



General Health & Safety Information Sheet

1. **Products & Company Identification**

Greenspan UK Ltd. distributes the following products on behalf of Everest Industries for the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland markets.

Product Names

E-Board Multi-Purpose Cement Board
E-Board Heavy Duty Compressed Cement Board

Description

Flat building sheets, large rigid rectangular sheets in neutral colour.

2. **Composition/Information on Product Ingredients**

The E-Board range of Fibre Cement sheets is manufactured from a homogenous mixture of Portland cement, treated cellulose fibres, finely ground silica, quartz and other selected mineral fillers. The principle components of the mixture are cement and cellulose fibre. Refer to main brochure for manufacturing process.

3. **Hazard Identification**

Everest Products contain the presence of crystalline silica and quartz. Due to the use of these substances in the manufacture of the products, machining may lead to the release of quartz dust. Undisturbed, these products do not pose a health hazard with all the ingredients bonded in the cement matrix.

Inhalation of quartz from occupational sources can cause silicosis and lung cancer. International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) monographs 1997 "Crystalline silica, inhaled in the form of quartz and cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans" Group 1.

4. **First-Aid Measures**

Inhalation Remove persons to fresh air.

Skin Contact Wash thoroughly with mild soap and water

Ingestion Drink plenty of water and seek medical attention

Eyes Flush with clean water or saline solution for at least 15 minutes.
Seek medical advice if redness and discomfort persists.

5. **Fire-Fighting Measures**

Fibre cement products are non-combustible or Class O and compatible with all standard fire fighting measures.

6. **Accidental Release Measures**

Procedure for spill/leak: Collect dust with a vacuum cleaner fitted with a (Hepa) filter or spray with water and sweep up. Dust must be disposed of in a method to avoid further spillage.

7. **Handling & Storage**

Dust Handle in accordance with good hygiene and safety practice. Keep the rising and deposition of dust to a minimum. Avoid dry sweeping during clean-up.

Handling As with any heavy load, offloading should be done in accordance with the European manual handling regulations. Ensure that care is taken to avoid unnecessary strain on the handlers and that accidental damage of the product does not occur.

Mechanical handling of heavy loads should always be used if available. Where mechanical handling is not available individual boards can be removed manually.

Storage All products should be stored flat, under cover on a dry level surface. If product is to be stored outside then a weather proof tarpaulin should be wrapped over the products at all times.

If the products accidentally become wet the products should be moved to a dry, well ventilated area to dry. Under no circumstances should the product be installed in a wet condition.

Stacks of loose boards should not exceed one metre high.

8. **Exposure Controls/Personal Protection**

Everest's recommendation is to keep exposure to dust as low as possible, wherever possible practices likely to generate dust should be carried out in well ventilated areas, (e.g. outside).

If drilling, sanding or cutting in a poorly ventilated area (or if dust may exceed LTEL), use an approved respiratory device to EN 149. For further information contact respiratory equipment manufacturer.

Occupational exposure limits

Monitoring of the workplace should be considered in accordance with EH40 (or equivalent) controls if dust is raised during processing of the product.

LTEL (8 hour TWA):	0.3 mg/m ³	MEL for silica, respirable crystalline dust EH40/2002*
LTEL (8 hour TWA):	10 mg/m ³	OES, total inhalable calcium silicate dust EH40/2002
LTEL (8 hour TWA):	4 mg/m ³	OES, respirable calcium silicate dust EH40/2002

*However, HSE believes that in most cases it should be reasonably practicable to control exposure to 0.1 mg/m³ (8-hour TWA) or less by engineering or process control.

Employers should aim to ensure that workers are not exposed to Respirable Crystalline. Silica dust concentrations above this level (CHAN 35).

Personal protective equipment

Observe normal standards for handling chemicals. Avoid inhalation of dust. Store working clothes separately. Wash thoroughly after handling (shower if necessary). Wear personal protective equipment appropriate to the task (see below). Regular health surveillance should be undertaken.

If cutting materials with power tools or fixing, safety glasses/goggles should be worn.

Direct contact with skin should be avoided by wearing long sleeve shirts, trousers and hats. Gloves should be worn to protect against cuts and abrasions.

If drilling, sanding or cutting using abrasive methods is used in a poorly ventilated area use an approved respiratory device to EN 149 (e.g. dusk mask). For further information contact respiratory equipment manufacturer.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Flatsheets

	Density kg/m ²
E-Board Multi Purpose	> 1200
E-Board Heavy Duty	> 1500

Odour: None

Physical Form: Solid Boards

Colour:

E-Board Multi Purpose	Off white
E-Board Heavy Duty	Light grey

Flammability: Fibre cement products are non-combustible and class O to Building Regulations.

