Health & Safety

1. Identification of the substances / preparation and company
1.1 Product identifier: Thistle HardWall
1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or preparation and uses advised against:
Gypsum building plaster used to provide a smooth, flat surface to internal walls and ceilings.
1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet:
Supplier: British Gypsum
East Leake
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE12 6HX
Telephone: 0115 945 6123 (+44 115 945 6123)
Email: bgtechnical.enquiries@bpb.com
This information reflects typical values and is not a product specification.
1.4 Emergency telephone number:
0115 945 6123 (+44 115 945 6123)
Opening hours: 8:30am - 5:00pm Monday - Friday (GMT)
NB: Language of the phone service is English.

2. Hazards identification
2.1 Classification:
Category 1
Signal Word: DANGER
THE MOST IMPORTANT HAZARDS ARE:
H318 - Causes serious eye damage
This product is classified according to EC regulation 1272/2008 and its amendments. Plaster may form an alkaline solution on contact with body moistures or when mixed with water.
Dust from mixing or sanding may irritate the respiratory system, skin and eyes.
Hazard Statements:
H302 - Harmful if swallowed
H318 - Causes serious eye damage
H319 - Causes serious eye irritation
H332 - Harmful if inhaled
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation
EUH066 - Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking

3. Composition / information on ingredients
General composition: Calcium sulphate hemihydrate. Natural constituents may include clay, limestone and minor amounts of quartz. Additives may include minor amounts (less than 1%) of hydrated lime, small amounts (less than 3.5%) of cement.

4. First aid measures
4.1 Description of first aid measures:
Eye contact P305/P313 - If in eyes, get medical advice.
P337/P351 - If eye irritation persists, rinse cautiously with water for several minutes.
Skin contact P264 - Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
Ingestion P301/P330 - If swallowed, rinse mouth.
Inhalation P261 - Avoid breathing dust.
P304/P340 - If inhaled, remove victim to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing.
P312 - Call a doctor, if you feel unwell.
General Get medical attention if any symptoms persist.
5. Fire fighting measures

5.1 Extinguishing media:
Suitable extinguishing media – water, foam, carbon dioxide or dry powder.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture:
The product does not pose a fire hazard. However, some packaging materials may burn.

6. Accidental release measures

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures:
Avoid creating dust - see Section 8 for recommended personal protective equipment.

Plaster can be mixed with water. Avoid eye contact or prolonged, repeated contact with skin - see Section 2 for hazards identification.

Prevent plasters from contaminating drains.

7. Handling and storage

7.1 Precautions for safe handling:
Use – Minimise dust generation when opening bags, mixing or sanding plasters in poorly ventilated places. Avoid eye contact or prolonged or repeated contact with skin – see Section 8 for recommended personal protective equipment, and Section 2 for hazards identification.

P264 - Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
P270 - Do not eat, drink or smoke when handling this product.
P271 - Use only outdoors or in a well ventilated area.

Manual handling – Supplied in approximately 25kg bags – use an appropriate lifting technique:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bag weight kg</th>
<th>Bags per pallet No.</th>
<th>Pallet weight kg</th>
<th>Pallet weight tonnes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NB - All weights are approximate.

Mechanical handling – To avoid potentially overloading a lift truck, it is important that any effect on load centres is considered. The nominal weight of each palletised load is given within the weights table in this section of this document.

8. Exposure control / personal protection

8.1 Control parameters:

Workplace exposure limit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Total inhalable</th>
<th>Respirable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sulphate Hemihydrate</td>
<td>10mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
<td>4mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hydrated Lime</td>
<td>5mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartz (silica)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>0.1mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Portland Cement</td>
<td>10mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
<td>4mg/m³ 8hr TWA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8.2 Exposure controls:

Ensure adequate general ventilation of work areas to keep dust levels as low as possible. Do not eat, drink or smoke during use. Use personal protective equipment that is clean and has been properly maintained – store in a clean place away from the work area.

Personal protection

Eyes: Avoid contact with eyes. Wear Eye protection to EN166 standard Category 5-K.

Skin: P280 Wear protective gloves to EN374 standard. Wear Protective clothing. Wear Eye protection to EN166 standard Category 5-K.

Body: Work clothing worn by personnel should be laundered regularly.


9. Physical and chemical properties

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties:

Appearance: Dry powder.

Odour: Odourless.

pH: As wet plaster mix - alkaline 13.
Health & Safety

10. Stability and reactivity

10.1 Reactivity:
No data available.

10.2 Chemical stability:
This preparation is stable under the recommended handling and storage conditions in section 7.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions:
None under normal conditions of use.

10.4 Conditions to avoid:
Avoid dust formation.

10.5 Incompatible materials:
No specific restrictions regarding incompatible materials.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products:
No data available.

11. Toxicology information

11.1 Information on toxicological effects:

| Inhalation | Plaster dust may irritate the respiratory system. No known long term effects. |
| Skin contact | Wet plaster may form an alkaline solution and irritate the skin. Dry powder can cause irritation. |
| Eye contact | Wet plaster may form an alkaline solution and cause eye irritation. Dry powder can cause irritation. |
| Ingestion | Small quantities of plaster should not cause any significant reaction or long term effect. |

11.2 Classification:

Inhalation: H302, H335
Skin contact: H319, H332
Eye contact: H335
Ingestion: H332

12. Ecological information

Slightly soluble in water, forms a suspension and solidifies.

13. Disposal consideration

13.1 Waste treatment methods:
Wastes from gypsum products are normally classified as 'non-hazardous' but should not be co-disposed with municipal waste.

14. Transport information

Not classified as hazardous for transportation.

15. Regulatory information

Classified according to EC regulation 1272/2008 and its amendments.

16. Other information

H302 - Harmful if swallowed
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Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations
The Manual Handling Operations Regulations
HSE Guidance Note EH40: Workplace Exposure Limits
Gypsum Wastes – Environment Agency Information Sheet
The British Gypsum White Book
The British Gypsum Site Book
The British Gypsum website: british-gypsum.com

Note to user: This Safety Data Sheet does not constitute a workplace risk assessment for COSHH.

There are a number of situations where the approach to manual handling of British Gypsum products should be considered. For further guidance, please refer to the Manual Handling Section of the Site Book or the Manual Handling Guide, available to download from british-gypsum.com.

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