

TELEPHONE: DURHAM (0191) 3720636 - FAX: (0191) 3720312

SHERBURN STONE CO. LTD.

DIRECTORS: J.J.S. Allison, B.Sc., C.Eng. (SEC) J.P.P. Allison, B.Sc. (Hons).

15 FRONT STREET
SHERBURN HILL
DURHAM
DH6 1PA

HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCT DATA SHEET BITUMINOUS ROAD MATERIALS

Product

Bituminous road materials comprising coated macadam and hot rolled asphalt.

Application

Coated macadam and asphalts are designed for use in the construction and repair of and other paved areas. Depending on their composition they may be supplied for immediate delivery and laying, or for same day laying or as deferred set materials for cold laying after storage.

Physical and Chemical Characteristics

Coated macadam and asphalts are mixtures of aggregates and bituminous binder. The important properties of these mixtures are determined by the bituminous binder, which may be bitumen, which is an unreactive high flash point hydrocarbon derived from the distillation of petroleum crude oil, or coal-tar which is derived from the carbonisation of coal, or bitumen modified by fluxing oil which may be coal-tar or petroleum origin. (Bituminous mixes containing other additives are not within the scope of this data sheet).

Main Hazards

The main hazards presented by a bituminous road material will depend on the temperature of the mix and the type of binder employed. The hazards in the following list may apply:

Burns are the main hazard of bituminous materials.

Fumes from bituminous materials are unlikely to be hazardous for work in the open air but there could be a risk to health by inhalation of high vapour concentrations that might arise in confined spaces.

Coal-tar or tar derived fluxing oils may cause chemical burns and, following frequent or prolonged contact, warts. If personal cleanliness is also ignored this could lead to a more serious skin condition which could in certain cases become malignant.

Precautions

The following precautions should be taken:

Skin contact with hot coated materials should be avoided.

Wash hands thoroughly before going to the lavatory, before meals and before smoking. The skin should be thoroughly cleansed after work. Personal hygiene is particularly important.

Inhalation of fumes should be avoided as far as practical.

Contaminated clothing must not be worn and contaminated rags should not be kept in pockets.

When handling coal tar or tar derived materials regular inspection of the skin should be made and any lumps or sores on arms, face or scrotum should be referred for medical advice as early diagnosis ensures that necessary treatment is effective.

Protective Clothing

Protective clothing should be worn, particularly on the arms, hands legs and feet e.g. long sleeved clothing and gloves with full length trousers and impervious boots.

Transportation and Waste Disposal

Carriage of bituminous road materials is not subject to hazardous substance conveyance regulations and vehicle labelling is not required.

Unused hardened bituminous road materials are inert and should be disposed of in accordance with local legal requirements.

First Aid

Where skin contact with hot bituminous materials occurs, the following first aid instructions should be followed. All burns should receive prompt medical attention.

General

Immediately remove from contact. Take off any contaminated clothing but do not attempt to pull off any clothes or materials which are firmly adhering to the skin then obtain medical attention.

Inhalation

Immediately remove to fresh air. If breathing has stopped or irregular, apply artificial respiration and obtain medical attention.

Skin Contact

Burns caused by contact with hot material should be cooled immediately by drenching with cold water. The tar or pitch may then be removed with a vegetable oil but this should be done under medical supervision.

Eyes

If any of the materials are splashed into the eyes, irrigate the eyes immediately with cold running water for at least ten minutes and obtain medical attention.

Storage

Some varieties of coated macadam are supplied as deferred set mixes having extended working lives, during which the precautions given should be continued. During storage, access to the products by unauthorised persons should be prevented.

EH40

For detailed guidance on exposure levels to constituent substances should be made to EH40.