



1. Identification of Substance & Company

Product

Product name

Other names

James Hardie Fibre Cement Products
HardieDeck™ System, Scyon™ Stria™ cladding, Scyon™ Matrix™ cladding, Scyon™ Axon™ cladding, Scyon™ Linea™ weatherboard cladding, Scyon™ Axent trim, Scyon™ Secura™ exterior flooring, Scyon™ Secura™ interior flooring, EasyLap™ panel, Architectural™ Invibe™ Panels and Architectural™ Inraw™ Panels, Artista™ column, Ceramic Tile Underlay, ComTex™ Façade Panel, ExoTec™ Facade Panel, HardieBrace™ Sheet, HardieFlex™ Eaves Lining, HardieFlex™ Sheet, HardieGroove™ Lining, HardiePanel™ Compressed Sheets, HardiePlank™ Smooth Cladding, HardiePlank™ Woodgrain Cladding, HardiePlank™ Old Style Cladding, HardiePlank™ Rusticated Cladding, HardieScreen™ Lattice, HardieTex™ Base Sheet, PanelClad™ Stucco sheets, PanelClad™ TextureLine sheets, PineRidge™ Lining, PrimeLine™ Heritage Cladding, PrimeLine™ Chamfer Cladding, PrimeLine™ Summit Cladding, PrimeLine™ Newport Cladding, Villaboard™ Lining, Versilux™ Wall & Ceiling Lining, Vinyl and Cork Underlay, EasyTex™ panel, ExoTec™ Vero™ façade panel, RAB™ Board and HardieFence™ sheets.

UN number

NA

Proper Shipping Name

NA

Packaging group

NA

Hazchem code

NA

Uses

The above products are used in internal lining, external cladding, internal/external flooring, decking and fencing applications as per the relevant installation guides.

Company Details

Company

James Hardie Australia Pty Limited

Address

10 Colquhoun Street
Rosehill
NSW
2142
Australia

Telephone

13 11 03

Emergency Telephone Number: 1800 638 556

2. Hazard Identification

Hazard classification for Australia (GHS)

This product has been assessed according to GHS and is classified as follows:

Table with 3 columns: GHS category, Hazard Code, Hazard Statements. Includes categories like Carcinogenicity, Cat 1A and Specific Target Organ Toxicity, Cat 1.

The following classification applies to any respirable crystalline silica dust potentially released from James Hardie Fibre Cement products, e.g. during cutting, drilling, grinding or rebating in the course of installation of this product. The intact fibre cement products are not expected to result in any adverse toxic effects.

SYMBOLS

DANGER





Other Classifications

The dust and fibres of this substance may be irritating to the skin and respiratory tract as a result of physical (mechanical) reaction (i.e. scratch). The irritation is not a result of a chemical reaction.

Precautionary Statements

The following precautionary statements apply to handling and installation of this product and if respirable dust can be or is created during processing/handling and installation. For details of personal protective equipment refer to section 8.

Prevention

- P201 Obtain special instruction before use.
- P202 Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
- P260 Do not breathe dust.
- P264 Wash hands and face thoroughly after handling.
- P270 Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
- P281 Use personal protective equipment as required.

Response

- P308+P313 IF exposed or concerned: get medical advice
- P314 Get medical advice if you feel unwell.

Disposal

- P501 Dispose of products in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations.

3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS/ Identification	Concentration
Crystalline Silica (quartz)	14808-60-7	20-60%
Non hazardous ingredients:		
Calcium Silicate (hydrate)	1344-95-2	35-65%
Calcium Carbonate	471-34-1	<30%
Cellulose	9004-34-6	<15%
Pigments, fillers and surface coatings	proprietary	<10%

The exact ratio of components will vary between specific products. Trace quantities of impurities are also likely.

4. First Aid

General Information

If medical advice is needed, have product label or SDS at hand. You should call the Poisons Information Centre if you feel that you may have been harmed or irritated by this product. The number is 13 11 26 (24 hr, 7 days a week emergency service).

If shortness of breath or other health concerns develop after exposure to dust from the product, seek medical attention.

Recommended first aid facilities Ready access to running water is recommended.

Exposure

- Swallowed** Due to the nature of the product, this route of exposure is not expected under normal conditions. Give a glass of water to drink. If a substantial quantity has been swallowed, call the Poison Centre.
- Eye contact** IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Apply continuous irrigation with water for at least 15 minutes holding eyelids apart. If eye irritation occurs: Get medical advice.
- Skin contact** IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. Get medical advice if irritation occurs or persists.
- Inhaled** IF INHALED: Dusts may cause irritation. If experiencing irritation, remove to fresh air. Drink water to clear throat. If shortness of breath or wheezing develops, seek medical attention. Call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician if you feel unwell.

