oral) – see section 11 – oral toxicity.
Terrestrial invertebrate	The mixture is not considered harmful to terrestrial invertebrates.
Biocidal	Not designed as a biocide.
Environmental effect levels	No EELs are available for this mixture or ingredients

13. Disposal Considerations

Restrictions	Local council and resource consent conditions may apply, including requirements of trade waste consents.
Disposal method	Disposal of this product must comply with the requirements of the Resource Management Act for which approval should be sought from the Regional Authority. The substance must be treated and therefore rendered non-hazardous before discharge to the environment.
Contaminated packaging	There are no product-specific restrictions, however, local council and resource consent conditions may apply, including requirements of trade waste consents.

14. Transport Information

Transport according to NZS 5433 (Transport of Hazardous Substances on Land). Considered a hazardous substance for transport.

UN number:	NA	**Proper shipping name:**	NA
Class(es)	NA	**Packing group:**	NA
Precautions:	NA	**Hazchem code:**	1T (recommended)

15. Regulatory Information

This product is an approved substance under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO). Approval code: HSR002545: Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006.

Specific Workplace Controls (as per HSNO approval referenced to Controls Matrix)

Note: the controls apply to the wet product, and to the dust of hardened concrete.

Key workplace requirements are:	
MSDS	To be available within 10 minutes in workplaces storing any quantity.
Labelling	No removal of labels and/or decanting of product into other containers can occur.
Emergency plan	Approved Evacuation Scheme required if > 1000kg is stored.
Approved handler	Approved handlers are NOT required if this product is used in the construction industry (exempted requirement under construction group standards).
Tracking	Not required.
Bunding and secondary containment	Required if > 1000kg is stored.
Signage	Required if > 1000kg is stored in any one location.
Location test certificate	Not required.
Flammable zone	Not required.
Fire extinguisher	Not required.

Other Legislation

In New Zealand, the use of this product may come under the Resource Management Act and Regulations, the Health, Safety in Employment Act and Regulations, local Council Rules and Regional Council Plans.

16. Other Information

Abbreviations

Approval Code	Approval Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006, Controls, ERMA. www.ermanz.govt.nz
CAS Number	Unique Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
Ceiling	Ceiling Exposure Value: The maximum airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed at any time.
Controls Matrix	List of default controls linking regulation numbers to Matrix code (e.g. T1, I16).
EC_{50}	Ecotoxic Concentration 50% – concentration in water which is fatal to 50% of a test population (e.g. daphnia, fish species)
ERMA	Environmental Risk Management Authority (now EPA)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (previously known as ERMA)
HAZCHEM Code	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services, especially fire fighters
HSNO	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Act and Regulations)
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LEL	Lower Explosive Limit
LD_{50}	Lethal Dose 50% – dose which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats).
LC_{50}	Lethal Concentration 50% – concentration in air which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats)
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet (or Safety Data Sheet)
OSH - DoL	The Occupational Safety and Health Service of the Department of Labour (NZ)
STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit - The maximum airborne concentration of a chemical or biological agent to which a worker may be exposed in any 15 minute period, provided the TWA is not exceeded
TWA	Time Weighted Average – generally referred to WES averaged over typical work day (usually 8 hours)
UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
UN Number	United Nations Number
WES	Workplace Exposure Standard - The airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed.

References

Data	Unless otherwise stated comes from the EPA HSNO chemical classification information database (CCID) http://www.epa.govt.nz/hs/compliance/chemicals.html , for specific chemicals.
EPA Transfer Gazettes	Classifications and controls assigned for specific ingredients (consolidated gazette, 2004)
Controls Matrix	Part of the EPA New Zealand User Guide to the HSNO Control Regulations
WES 2011	The NZ Workplace Exposure Standards Effective from 2011, published by OSH – DoL and available on their web site – www.osh.dol.govt.nz.
Other References:	Suppliers MSDS

Review

Date	**Reason for review**
REVIEW DATE	Not applicable – new MSDS

Disclaimer

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