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## Health and Safety Product Data Sheet Natural Roofing Slate

Product	Natural Roofing Slate
Application	Roof Covering and Vertical Cladding
Composition	Slate is a metamorphic rock. The composition consists of various combinations of minerals including Quartz (typical concentration < 25% crystalline Silica)
Hazard Identification	Due to its inherent nature the edges of the roofing slates can be sharp and may cause cuts. If any respirable dust – produced whilst working with the slate e.g. sawing or drilling – is inhaled in excessive quantities over a long period (years), it may create a long term health hazard. Dust may cause eye irritation.
First Aid Measures	Eyes – Wash out with clean water, seek medical attention if required. Skin – cuts and grazes to be cleaned with water and a dressing applied if required. Inhalation – not applicable. Ingestion – wash out mouth with water and seek medical attention if required.
Handling	Protective clothing for hands and feet is required. Eye protection may be needed. Local extraction ventilation or respiratory PPE may be needed.
Exposure Controls Personal Protective	Eye protection should be dust tight type BS EN 166. Respiratory protection should be suitable for hazardous dusts in accordance with HSE publication HS(G)53. Protective gloves to BS EN 420 should be worn. Occupational exposure limits – Respirable crystalline silica has a maximum exposure limit of 0.3mg/m <sup>3</sup> per 8 hour time weighted average. All dusts have a maximum exposure standard of 4mg/m <sup>3</sup> and an inhalable occupational exposure standard of 10mg/m <sup>3</sup> per 8 hour time weighted average. Work on roofs should be carried out from crawling boards or other approved types of roofwork equipment.
Transport & Disposal	Slate is an inert material. As such it does not require labelling and is not subject to hazardous substance conveyance regulations. The crates into which the slates are packed are designed to protect the slates from damage. They are not designed to prevent the load from falling off a vehicle and additional restraint is necessary. Before any craning operations commence the person responsible must satisfy themselves that the method used is adequate and should not rely on the crates. Roofing slate is inert but should be disposed of in accordance with local regulations.
Toxicological Information	Prolonged exposure to respirable slate dust may cause silicosis
Fire Fighting	Slate is non combustible / flammable
Storage	Do not stack pallets more than two high. When handling or storing slates do not rely on the crates to provide protection to persons nearby. Pallets are designed to protect slates not people.
Ecological Information	Slate is a naturally occurring, inert material and presents no known ecological hazards.
Other Info	Dry dust from natural slate is a substance hazardous to health and requires Employers to carry out an assessment under the COSHH regulations 1999

For further information contact our Technical Department

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