

1. Identification of Substance & Company

Product

Product name	Bowers Redi Mix Concrete
Product code	none
HSNO approval	HSR002545
Approval description	Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006
UN number	NA
DG class	NA
Proper Shipping Name	NA
Packaging group	NA
Hazchem code	NA
Uses	Ready mix concrete

Company Details

Company	Bowers Brothers Concrete LTD
Address	51 Lorne Street Morrinsville 3300 New Zealand
Telephone	+64 (0)7 889 6774
Website	www.bowersbrothers.co.nz

Emergency Telephone Number: 0800-764 766

2. Hazard Identification

Approval

This product has been approved under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO, Approval HSR002545, Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006), and is classified as follows:

Classes	Hazard Statements
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8.3A	Causes serious eye damage.
6.3A	Causes skin irritation.
6.7A	May cause cancer
6.9A	Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure
9.1D	Harmful to aquatic life.

Cement is considered irritating to the skin under the classification system; however, there is a possibility of burns if wet cement or cement mixture is left in contact with the skin for a prolonged time.

Cement may contain silica (as quartz) in trace amounts. 6.7A and 6.9A apply if quartz silica is present as a fine respirable dust.

SYMBOLS

DANGER



Other Classifications

There are no other Classifications that are known to apply.

Precautionary Statements

- Keep out of reach of children.
- Read label before use.
- Obtain special instructions before use.
- Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product.
- Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
- Wear protective gloves/eye protection/face protection.



Avoid breathing dust.
Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace.
Avoid release to the environment. Collect spillage.
Read label before use.

Further precautionary statements can be found in Section 4 – First Aid.

3. Composition / Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS/ Identification	Concentration
Cement	65997-15-1	5-80%
Flyash	68131-74-8	0-5%
Aggregates	mixture	10-90%
Chemical admixtures	proprietary	<1%
water	7732-18-5	5-50%

This is a commercial product whose exact ratio of components may vary. Trace quantities of impurities are also likely.

4. First Aid

General Information

If medical advice is needed, have product container or label at hand. You should call the National Poisons Centre if you feel that you may have been poisoned, burned or irritated by this product. The number is 0800 764 766 (0800 POISON) (24 hr emergency service).

Recommended first aid facilities

Ready access to running water is required. Accessible eyewash is required.

Exposure

Swallowed

IF SWALLOWED: Do NOT induce vomiting. Rinse mouth. Contact a doctor if you feel unwell.

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. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor.

Skin contact

IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of soap and water. If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/attention. Wash contaminated clothing before reuse.

Inhaled

IF INHALED: If breathing is difficult, remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. If patient is unconscious, place in the recovery position (on the side) for transport and contact a doctor. If experiencing respiratory symptoms: Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician.

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 non-combustible.

Suitable extinguishing

Not applicable.

substances:

Unsuitable extinguishing

Unknown.

substances:

Products of combustion:

Product does not burn. Dust may form irritating atmosphere. Product will react exothermically with water. Contaminated water will be strongly alkaline. Product may decompose in a fire and produce toxic or corrosive fumes.

Protective equipment:

Self-contained breathing apparatus. Safety boots, non-flammable overalls, gloves, hat and eye protection.

Hazchem code:

1T (recommended)

6. Accidental Release Measures

Containment	If greater than 1000kg (wet product or dust) is stored, secondary containment is required. Emergency plans to manage any potential spills must be in place. Prevent spillage from spreading or entering soil, waterways or drains.
Emergency procedures	In the event of large spillage (>100kg) of the dry or wetted mixture alert the fire brigade to location and give brief description of hazard. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin, eye and respiratory exposure. Clear area of any unprotected personnel. Contain spill. Prevent by whatever means possible any spillage from entering drains, sewers, or water courses.
Clean-up method	Collect product avoiding any dust formation, and seal in properly labelled containers or drums for disposal. If contamination of crops, sewers or waterways has occurred advise local emergency services.
Disposal	Mop up and collect recoverable material into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. Recycle containers wherever possible. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Dispose of only in accord with all regulations.
Precautions	The dust may form irritating atmosphere. Contaminated water will be strongly alkaline. Do not allow contaminated water to enter the environment. Wear protective equipment to prevent skin and eye contamination and the inhalation of dust. Work up wind or increase ventilation.

