

# MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

**AUSTRALIA:**

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**NEW ZEALAND**

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**Not classified as hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC Australia.**

## I IDENTIFICATION

Product Name: Dicalite Products

Other Names: This MSDS is intended to cover a range of Dicalite (flux calcined) products including 4200, 4500, 5000, Speedflow, Speedex, Speedplus, D.C. Speedplus and Swimming Pool Grade.

MSDS Code: 4900625

UN No: None allocated.

Hazchem Code: None allocated.

Dangerous Goods Class: None allocated.

Sub Risk Class: No Subsidiary Risk.

Packaging Group: None allocated.

Poison Schedule: Not Scheduled.

Product Type: Inorganic solid.

Chemical Family: Flux calcined diatomaceous earth.

Uses: Filtration aid. Other industrial uses.

### **Physical appearance & Properties:**

Appearance & Odour: White to off-white powder. No odour.

Melting/softening point: >400°C

Boiling point and vapour pressure: No data.

Volatile materials: No data. Expected to be low at 100°C

Flashpoint: Does not burn.

Specific gravity: Approx 2.4

Solubility in water: Insoluble.

Corrosiveness: Not corrosive.

### Ingredients:

Chemical entity	CAS No	Proportion %	Worksafe Exposure Limits	
			TWA mg/m <sup>3</sup>	STEL mg/m <sup>3</sup>
Flux calcined diatomaceous earth †	68855-54-9	pure *	not set †	not set
Cristabolite	14464-46-1	<70	0.1	not set
Quartz	14808-60-7	<5	0.2	not set

\* Commercially pure.

† Note that product may contain up to 5% crystalline silica and up to 70% cristabolite as part of this "pure" product. See below for details of the exposure values for these ingredients. Trace quantities of impurities are also likely. This is a commercial product, and the exact ratio of components may vary.

## II HEALTH HAZARD DATA

### **Health Effects:**

This product may contain crystalline silica at up to 75% concentration in the form of quartz or cristabolite. Long term exposure to crystalline silica causes silicosis, a form of pulmonary fibrosis. Continued exposure to crystalline silica can lead to cardiopulmonary impairment. Symptoms are usually delayed (10 years or more). Crystalline silica has been reviewed by IARC. IARC found limited evidence for carcinogenicity of crystalline silica in

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humans and sufficient evidence in experimental animals, giving it 2b status. The ingredients are not listed as carcinogenic in Worksafe's document "Exposure Standards for Atmospheric Contaminants in the Occupational Environment" (May 1995), nor in NOHSC's "List of Designated Hazardous Substances" (April 1999).

### **Acute Effects:**

Swallowed: Data suggests that the product should be considered to be non toxic by ingestion.

Eye: Data suggests that this product should be classified as a mechanical irritant to the eyes. Will cause irritation until particles are removed from the eye, or until material dissolves.

Skin: Data suggests that the product should be classified as not irritating or harmful to the skin.

Inhalation: Data suggests that the product should be considered to be possibly irritating by inhalation. Inhalation may result in irritating of upper respiratory tract. See above for information relating to long term exposure to silica.

Primary route of exposure is inhalation and skin and eye contact.

### **First Aid:**

If poisoning occurs, contact a Doctor or Poisons Information Centre. Phone 13 1126 from anywhere in Australia. If possible have this MSDS or product label with you.

Swallowed: If in mouth, thoroughly wash mouth with water, then give some water to drink. Further measures should not be necessary.

Eye: If this product comes into contact with eyes, hold open and wash with running water for at least 15 minutes. Ensure irrigation under eyelids by occasionally lifting them. Do not try to remove contact lenses unless trained.

Skin: If this product comes into contact with skin, wash skin with soap and water. Remove contaminated clothing and footwear. Ensure contaminated clothing is thoroughly washed before using again.

Inhalation: If mists, dusts or combustion products are inhaled, remove to fresh air. Lay victim down & keep warm and rested. If breathing is shallow, or has stopped, ensure clear airway and apply resuscitation or oxygen if available. Transport to hospital or doctor immediately.

Advice to doctor: Treat symptomatically. Note the nature of this product.

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## **III PRECAUTIONS FOR USE**

### **Exposure Standards:**

A time weighted average (TWA) has been established for Cristabolite, present in significant quantities in this product. This value is 0.1mg/m<sup>3</sup>. The corresponding STEL level is "not set". The TWA for quartz is set at 0.2mg/m<sup>3</sup>. The STEL (Short Term Exposure Limit) is an exposure value that should not be exceeded for more than 15 minutes and should not be repeated for more than 4 times per day. There should be at least 60 minutes between successive exposures at the STEL. The exposure value at the TWA is the average airborne concentration of a particular substance when calculated over a normal 8 hour working day for a 5 day working week. See ingredients section on page 1 of this data sheet.