Advice to Doctor

Treat symptomatically



5. Firefighting Measures

Fire and explosion hazards: There are no specific risks for fire/explosion for this chemical. It is not classed as flammable.

Suitable extinguishing substances: Carbon dioxide, extinguishing powder, foam, fog sprays, water jets.

Unsuitable extinguishing substances: Not applicable.

Products of combustion: Fibre Cement boards are non flammable.

Protective equipment: No special measures are required.

Hazchem code: 1T (recommended, no signage required)

6. Accidental Release Measures

Fibre cement products in their intact state do not present a fire, health or environmental hazard. The following precautions apply to spills and releases of dust generated during cutting, rebating, drilling, routing, sawing or abrading fibre cement.

Emergency procedures This product is not considered flammable or ecotoxic.
If a significant spill of dust occurs:
Wear protective equipment to prevent skin, eye and respiratory exposure to dusts.
Clear area of any unprotected personnel.
Avoid creating dust. If appropriate, use a gentle water spray to wet dust to minimise further dust generation.

Clean-up method If possible to wet the dust, wet and sweep up the solid. Dry sweeping should not be attempted. Vacuuming with an M or H class industrial vacuum is recommended. Do not wash material down stormwater drains.

Disposal Collect recoverable material into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Dispose of only in accordance with all regulations. See section 14.

Precautions Wear protective equipment to prevent eye contamination and the inhalation of dusts. Work up wind or increase ventilation.

7. Storage & Handling

Storage Avoid contact with incompatible substances as listed in Section 10.
Store all James Hardie building products in a dry location. Avoid mechanical damage to the product, such as chipping of the edges and corners of the sheets. The product must be laid flat under cover on a smooth surface clear of the ground to avoid exposure to water or moisture.

Handling Keep exposure to crystalline silica dust to a minimum, and minimise the quantities of dust in work areas.
During installation and handling of this product: Wherever possible, practices likely to generate dust should be carried out in well-ventilated areas (e.g.outdoors).
Minimise dust creation by using the recommended tooling and cutting methods. (refer the technical data sheet and James Hardie Best Practice Guide for tips on the safe handling of these products).
Work area should be cleaned regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming with an M or H class vacuum
Keep away from incompatible substances (section 10).

8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protective Equipment

Exposure Standards
An Exposure Standard (ES) for the mixture has not been established. Below are the exposure standards for the ingredients that are listed in the Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants, Safe Work Australia.

Ingredient	ES-TWA	ES-STEL
nuisance dust	10mg/m ³	Not available
quartz (SiO ₂):		
quartz (respirable dust)	0.1mg/m ³	Not available
cristobalite (respirable dust)	0.1mg/m ³	Not available
tridymote (respirable dust)	0.1mg/m ³	Not available
cellulose (paper fibre)	10mg/m ³	Not available



Engineering Controls

In workplace situations, it is expected that employee exposure to hazardous substances will be controlled to a level as far below the Exposure Standard as practicable by applying the hierarchy of control required by the Work Health and Safety (WHS) Act and the WHS Regulations.

Exposure can be reduced by process modification, use of local exhaust ventilation, capturing substances at the source, or other methods. If you believe airborne concentrations of dusts are high, you are advised to modify processes or increase ventilation.

Personal protection when handling products that may generate silica dust: 1) Refer to current James Hardie instruction and best practice guidelines to reduce or limit the release of dust. 2) Warn others in the area to avoid the dust. 3) When using mechanical saw or high speed cutting tools, work out doors and use a well maintained M or H class industrial vacuum and filter appropriate for capturing fine respirable dust. 4) if no other dust controls are available, wear an approved dust mask or respirator (see below).

During clean-up, use a well-maintained M or H class vacuum and filter appropriate for capturing fine respirable dust or use wet clean-up methods, never dry sweep.

Specific Handling instructions

Cutting Outdoors

Position cutting station so that wind will blow dust away from user or others in working area and allow for ample dust dissipation

Use one of the following methods based on the required cutting rate and job-site conditions:

BEST • Score and snap using carbide-tipped scoring knife or utility knife • Fibre-cement shears (electric or pneumatic)

BETTER • Dust reducing circular saw equipped with Hardieblade™ saw blade and M or H class vacuum.

Cutting Indoors

Cut only using score and snap method or with fibre-cement shears (manual, electric or pneumatic)

Position cutting station in well-ventilated area to allow for dust dissipation

Sanding / Rebating / Drilling / Other Machining

If sanding, rebating, drilling or other machining is necessary, you should always wear an approved dust mask or respirator and warn others in the immediate area

Clean-Up

During clean-up of dust and debris, NEVER dry sweep or use compressed air as it may excite silica dust particles into the user's breathing area. Instead, wet debris down with a fine mist to suppress dust during sweeping, or use a M or H-class vacuum to collect particles.

