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Materials Safety Data Sheet – Flint Pebbles

Trade Description

Also familiarly known as SEA WASHED PEBBLES/COBBLE STONES. (N.B. The material is sourced from vast shingle banks and repeatedly washed in clean water during screening).

Product Identification

The material is supplied, according to buyers' needs, as roughly spherical stone (which may include some broken materials) graded in diameter normally between 2/3cm and 8/10cm. The colour of the stone varies from light to mid brown through to grey/black.

Chemical Identification

The flint stone is fundamentally pure crystalline silica (SiO₂) associated with minute proportions of alumina/magnesia/ferric oxide.

Health Hazard Data

In a normal course of usage the material should represent no health hazard but attention is drawn to the fact that crystalline silica in the form of dust is a hazardous material and inhalation could give rise to adverse respiratory conditions. In the form of its natural stone it is harmless but if a situation arose in the handling which gave rise to excessive breakage and dust, operatives must be protected by the use of approved masks and goggles.

In such conditions reference should be made to the Occupational Exposure Limits published by the Health and Safety Executive.

The 1990 edition specifies a maximum long-term exposure limit (8 hour TWA reference period) of 0.3mg/cm³ for respirable dust. The 1990 OEL also indicates that these limits are currently subject to further examination.

Safe Handling

Care should be exercised particularly when the material is being moved in bulk. The flint pebbles are inclined to be brittle and some may crack and disintegrate on sudden impact. Operatives should wear helmets and goggles during discharge procedures. In the event of tipping beware of unexpected sudden discharge from tipping vehicles. Operatives should stand well clear during such procedures and protective boots should be worn to avoid foot injury during handling.