### **Engineering Controls:**

In industrial situations, concentration values below the TWA value should be maintained. Values may 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 the process or environment to reduce the problem.

### **Personal Protection:**

Respiratory Protection: Avoid breathing dusts, especially fine dusts. A face mask or respirator should be used when this material is being used. For help in selecting suitable equipment consult AS/NZS 1715.

Protective Gloves: Rubber, PVC or other protective gloves are not necessary but are desirable, especially if product is being used frequently or for lengthy periods. For help in selecting suitable gloves consult AS 2161.

Eye Protection: Use of Safety glasses or goggles is recommended when using this product. Consult AS 1336 and AS/NZS 1337 for information about eye protection.

Clothing: Clean overalls should be worn, preferably with an apron. Consult AS 2919 for advice on Industrial Clothing.

Safety Boots: Wearing safety boots is advisory. Consult AS/NZS 2210 for advice on Occupational Protective Footwear.

Flammability Limits: Does not burn.

Always wash hands before smoking, eating, drinking or using the toilet. Wash contaminated clothing and other protective equipment before storing or re-using.

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## IV SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

### **Storage & Transport:**

No special storage and transport requirements. This material has no UN Classification.  
Not a Scheduled Poison. Containers should be kept closed in order to minimise contamination. Keep from extreme heat and open flames, and make sure the material does not come into contact with products listed under "Materials to avoid" below.

### **Spills and disposals:**

In event of a major spill, prevent spillage from entering drains or water courses. As a minimum, wear overalls, goggles and gloves. Stop leak if safe to do so, and contain spill. Sweep up and shovel or collect recoverable product into labelled containers for recycling or salvage. Recycle containers wherever possible. After spills, wash area, preventing runoff from entering drains. This material may be suitable for approved landfill. Dispose of only in compliance with local, state and federal regulations. Launder all contaminated clothing before re-use.

### **Fire/Explosion Hazard:**

There is no explosion hazard from this material under normal circumstances.

Flashpoint: Does not burn.

Extinguishing Media: Use media suited to burning material.

Special Fire fighting procedures: As a minimum, wear overalls, goggles and gloves.

Unusual fire & Explosion hazards: This product is unlikely to decompose at temperatures normally reached in a fire. There is little or no risk of an explosion from this product if involved in a fire.

Stability: Stable.

Polymerisation: Will not polymerise.

Decomposition Products: No known decomposition products at temperatures normally achieved in a fire.

Materials to avoid: No particular incompatibilities.

## V OTHER INFORMATION

This MSDS is prepared in accord with the Worksafe Australia document "National Code of Practice for the Preparation of Material Safety Data Sheets", 1994.

It also conforms with the New Zealand OSH Guidelines for the Preparation of MSDSs (May 1995).

<u>Contact Points:</u>		AUSTRALIA	NEW ZEALAND
<b>Police and Fire Brigade:</b>	<b>Dial</b>	<b>000</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>If ineffective:</b>	<b>Dial</b>	<b>132203 (Exchange)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>For emergency response:</b>	<b>Dial</b>	<b>1800 625 526</b>	<b>(0800)500 288</b>
<b>National Poisons Information Centre:</b>	<b>Dial</b>	<b>13 1126 (from anywhere in Australia)</b>	

THIS MSDS SUMMARISES OUR BEST KNOWLEDGE OF THE HEALTH AND SAFETY HAZARD INFORMATION OF THE PRODUCT AND HOW TO SAFELY HANDLE AND USE THE PRODUCT IN THE WORKPLACE. EACH USER SHOULD READ THIS MSDS AND CONSIDER THE INFORMATION IN THE CONTEXT OF HOW THE PRODUCT WILL BE HANDLED AND USED IN THE WORKPLACE INCLUDING IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER PRODUCTS. IF CLARIFICATION OR FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED TO ENSURE THAT AN APPROPRIATE RISK ASSESSMENT CAN BE MADE, THE USER SHOULD CONTACT THIS COMPANY. THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR PRODUCTS SOLD IS SUBJECT TO OUR STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS, A COPY OF WHICH IS SENT TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.

Please read all labels carefully before using product.

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