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HEALTH & SAFETY DATA SHEET

1 IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE/PREPARATION AND COMPANY

Flexitallic Sheet Sealing Material

Symbol Prefix SF 3500

Manufacturer/Supplier

Flexitallic Ltd
P O Box 3
Marsh Works
Dewsbury Road
Cleckheaton
West Yorkshire
BD19 5BT

Date of issue: May 2000
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2 COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

The material covered by this data sheet contains fibres made from Borosilicate-E-Glass (CAS 65997-17-3) and para-aramid (CAS 24938-60-1) organic fibre of which some fibres are of respirable size. Other constituents include inert filler, rubber binder, curing agent, processing aids, pigments and surface finish.

3 HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Flexitallic Sheet Sealing Material is labelled for identification purposes only, being of low hazard.

4 FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation

In the unlikely event of excessive exposure to dust remove the individual to the fresh air. Obtain medical advice.

Skin Irritation

In the unlikely event of skin irritation, wash affected part with mild soap and water. If irritation persists obtain medical advice.

Eye Irritation

Irrigate eyes if affected by entry of dust. Seek medical advice if irritation persists.

5 FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

Flammability

The material will not support combustion. Glass will soften and subsequently melt at temperatures above 700°C.

Precautions

In a sustained fire situation, product will burn with difficulty and give rise to harmful dust, fume and toxic gases. Such emissions should not be inhaled and in a sustained fire, self-contained breathing apparatus should be worn by fire-fighters.

Material damaged or made friable by fire should be dampened with water and handled with care to prevent the emission of dust. The re-wrapping of such materials in plastic sheeting or bags may be necessary.

Extinguishing Media

Use that appropriate to the surrounding fire.

6 ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Flexitallic Sheet Sealing Material damaged or made friable should be handled with care to ensure no emission of dust. The re-wrapping of the product must be carried out with plastic sheeting or bags. Personal protective equipment should be worn.

7 HANDLING AND STORAGE

It is unlikely that the product will give rise to significant amounts of dust during normal handling and dust control measures will rarely be required in circumstances involving the fabrication of products from this material. However, in accordance with good working practices the production of debris should be minimised and the accumulation of dust should be removed by dustless methods. No special storage conditions are required on health grounds.

8 EXPOSURE CONTROL/PERSONAL PROTECTION

Occupational exposure to para-aramid fibre dust of non-respirable size should be kept to the minimum that is reasonably practicable and should not exceed Occupational Exposure Limit of 0.5 f/ml 8 hours TWA (Reference 1).

Only if the material is being handled extremely vigorously or subjected to harsh abrasion are dust levels likely to rise above the exposure limit given above. In such circumstances the provision of local exhaust ventilation should be considered, or if this is not practicable, dust masks should be worn approved for use against irritant dust. These should be worn in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

To reduce the chance of skin irritation when handling materials containing glass fibre, overalls of a close weave material should be worn. Gloves, arm cuffs or barrier creams may also be advantageous in some circumstances. However, emphasis should be placed on personal hygiene and hands and arms should be rinsed copiously under running water before washing.

Where there is a possibility of glass fibre entering the eye, suitable eye protection should be worn.

9 PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Weight See appropriate Product Data Sheet

Appearance Red

Odour Slight rubbery smell

Solubility in Water Insoluble

Melting Point)

Boiling Point)

Vapour Pressure) not applicable

Percent Volatile (vol))

Evaporation Rate)

10 STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

The product is stable when used for the intended industrial application (see appropriate Product Data Sheets for further detail).

11 TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Primary Routes of Potential Exposure

Inhalation, skin and eye contact.

Inhalation

Dust

The para-aramid fibre used in this product is largely of non-respirable diameter but does contain a portion of fibres and elements of respirable size (ie fibres with diameters less than 3 micron). Under harsh treatment the larger sized fibres can also sub-divide into finer fibrous particles. In view of the construction of the product covered by this data sheet it is considered most unlikely that the aramid component will give rise to significant levels of dust in normal fabrication and end-use applications.

Also it is most unlikely that glass dust will be produced as a result of product usage. Glass dust from the material referred to in this Data Sheet is not regarded as respirable in view of the large diameter of the continuous filaments used, and the levels of dust likely to arise from most operations involving the handling and the use of the material will be negligible. Again only if the product is subjected to harsh mechanical abrasion are levels of glass dust likely to arise that could be irritating to the upper respiratory tract.

Fume

Contact with molten metal or flame may give rise to localised emission of fume.

Skin Irritation

Some people who come into contact with glass fibre experience reddening and itching of the skin. Those who are subject to this effect are most likely to experience it when handling the materials for the first time or after a period of no contact as hardening of the skin usually occurs. Such effects are not likely in the handling of the product due to the presence of the rubber binder. The rubber is not likely to give rise to skin problems.

The manufacturers of the para-aramid fibres present in this product claim that contact with their materials is not likely to produce adverse skin reactions.

Eye Irritation

Entry of dust fragments into the eye will cause foreign body irritation.

Carcinogenicity

Para-aramid and glass fibre have been reported as materials 'Not classified as to human carcinogenicity'.

12 ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The materials used in this product are not associated with any known ecological problems.

13 DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

The disposal of waste material should be carried out in accordance with national and regional directives, normally by burial in controlled industrial land fill sites.

14 TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Other than good haulage practice in securing the consignment, no special transport precautions need to be taken with this material.

15 REGULATORY INFORMATION

No specific regulatory information is applicable to this product.

16 OTHER INFORMATION

The information provided in this Safety Data Sheet is based on the present state of our knowledge.

References

1 Health & Safety Executive Guidance Note EH40/99

For further information contact:

FLEXITALLIC LIMITED

Note:

This Data Sheet relates to the material as supplied. The information contained herein is given in good faith, but no liability will be accepted by the Company in relation to same. The acquisition of additional information may necessitate revisions to parts or all of this Data Sheet, and such information will be supplied as it becomes available.

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