1. Identification of the substances / preparation and company

1.1 Product identifier: Thistle ToughCoat

1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or preparation and uses advised against:

Thistle ToughCoat is a lightweight gypsum-based building plaster designed for undercoat plastering onto most masonry backgrounds. These include:

- Aircrete blocks (including after control of their suction using Thistle Gyprime if necessary);
- Common bricks;
- Medium-density concrete blocks;
- Dense concrete blocks (except if smooth and low-suction);
- It is not designed for use over other bonding agents e.g. ThistleBond-it or plastering PVA’s;
- It may be applied by hand or projection machine.

1.3 Details of the supplier of the safety data sheet:

Supplier: British Gypsum
East Leake
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE12 6HX

Telephone: 0115 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:

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
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 3%) of cement, hydrated lime and polymeric binders.
Health & Safety

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.

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.

It is advisable to have eye-wash available.
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>Manual handling</th>
<th>Thistle ToughCoat weights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bag weight kg</td>
<td>Bags per pallet No.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pallet weight kg</td>
<td>Pallet weight tonnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>40</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.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities:

**Storage** - Store in dry conditions. All powdered products can settle in transport. To maintain stability, place pallets on firm level ground, and ensure that stacks are both level and vertical. Do not stack more than one lift high.
P403 + P233 - Store in a well ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.
P405 - Store locked up.

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:**

Appropriate engineering controls:

Measures to reduce dust generation and to avoid dust propagating in the environment e.g. regular housekeeping, exhaust ventilation and dry clean-up methods which do not cause airborne dispersion.

**Personal protection**

**Skin**  P280

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

**Respiratory**  P285

In case of inadequate ventilation, wear respiratory protection EN149:2001 - minimum recommended FFP2.
Health & Safety

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.

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

**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.

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.

P501 - Dispose of contents of containers at an authorised landfill site in accordance with the Waste Management Licensing Regulations. (See Section 16 Other Information).

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
H319 - Causes serious eye irritation
H332 - Harmful if Inhaled
H335 - May cause respiratory irritation
EUH066 - Repeated exposure may cause skin dryness or cracking.

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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