Important Notes

For maximum protection (lowest respirable dust production), James Hardie recommends always using "Best" level cutting methods where feasible.

NEVER use a power saw indoors.

NEVER use a circular saw blade that does not carry the Hardieblade™ saw blade trademark, or is of equal or better performance at reducing risk of dust exposure.

NEVER dry sweep – use wet suppression methods or M or H-class vacuum.

NEVER use a grinder or continuous rim diamond blade for cutting.

ALWAYS follow tool manufacturer's safety recommendations.

Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes



Avoid contact with eyes. Use safety glasses or goggles if irritant levels of dusts are present.

Skin



Avoid repeated or prolonged skin contact. Wear overalls, rubber boots and impervious gloves if concerned about irritation or dryness of the skin. Decontaminate clothing before leaving the workplace. Workplace clothing should be washed separately from other clothing.

Respiratory



Use Australian/New Zealand Standard 1715:2009 Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Equipment for more extensive guidance and more options on selecting respirators for the workplace. Ideally, select respirators based on the level of exposure to respirable crystalline silica as measured by exposure monitoring. Where high levels of dust are encountered but actual concentrations are unknown, use respirators that offer protection to the highest concentration of respirable crystalline silica, for example a positive pressure respirator with at least a P3 dust filter.

Put in place a respiratory protection and monitoring program that complies with Safe work Australia Guide for Health Monitoring for exposure to hazardous chemicals.

ES Additional Information

No additional information



9. Physical & Chemical Properties

Appearance	Solid usually grey sheets or planks with various dimensions according to the product profiles.
Odour	no odour
pH	no pH data
Vapour pressure	not applicable
Viscosity	no data
Boiling point	no data
Volatile materials	not applicable
Freezing / melting point	no data
Solubility	no data
Specific gravity / density	no data
Flash point	not flammable
Danger of explosion	no data
Auto-ignition temperature	no data
Upper & lower flammable limits	no data
Corrosiveness	non corrosive

10. Stability & Reactivity

Stability	Product is non reactive and stable.
Conditions to be avoided	Avoid the creation of dust during processing, handling and installation.
Substance Specific Incompatibility	Strong oxidising agents, strong acids and ammonia salts.
Hazardous decomposition products	Oxides of calcium, fine silica, sulphur oxides.
Hazardous reactions	Product is non reactive and stable.

11. Toxicological Information

Summary

Fibre cement is non-toxic in its intact form. The following applies to respirable dust that may be generated during cutting, rebating, drilling, routing, sawing, crushing or otherwise abrading fibre cement.

IF SWALLOWED: No adverse effects expected.

IF IN EYES: Dust may be irritating to eyes (mechanical irritation).

IF ON SKIN: This product is not absorbed through the skin. Dust may dry out the skin.

IF INHALED: Dusts may cause upper respiratory tract irritation, resulting in coughing and sneezing. Certain susceptible individuals may experience wheezing (spasms of the bronchial airways) upon inhaling dust during cutting, rebating, drilling, routing, sawing, crushing or otherwise abrading fibre cement, and when cleaning up, disposing of or moving the dust.

CHRONIC EFFECTS: Long term exposure to high levels of fine nuisance dust may cause injury to lungs and the respiratory system. This product contains crystalline silica (quartz and cristabolite). Inhaling crystalline silica containing dusts can aggravate respiratory conditions such as asthma or emphysema. Long term exposure to crystalline silica dust can lead to silicosis, and there is limited evidence of carcinogenicity for crystalline silica dust. Acute silicosis may occur as a result of extremely high exposure to respirable crystalline silica over a short period (<5years). Accelerated silicosis can develop over 5-10 years of exposure to high levels of respirable crystalline silica. Chronic silicosis may develop as a result of lower levels of exposure to respirable crystalline silica over >10 years. In addition to silicosis there is some evidence that exposure to respirable crystalline silica may be linked to scleroderma and an increased risk of kidney disease.

Supporting Data

Acute	Oral	The estimated LD ₅₀ (oral, rat) for the mixture is > 5,000 mg/kg. Calcium Silicate: 3400mg/kg (rat).
	Dermal	No evidence of dermal toxicity.
Chronic	Inhaled	The substance is not considered acutely toxic if inhaled, however there may be irritation of the respiratory tract if dust is inhaled.
	Eye	The dust may cause eye irritation (mechanical).
	Skin	The mixture is not considered to be a skin irritant.
	Sensitisation	No evidence of skin sensitisation or respiratory sensitisation.
	Mutagenicity	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a mutagen.
	Carcinogenicity	This product contains crystalline silica. Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1). The carcinogenicity of silica is related to long term (e.g., 10 years) inhalation of very fine particulate (e.g., from sand blasting or dry cutting of concrete). Carcinogenicity of silica



Reproductive / Developmental Systemic	appears linked to development of silicosis (see systematic below) followed by complications and, eventually lung cancer. No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a reproductive or developmental toxicant or have any effects on or via lactation. There may be some irritation of the respiratory tract.
Aggravation of existing conditions	This product contains crystalline silica which if it is in the form of a fine respirable dust may cause silicosis in an occupational setting. Exposure to respirable crystalline silica may also affect the immune system and the kidneys. Medical conditions which may be aggravated: pre-existing upper respiratory and lung disease such as, but not limited to bronchitis, emphysema and asthma. Some studies suggest that cigarette smoking increases the risk of silicosis, bronchitis and lung cancer in persons also exposed to crystalline silica.

