



**James Hardie**

James Hardie Australia Pty Limited  
ABN 12 084 635 558

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Date of Issue: 9/06/2011  
Issue 20

## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE

This product contains crystalline silica, which is classified as a hazardous substance according to the criteria provided by the Australian Safety and Compensation Council

**Address:** 10 Colquhoun Street  
Rosehill NSW 2142 Australia  
**Telephone:** 13 11 03 (General Information and Emergency)

### Section 1. Chemical Products and Company Identification

#### Product Name/Trade Names:

**New Products:** Scyon™ Stria™ cladding, Scyon™ Matrix™ cladding, Scyon™ Axon™ cladding, Scyon™ Linea cladding, Scyon™ Axent trim, Scyon Secura™ exterior flooring, Scyon™ Secura™ interior flooring, EasyLap™ panel, Architectural™ Invibe™ Panels and Architectural™ Inraw™ Panels

Core products: Artista® column, Ceramic Tile Underlay, ComTex® Façade Panel, ExoTec® Façade Panel, HardieBrace™ Sheet Bracing, HardieFlex™ Eaves Lining, HardieFlex™ Sheet, HardieGroove™ Lining, HardiePanel™ Compressed Sheets, HardiePlank™ Smooth Cladding, HardiePlank™ Woodgrain Cladding, HardiePlank™ Old Style Cladding, HardiePlank™ Rough-Cut Cladding, HardiePlank™ Rusticated Cladding, HardiePlank™ Shingled Siding cladding, HardieScreen™ Lattice, HardieTex™ Base Sheet, PanelClad® Stucco, PanelClad® TextureLine, PineRidge® Lining, PrimeLine® Heritage Cladding, PrimeLine® Chamfer Cladding, PrimeLine® Summit Cladding, PrimeLine® Newport Cladding, Villaboard® Lining, Versilux® Wall & Ceiling Lining, Vinyl and Cork Underlay, HardieFence™ sheets and Mine Stopping Sheet

**Deleted Products:** Ezi-Grid® Tile Underlay, HardiRock™, Classic Weatherboard, Decorweave C.P, Fiesta Ceiling sheet, Hardiflex™ Covermould, HardiFlex™ Verge Strip, Hardiform™, PanelClad™ Sierra, Old style Weatherboard, Panelock™, Shingled Weatherboard, Wunderlay™ Board, Hardiwall™, CMX™ Base Sheet, HardiGlaze™ Swirl, HardiPlank® Cross Cut and Super Six™, Scyon Secura™ wet area flooring, AquaTec™ flooring, HardiGlaze® Tile, HardiGlaze® Smooth, HardiGlaze® Premium,

**Note:** This material safety data sheet applies only to products manufactured *after* 1985. Products carrying these names and manufactured before 1985 may contain asbestos. Safety information on pre 1985 products may be obtained in Australia by telephone: 1800-025-563

**Other Names:** Fibre-cement, Fibre-reinforced cement, cellulose reinforced cement, FC and concrete sheeting

**Use:** The above products are used as internal/external wall cladding, flooring, roofing or fencing.

**Manufacturer:** James Hardie® Australia Pty Limited, 10 Colquhoun Street, Rosehill NSW 2142 Australia

**Effective date:** July 20, 2009. Check to verify the latest version or translation availability.

**NOTE:** As of the date of the preparation of this document, the information contained herein is believed to be accurate.



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Substance Name	CAS Number	UN Number	EINECS Number	Proportion (by weight)
Crystalline Silica (Quartz)	14808-60-7	Not a hazardous material for shipping purposes	238-878-4	10-30%
Calcium Silicate (Hydrate)	65997-15-1	Not a hazardous material for shipping purposes	266-043-4	10-60%
Cellulose	9004-34-6	Not a hazardous material for shipping purposes	232-674-9	<10%
Other non hazardous ingredients (pigments, fillers, and surface coatings)				<10%

**Note:** This product does not contain asbestos or asbestiform fragments. Cellulose comes from wood pulp.

**Section 2. Hazards Identification**

**Risk Phrases:** Irritating to respiratory system  
Harmful: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation

**Safety Phrase:** Do not breathe dust

**Emergency Overview:** Not explosive, not a fire hazard

**Primary Routes of Entry and Potential Health Effects:**

**Inhalation:**

**Acute effects** - Dust may cause irritation of the nose, throat, and airways, resulting in coughing and sneezing. Certain susceptible individuals may experience wheezing (spasms of the bronchial airways) on inhaling dust during sanding or sawing operations.

**Chronic Effects** - Repeated and prolonged overexposures to dust containing crystalline silica can cause silicosis (scarring of the lung) and increases the risk of bronchitis, tuberculosis, lung cancer, renal disease, and scleroderma (a disease affecting the connective tissue of the skin, joints, blood vessels, and internal organs). Some studies suggest that cigarette smoking increases the risk of silicosis, bronchitis and lung cancer in persons also exposed to crystalline silica.

