

Material Safety Data Sheet

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE / PREPARATION AND COMPANY

Product Description Loomstate Silica Fibre Fabric

<u>Product Category</u>	Loomstate Silica Fibre Fabric
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Supplier	Cheshire Ribbon Manufacturing	Date of Issue: March 2009
	Kingston Mills	Prepared by: E Ashworth
	Manchester Road	
	Hyde	
	Cheshire	
	Tel No. for information / emergency	0161 368 2048
Fax No. " " "	0161 367 8193	

2. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

The fabrics covered by this data sheet are made from silicon dioxide fibres. These are manufactured by chemically leaching continuous filament fibres made from borosilicate E glass (CAS-65997-17-3), a process which results in the production of hydrated amorphous silica. The filament diameters are uniform and are well above the maximum size considered to be respirable (approx. 3 micron). They will not sub-divide into fibrils of smaller diameter. The fibres contain small amounts of a hydrocarbon surface dressing (<2%).

3. HAZARD IDENTIFICATION

Silica Fabrics are classified as low hazard.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

- Inhalation** In the unlikely event of excessive inhalation of dust, (or fumes from a sustained fire situation), 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. Obtain medical advice if irritation persists.

5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

- Flammability** The fabrics will not support combustion.
- Special Firefighting Procedures** In a sustained fire the fabrics will degrade. The surface dressings will give rise to fumes and smoke, including oxides of carbon. Appropriate personal protection and approved forms of self-contained breathing apparatus should therefore be worn in such situations.
- Extinguishing Media** Use that appropriate to the surrounding fire.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Silica textile products damaged or made friable should be handled with the use of personal protective equipment.

2. HANDLING AND STORAGE

It is highly unlikely that these fabrics 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 them. However, in accordance with good working practices, the production of debris should be minimised and the accumulation of dust should be removed by dust-less methods. No special storage conditions are required on health grounds.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROL / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Workplace exposure to Silica mineral fibre dust of non-respirable size, should be kept to the minimum that is reasonably practicable and should not exceed the following limits:

Amorphous silica (Workplace Exposure Limits)		
Total	6 mg/m ³	
Respirable	2.4 mg/m ³	(Reference 1)
Cristobalite (Workplace Exposure Limit)		
Total	0.3 mg/m ³	

Dust levels are only likely to rise above the exposure limit if the fabrics are handled extremely vigorously or subjected to harsh mechanical abrasion. In such circumstances the provision of local exhaust ventilation should be considered. Should this not be practicable, protective masks approved for use against irritant dust should be worn in accordance with their manufacturers instructions.

To reduce the chance of skin irritation when handling silicon dioxide fibre based materials, overalls of a close weave material should be worn. Gloves, arm cuffs or barrier creams may also be advantageous in some circumstances. Emphasis should, however, be placed on personal hygiene, ensuring that hands and arms are washed with copious quantities of cool running water to remove any loose fibres before application of soap for washing purposes.

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

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Weights	See appropriate Product Data Sheets.
Appearance	The fabric is white in colour
Odour	The products have no discernible odour.
Solubility in Water	Insoluble
Melting Point	See Section 10
Boiling Point	Not applicable
Vapour Pressure	Not applicable
Percent Volatile (vol.)	Not applicable
Evaporation Rate	Not applicable

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

The products are designed for use at high temperature (up to 950°C), at temperatures above 900°C some changes will occur giving rise to the formation of cristobalite.

Subject to the above, the products are considered to be stable under normal conditions of use.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Primary Routes of Potential Exposure

Inhalation, skin and eye contact.

Effects of Over-exposure (Acute and Chronic)

Inhalation (Dust)	In view of the diameter of the continuous filaments used for the construction of this fabric, any Silicon dioxide dust generated is not generally considered to be respirable. For the majority of operations associated with the handling and use of these fabrics, the quantity of dust generated is expected to be negligible. Fabrics subjected to harsh mechanical abrasion may give rise to dust that could be irritating to the upper respiratory tract. Such effects are usually transitory leaving no permanent damage.
Fume	Contact with molten metal or flame may give rise to localised emission of fume.
Skin Irritation	Some people who come into contact with silicon dioxide fibres 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. People with a history of skin complaints may be particularly susceptible and, in general, should not come into contact with these fabrics.
Eye Irritation	Entry of fibrous dust into the eye will cause foreign body irritation.
Carcinogenicity	Silicon dioxide is not classified as a carcinogen.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

These products are not associated with any known ecological problems.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

The disposal of waste should be carried out in accordance with national or regional directives - normally by burial in controlled industrial landfill sites.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

All Silica fabric products are labelled as in [Section 2](#) and transported double wrapped to prevent possible damage and water ingress.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

No specific regulatory information is applicable to these fabrics.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

References

1. Health & Safety Executive Guidance Note EH 40/2005 Workplace Exposure Limits 2005

For further information contact:

CHESHIRE RIBBON MANUFACTURING

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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