7. Storage & Handling

Storage	Avoid storage of harmful substances with food. Store out of reach of children. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination. Keep in a cool, dry place. Avoid contact with incompatible substances as listed in Section 10.
Handling	Keep exposure to a minimum, and minimise the quantities kept in work areas. Minimise dust generation and accumulation. See section 8 with regard to personal protective equipment requirements. Avoid skin and eye contact and inhalation of dust.

8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protective Equipment

Workplace Exposure Standards



A workplace exposure standard (WES) has not been established by WorkSafe NZ for this product. There is a general limit of 10mg/m³ for dusts and mists when limits have not otherwise been established.

NZ Workplace Exposure Stds (2013)	Ingredient	WES-TWA	WES-STEL
	sand	10mg/m ³ (as nuisance dust)	no data
	cement	10mg/m ³ (as nuisance dust)	no data
	limestone	10mg/m ³ (as nuisance dust)	no data
	crystalline silica	0.2mg/m ³ (quartz, respirable dust)	no data
		0.1mg/m ³ (cristobalite, respirable dust)	

Engineering Controls

In industrial situations, it is expected that employee exposure to hazardous substances will be controlled to a level as far below the WES as practicable by applying the hierarchy of control required by the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 (HSE). Exposure can be reduced by process modification, use of local exhaust ventilation, capturing substances at the source, or other methods. If you believe air borne concentrations of mists, dusts or vapours are high, you are advised to modify processes or increase ventilation.

Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes		Protect eyes with goggles, safety glasses or full face mask. Avoid wearing contact lenses.
Skin		Avoid repeated or prolonged skin contact. Wear overalls, waterproof boots and impervious alkali-resistant gloves (e.g., nitrile, PVC, rubber, neoprene). Tuck overalls inside boots and seal with duct tape to reduce risk of concrete entering boots. Remove protective clothing and wash exposed areas with soap and water prior to eating, drinking or smoking. Take special care to ensure that cuts/abrasions or irritated skin are not exposed to this product. It is also important to ensure that wet concrete does not become trapped within gloves, boots or clothing – leaving concrete in contact with the skin for extended period of time may cause skin burns.



It is important that skin is also covered when concrete dust is created (e.g., sanding, grinding, crushing or cutting concrete). The dust may also irritate and/or damage the skin.



Respiratory



To prevent irritation a well fitted dust mask should be used (this is not recommended when exposure is close to the WES). A fine particulate half or full face respirator with an effective seal is recommended when airborne concentrations approach the WES (section 8). If sanding, grinding, crushing or cutting concrete, it is possible that the silica dust WES (0.02 mg/m^3) will be exceeded, hence a respirator will be required. If exposure to the concentrated aqueous solution, dust and mist is likely, a full face respirator with a particulate filter is recommended.

WES Additional Information

Not applicable

9. Physical & Chemical Properties

Appearance	Grey or coloured product which hardens
Odour	Bland
pH	>12 when wetted
Vapour pressure	NA
Viscosity	NA
Boiling point	NA
Volatile materials	NA
Freezing / melting point	NA
Solubility	Slightly soluble in water giving alkaline solution
Specific gravity / density	$2100\text{-}2400 \text{ kg/m}^3$
Flash point	NA
Danger of explosion	NA
Auto-ignition temperature	NA
Upper & lower flammable limits	NA
Corrosiveness	Corrosive to eyes

10. Stability & Reactivity

Stability	This product is unlikely to react or decompose under normal storage conditions. This product will not undergo polymerisation reactions. Keep dry until used.
Conditions to be avoided	Containers should be kept closed in order to avoid contamination.
Incompatible groups	Strong acids, ammonium salts, and aluminum metal.
Substance Specific Incompatibility	Concrete dissolves in hydrofluoric acid producing corrosive silicon tetrafluoride gas. Silicates react with powerful oxidizers such as fluorine, chlorine, trifluorides, and oxygen difluoride.
Hazardous decomposition products	Does not readily decompose. Respirable dust particles may be generated when concrete is sawed, drilled, sanded or grinded.
Hazardous reactions	Will not polymerise

11. Toxicological Information

Summary

IF SWALLOWED: Swallowing of the dust may result in stomach pains and discomfort and irritation and burns to the mouth, throat and gastrointestinal tract.

