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May 2005
Issue 2

Health & Safety Data sheet

METAL SECTIONS

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE OR PREPARATION AND COMPANY

Lafarge Metal Sections
Cormet Metal Sections
Omega Metal Sections

Supplier

Lafarge Plasterboard Limited
Marsh Lane
Easton-in-Gordano
Bristol BS20 0NF

T 01275 377 773

2. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION OF INGREDIENTS

Mild steel sections coated with zinc electrolytic process or hot dip galvanised process. The sections may have a protective film of a roll forming hydrocarbon (oil/paraffin etc) lubricant or a residue or cutting fluid.

3. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

These products are not classified as hazardous under CHIP 2000.

There is a risk of cuts and abrasions from sharp edges or protrusions when handling metal sections and also when they have been fitted to floors and walls but have not yet had plasterboard fitted to them.

There is also a risk from tensioned bandaging.

Due to the residue of lubricant/rust inhibitors, frequent handling may cause skin problems.

Irritant fumes evolved during welding or cutting can cause metal fume fever.

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

Inhalation of dust/ fumes:
Remove person to fresh air.

Skin contact with dust/ surface agents:
Rinse using clean water and then wash using soap & water.

Eye contact with dust/surface agents:
Wash with clean water for 10 minutes and obtain medical advice if irritation persists.

Ingestion of dust/fumes:

Wash out mouth and drink plenty of clean water. Do not induce vomiting.

Please note:

Should any symptoms persist obtain medical assistance.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

Although metal sections are non-flammable, the protective coating or lubricant may be flammable. This should be extinguished with carbon dioxide, dry powder, foam, sand earth or plaster.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Control and collect any metal dust, sweep up and shovel into bags.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Eye protection should be worn when using hand tools.

Gloves should be worn when handling metal sections to avoid risk of lacerations.

Sections which are fixed to the floor /wall may have sharp edges exposed, so care should be taken to protect people from accidental contact.

Sections supplied in bundles, small packs and strapped together in large packs for forklift truck off-loading, should be stacked in a safe and stable manner. Bands or straps should not be used for lifting. Coils/metal sections may spring apart when banding is released.

Consider risks as required by Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 if handling manually.

Fixers must work from an independent support system as metal sections are not designed to support body weight.

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METAL SECTIONS**8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/ PERSONAL PROTECTION***Occupational Exposure Limits*Occupational Exposure Standard (OES)

Substance	Total inhalable	Total respirable
Iron Oxide	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Zinc Oxide	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³

Personal protection*Respiratory:*

If fume or dust is produced, ventilate the area of storage or work. When welding, flame cutting or grinding, wear approved respiratory equipment.

Eye:

When cutting tensioned banding, wear safety goggles to BS EN 188 2A5 to protect eyes.

Skin:

When handling sections, wear overalls and suitable clothing.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES*Appearance*

Metal sections in various lengths, thickness and formations.

Odour

Paraffinic/oily (protective coating)

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stable under normal conditions.

When subjected to elevated temperatures, fumes are produced.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL EFFECTS

Dry grinding and machining will produce dust, which is of the same composition as the coating and base metal. The primary mode of entry into the body is by inhalation.

Excessive airborne concentrations over a long period of time may have a long-term effect on the worker, particularly affecting the lungs.

Fumes that are produced by elevated temperatures, such as welding or flame cutting, will contain oxides of zinc and iron and also breakdown of any protective coating if present. Potential effects include metal fume fever, a condition similar to influenza.

Prolonged skin contact may cause irritation and may lead to dermatitis.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No known harmful effects.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Authorised landfill site in accordance with current Waste Management Licensing Regulations.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Not classified as hazardous for transport.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

Products are not classified as hazardous under:

Chemicals (Hazard, Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2000 (CHIP 2000)

18. OTHER INFORMATION

This product is only intended for use as defined within current Lafarge Plasterboard Limited literature, please contact our Technical Enquiryline for further information.

This data sheet does not replace the users' own work place risk assessment.

This safety data sheet:

The user should be satisfied that the information data sheet is the current version, to confirm please telephone Lafarge Technical Enquiryline.

Based on our current knowledge and is intended to define our products with regards to the health and safety position. It is not intended for the purpose of precise product specification or warranty.

This safety sheet was created using current safety information supplied by distributors of the component materials.

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