10. Stability & Reactivity

These products are chemically inert and resistant to fumes, weak acids and alkalis. In case of extreme or aggressive environment contact Greenspan UK Ltd. for advice.

Stability	Stable under normal conditions of handling. The product is chemically inert.	
Thermal decomposition		Not applicable
Conditions to avoid		Not applicable
Material to avoid		Not applicable
Hazardous Products	decomposition	Not applicable

11. Toxicological Information

Inhalation:	Acute over-exposure to dust may cause irritation of the respiratory tract.
Skin Contact:	Prolonged or repeated contact may cause mild irritation.
Skin Absorption:	No known hazard.
Ingestion:	Mild discomfort
Eyes:	Mild transient irritation. No specific hazard.
Chronic Effects:	Silicosis, a form of fibrosis of the lungs, may arise from the inhalation of silica.

12. Ecological Information

Fibre cement products will not bio-degrade in the ground.

13. Disposal Considerations

The waste product is a non hazardous industrial waste and is not regarded as hazardous waste under the Hazardous Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2005.

Treat any collective dust in a way that prevents further exposure.

14. Transport Information

Other than good haulage practice in securing the consignment, no special precautions need to be taken.

15. Regulatory Information

- Health & Safety At Work etc. Act 1974
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2004
- Construction (Health Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992
- HSE Guidance Note EH40/2005 (Occupational Exposure Limits)
- HSE Guidance Note EH44 (Dust – General Principles of Protection)
- HSE Guidance Note EH75/5 (Respiratory Crystalline Silica)
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 1994

The health and safety information contained herein is believed to be accurate and correct at the date of issue. No liability can be accepted for any loss, injury or damage resulting from its use. It is intended as a guide for the safe handling, storage and use of the product under normal conditions.

16. Other Information

Further information:

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations 1999 (as amended) HSE Guidance note EH40/2002 (as amended).

MDHS14/3 General methods for sampling and gravimetric analysis of respirable and inhalable dust 2000 (ISBN 0 7176 1749 1)

EH44 Dust: General principles of protection 1997 (ISBN 0 7176 1435 2)

EH74/2 Respirable crystalline silica 1999 (ISBN 0 7176 1659 2)

HSE Information Sheet No. 36 (Silica)

Training Requirements: Training in the handling of the product, and in the wearing of personal protective equipment (e.g. respirators) should be undertaken prior to working with the product).

Sources of data: Other suppliers' safety data sheets, EH40/2002

Installation Instructions

A full range of installation instructions are available through Greenspan UK Ltd.

Assessment of risk to health created by work relating specifically to Everest Fibre Cement building products

There are two general areas relating to risk when working with Everest building products.

General Handling: Product where piece weight is under 25kg can be lifted and installed by one person under the provision that safe working practices are carried out.

Products through normal handling can potentially be abrasive to parts of the body that come in contact with the product.

Dust: When cutting ECC products, appropriate dust prevention to control exposure must be used.

Prevention or control of exposure to product

General Handling Manual handling recommendations for products are followed.

Protective clothing is to be worn including gloves, long shirts, pants, protective eye wear, safety shoes and hard hat.

Dust: It is preferable to use methods of cutting that minimise respirable quartz dust. All cutting should be carried out in a well-ventilated area (e.g. outside). Where this is not possible a respiratory equipment should be provided to prevent exposure to dust.

Use of control measures

Respirator and safety equipment are to be used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.

Maintenance, examination and testing of control measures

Prior to beginning work all safety equipment is to be checked to ensure that it is in good condition and fit for purpose. Follow respiratory equipment manufacturer's written instructions for maintenance, examination and testing of equipment.

Monitoring exposure at the Workplace

The area where the work is to be carried out must be reviewed prior to commencing any work to access if the area is well ventilated; if not, appropriate respiratory equipment is to be used to control exposure.

Health Surveillance

Regular health surveillance should be carried out, however, where workers are regularly exposed to respirable crystalline silica levels greater than 0.1 mg/m³, 8-hour TWA, then health surveillance which includes a respiratory questionnaire, lung function testing and chest X-rays should be provided.

Information, instruction and training for persons who may be exposed to substances hazardous to health

Prior to commencement of daily work employees are to be provided with reminder of requirements in regards to working with Everest products.

When using respiratory equipment ensure training is carried out for all persons to ensure correct use of respiratory equipment in accordance with respiratory equipment manufacturers' instructions.