IF IN EYES: Contact with wet (unhardened) cement, cement mixtures or concrete dust can cause effects ranging from irritation to serious eye damage/burns and blindness. Note: the level of irritation/damage is dependent on the quantity of the product, the pH, and the length of time exposed. E.g., if product is washed out of the eye immediately, effects will be minor. However, if dust or wet concrete is left in contact with the eye, serious damage/blindness could result.



IF ON SKIN: Contact with wet (unhardened) cement can cause skin irritation or severe chemical burns (third degree). Brief exposure to the skin (i.e., washed off immediately) can result in irritation. However, if the cement or dust is left on the skin for an extended time (e.g., if inside boots or absorbed through overalls), burns to the skin are possible. Thickening of the skin and/or rash is also possible. Contact with dry cement can cause skin irritation.

IF INHALED: there may be irritation of the respiratory tract if dust is inhaled. Short term (acute) silicosis (see "systemic" below) can also occur with one-off exposures to very high levels of fine crystalline silica dust. Other short term effects include irritation, choking and difficulty breathing.

CHRONIC TOXICITY: this product does contain crystalline silica, inhalation of which has been linked to silicosis and lung cancer. Symptoms include shortness of breath, cough, fever, loss of appetite and cyanosis (bluish skin). See carcinogenicity and systemic toxicity below.

Supporting Data

Acute	Oral	The estimated LD ₅₀ (oral, rat) for the mixture is > 5,000 mg/kg. Ingestion of this product may cause gastrointestinal irritation.
	Dermal	The estimated LD ₅₀ (dermal, rat) for the mixture is > 5,000 mg/kg.
Chronic	Inhaled	The estimated LC ₅₀ (inhalation, rat) for the mixture is >5 mg/L (dust mist). Short term (acute) silicosis (see "systemic" below) can also occur with one-off exposures to extremely high levels of fine crystalline silica dust. Other short term effects include irritation, choking and difficulty breathing.
	Eye	Portland cement triggers 8.3A classification. The pH of wet cement is >12.
	Skin	The dry product is classed as a skin irritant. Wet cement is classed 8.2C, as pH >12.
	Sensitisation	There is evidence that chromium present in some cement mixtures may induce occupational asthma and skin sensitisation (allergic reactions). This mixture contains less than 0.002% hexavalent chromium and hence is not considered sensitising.
	Mutagenicity	No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a mutagen.
	Carcinogenicity	Cement may contain crystalline silica. Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1). The mixture triggers 6.7A classification (confirmed carcinogen). 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 appears linked to development of silicosis (see systematic below) followed by complications and, eventually lung cancer.
	Reproductive / Developmental	No data for mixture is available. No ingredient present at concentrations > 0.1% is considered a reproductive or developmental toxicant or have any effects on or via lactation.
	Systemic	Cement may be considered to be a target organ toxicant, because of the presence of crystalline silica at greater than 1%. Crystalline silica triggers 6.9A classification if it is in the form of a fine respirable dust in an occupational (chronic exposure) setting. This is due to the development of acute silicosis which can occur following exposure to extremely high levels of fine silica dust. Silicosis is a type of pneumoconiosis – a disease of the lung that causes inflammation, scar tissue, lesions and fibrosis in the lung (alveolar). Symptoms include shortness of breath, cough, fever, loss of appetite and cyanosis (bluish skin). Silicosis can occur following prolonged exposure (e.g., 10 years) to relatively high levels of fine crystalline silica dust.
	Aggravation of existing conditions	Persons with existing lung conditions may be at a higher risk of further adverse health effects (as above). Smokers have an increased risk of lung cancer and silicosis.

12. Ecological Data

Summary

Cement and cement mixtures are considered to be harmful in the environment when in a soluble form. This is primarily due to the high pH of the product. Do not allow product to enter drains and waterways.