12. Ecological Data

Summary

These products are not considered ecotoxic.

Supporting Data

Aquatic	These products are not considered to be toxic in the aqueous environment.
Bioaccumulation	No data.
Degradability	No data
Soil	These products are not considered to be toxic in the soil environment.
Biocidal	Not designed as a biocide.

13. Disposal Considerations

Restrictions	There are no product-specific restrictions. However, state and local disposal regulations may apply. Note that state and local disposal regulations may differ from federal disposal regulations.
Disposal method	Disposal of this product must comply with the requirements of state and local disposal regulations. If there are no applicable regulations, dispose of in a secure landfill, or in a way that will not expose others to dust.
Contaminated packaging	Not applicable.

14. Transport Information

There are no specific restrictions for this product (not a dangerous good).

UN number:	NA	Proper shipping name:	NA
Class(es)	NA	Packing group:	NA
Precautions:	Not applicable.	Hazchem code:	NA

15. Regulatory Information

Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Drugs and Poisons (SUSDP)	Not scheduled	
Applicable prohibitions and notifications/licensing requirements	Not listed	
Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Act	Not listed	
Listing in the Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)	Quartz	High Volume Industrial Chemicals List (HVICL) Hazardous Substance International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) – CICAD
	Cristobalite	High Volume Industrial Chemicals List (HVICL) Hazardous Substance
	Calcium silicate hydrate	High Volume Industrial Chemicals List (HVICL)
	Calcium carbonate	High Volume Industrial Chemicals List (HVICL)
	Cellulose	listed
Additional information	Not applicable	
GHS Hazardous Chemical Information List	Not listed	



16. Other Information

Abbreviations

AICS	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances
CAS Number	Unique Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
EC₅₀	Ecotoxic Concentration 50% – concentration in water which is fatal to 50% of a test population (e.g. daphnia, fish species)
ES	Exposure Standard - The airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed in a work day.
GESTIS	Database on Hazardous substances, Information system on hazardous substances of the German Social Accident Insurance.
GHS	Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals
HAZCHEM Code	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services, especially fire fighters
HSIS	Hazardous substance Information System, http://hsis.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LEL	Lower Explosive Limit
LD₅₀	Lethal Dose 50% – dose which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats).
LC₅₀	Lethal Concentration 50% – concentration in air which is fatal to 50% of a test population (usually rats)
NICNAS	National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme
NZ EPA CCID	New Zealand Environmental Protection Agency. Chemical Classification Information Database.
Peak Limitation	Peak Exposure Value: The maximum airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed at any time.
SDS	Safety Data Sheet
STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit - The maximum airborne concentration of a chemical or biological agent to which a worker may be exposed in any 15 minute period, provided the TWA is not exceeded
STOT	Specific Target Organ Toxicity
TWA	Time Weighted Average – generally referred to ES averaged over typical work day (usually 8 hours)
UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
UN Number	United Nations Number

References

Data	Unless otherwise stated comes from Hazardous Substances Information System (HSIS) for the specific chemical.
Exposure Standards	Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants, 18 April 2013, Safe Work Australia and Guidance on the Interpretation of Workplace Exposure Standards for Airborne Contaminants, Safe Work Australia

Review

Date	Reason for review
August 2016	Not applicable – new SDS
September 2019	Review 2019

Disclaimer

This SDS was prepared by Datachem LTD and is based on our current state of knowledge, including information obtained from suppliers. The SDS is given in good faith and constitutes a guideline (not a guarantee of safety). The level of risk each substance poses is relevant to its properties (as summarised in the SDS) AND HOW THE SUBSTANCE IS USED. While guidelines are given for personal protective equipment, such precautions must be relevant to the use. The GHS classifications for this SDS have been allocated based on general information from the supplier (e.g., hazard, toxicological). This SDS is prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice for "Preparation of Safety Sheets for hazardous Chemicals" December 2011 in accordance with WHS regulations. This SDS is copyright Datachem and must not be copied, edited or used for other than intended purpose. To contact the SDS author, email info@datachem.co.nz or phone: +64 9 940 30 80.