Supporting Data

Aquatic	No data for mixture is available. Using EC ₅₀ 's for ingredients, the estimated EC ₅₀ for the mixture is between 1 and 100 mg/L. This implies that concrete should be considered harmful in the aquatic environment. Water contaminated with this product is alkaline and should not be allowed to enter the environment.
Bioaccumulation	Not applicable
Degradability	Not applicable (predominantly natural products)
Soil	No data available for the mixture. The soil toxicity value for the mixture is estimated to be



Terrestrial vertebrate	≥ 100 mg/kg. This product is not considered harmful to terrestrial vertebrates. No LC ₅₀ (diet) data for ingredients are available and the classification is based on the LD ₅₀ (oral) – see section 11 – oral toxicity.
Terrestrial invertebrate	The mixture is not considered harmful to terrestrial invertebrates.
Biocidal	Not designed as a biocide.
Environmental effect levels	No EELs are available for this mixture or ingredients

13. Disposal Considerations

Restrictions	Local council and resource consent conditions may apply, including requirements of trade waste consents.
Disposal method	Disposal of this product must comply with the requirements of the Resource Management Act for which approval should be sought from the Regional Authority. The substance must be treated and therefore rendered non-hazardous before discharge to the environment.
Contaminated packaging	There are no product-specific restrictions, however, local council and resource consent conditions may apply, including requirements of trade waste consents.

14. Transport Information

Transport according to NZS 5433 (Transport of Hazardous Substances on Land). It is not considered a hazardous substance for transport.

UN number:	NA	Proper shipping name:	NA
Class(es)	NA	Packing group:	NA
Precautions:	NA	Hazchem code:	1T (recommended)

15. Regulatory Information

This product is an approved substance under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act (HSNO). Approval code: HSR002545, Construction Products (Toxic [6.7A]) Group Standard 2006.

Specific Workplace Controls (as per HSNO approval referenced to Controls Matrix)

Key workplace requirements are:

SDS	To be available within 10 minutes in workplaces storing any quantity.
Labelling	No removal of labels and/or decanting of product into other containers can occur.
Emergency plan	Approved Evacuation Scheme required if > 1000kg is stored.
Approved handler	Approved handlers are NOT required if this product is used in the construction industry (exempted requirement under construction group standards).
Tracking	Not required.
Bundling & secondary containment	Required if > 1000kg is stored.
Signage	Required if > 1000kg is stored.
Location test certificate	Not required.
Flammable zone	Not required.
Fire extinguisher	Not required.

Note: The above workplace requirements apply if only this particular substance is present. The complete set of controls for a location will depend on the classification and total quantities of other substances present in that location.

Other Legislation

In New Zealand, the use of this product may come under the Resource Management Act and Regulations, the Health, Safety in Employment Act and Regulations, local Council Rules and Regional Council Plans.

16. Other Information

Abbreviations

Approval Code	Approval Construction Products (Toxic [6.7]) Group Standard 2006, Controls, ERMA. www.ermanz.govt.nz
CAS Number	Unique Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
Ceiling	Ceiling Exposure Value: The maximum airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed at any time.
Controls Matrix	List of default controls linking regulation numbers to Matrix code (e.g. T1, I16).
EC₅₀	Ecotoxic Concentration 50% – concentration in water which is fatal to 50% of a test population (e.g. daphnia, fish species)
ERMA	Environmental Risk Management Authority (now EPA)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency (previously known as ERMA)
HAZCHEM Code	Emergency action code of numbers and letters that provide information to emergency services, especially firefighters
HSNO	Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (Act and Regulations)
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)
MSDS (SDS)	Material Safety Data Sheet (or 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
TWA	Time Weighted Average – generally referred to WES averaged over typical work day (usually 8 hours)
UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
UN Number	United Nations Number
WES	Workplace Exposure Standard - The airborne concentration of a biological or chemical agent to which a worker may be exposed.

References

Data	Unless otherwise stated comes from the EPA HSNO chemical classification information database (CCID) http://www.epa.govt.nz/hs/compliance/chemicals.html , for specific chemicals.
EPA Transfer Gazettes	Classifications and controls assigned for specific ingredients (consolidated gazette, 2004)
Controls Matrix	Part of the EPA New Zealand User Guide to the HSNO Control Regulations
WES 2013	The NZ Workplace Exposure Standards Effective from 2013, published by WorkSafe NZ and available on their web site – www.worksafe.govt.nz .
Other References:	Suppliers SDS, ECHA, Ingredients SDS's

Review

Date	Reason for review
July 2015	Not applicable – new SDS

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 likely HSNO classifications for this SDS have been estimated based on general information from the supplier (e.g., hazard, toxicological). 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.