**Acute silicosis** - a sub-chronic disease associated with acute, massive silica exposure, is a rapidly progressive, incurable lung disease that is typically fatal. Symptoms include, but are not limited to, shortness of breath, cough, fever, weight loss and chest pain. Such exposure may cause pneumoconiosis and pulmonary fibrosis.

**Ingestion:**

Unlikely under normal conditions of use, but swallowing the dust from this product may result in irritation or damage to the mouth and gastrointestinal tract due to alkalinity of dust.



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**Eye:**

Dust may irritate the eyes from mechanical abrasion causing watering and redness.

**Skin:**

Dust may cause irritation of the skin from friction but cannot be absorbed through intact skin.

**Medical conditions generally aggravated by exposure:** Pulmonary function may be reduced by inhalation of respirable crystalline silica and/or cellulose. If lung scarring occurs, such scarring could aggravate other lung conditions such as asthma, emphysema, pneumonia or restrictive lung diseases. Lung scarring from crystalline silica may also increase risks to pulmonary tuberculosis.

**Smoking:**

Some studies suggest that cigarette smoking increases the risk of occupational respiratory diseases, including silica-related respiratory diseases.

**Carcinogenicity:**

**The International Agency for the Research on Cancer (IARC)** has classified crystalline silica inhaled in the forms of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources as carcinogenic to humans.

**LD50:**

Silicon Dioxide: Rat oral >22,500 mg/kg Mouse oral >10,500 mg/kg

**Section 3. Hazardous Ingredients/Identity Information**

Substance Name	CAS Number	UN Number	EINECS Number	Proportion (by weight)
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## Section 4. First Aid Measures

**Signs and symptoms of over exposure:** Breathlessness, wheezing, cough, sputum production

**First Aid:**

**Swallowed:**

If swallowed, dilute by drinking large amounts of water. Do not induce vomiting. Seek medical attention. If unconscious, loosen tight clothing and lay the person on his/her left side. Give nothing by mouth to an individual who is not alert and conscious.

**Eye Contact:**

Remove contact lens. Flush with running water or saline for at least 15 minutes. Seek medical attention if redness persists or if visual changes occur.

**Skin Contact:**

Wash with mild soap and water. Contact physician if irritation persists or later develops.

**Inhaled:**

Remove to fresh air. If shortness of breath or wheezing develops, seek medical attention.

**ADVICE TO DOCTOR:** Treat symptomatically

## Section 5. Fire Fighting Measures

James Hardie® manufactured building products are neither flammable nor explosive. Refer to page 1 for list of James Hardie manufactured building products.

**Fire and Explosion Hazard:**

1. Flash Point: Not applicable
2. Auto-ignition: Not applicable
3. Non-flammable and non-explosive

**Extinguishing Media:** This material is not combustible. Appropriate extinguishing media (carbon dioxide, foam, water, or dry chemical) for surrounding fire should be used.

**Fire Fighting:** Fire fighting personnel should wear normal protective equipment and positive self-contained breathing apparatus.

## Section 6. Accidental Release Measures

No special precautions are necessary to pick up product that has been dropped. The following applies to spills or releases of dust generated during cutting or sanding of the material.



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**Precautions:** Good housekeeping practices are necessary for cleaning up areas where leaks or spills have occurred, dust has accumulated, including leaks and spills. Take measures to either eliminate or minimize the creation of dust. Respirable dust and silica levels should be monitored regularly.

Wherever possible, practices likely to generate dust should be controlled with engineering controls such as local exhaust ventilation, dust suppression with water and containment, enclosure or covers.

Use respiratory protection as described in Section 8.

**Cleanup Methods:** A fine water spray should be used to suppress dust when sweeping (dry sweeping should not be attempted). Vacuuming with an industrial vacuum cleaner outfitted with a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filter, is preferred to sweeping. Waste may be disposed of by landfill in compliance with federal, state and local requirements.

In the event of an accidental release, observe all protection measures set out in this MSDS. Avoid using materials and products that are incompatible with the product. (refer to Section 10)

## **Section 7. Handling and Storage**

**Note:** James Hardie manufactured products in their intact state do not present a health hazard. The controls below apply to dust generated from the boards by cutting, rebating, drilling, routing, sawing, crushing, or otherwise abrading, and cleaning or moving dust.

**James Hardie ®'s recommendation:** Keep exposure to dust as low as reasonably possible. Respirable crystalline silica levels should not exceed those specified by the Australian Safety and Compensation Council and identified in this MSDS. Exposure to respirable (fine) silica dust depends on a variety of factors, including activity rate (e.g. cutting rate), method of handling (e.g. electric shears), environmental conditions (e.g. weather conditions, workstation orientation) and control measures used.

Practices likely to generate dust should be carried out in adequately ventilated areas. The work practices and engineering controls set out in Section 8 should be followed to reduce silica exposures.

Keep away from reactive products. Do not store near food, beverages or smoking materials. Avoid spilling and creating dust. Maintain appropriate dust controls during handling. Use appropriate respiratory protection during handling as described in Section 8.



**Section 8. Exposure Controls and Personal Protection**

**EXPOSURE STANDARDS: WORKSAFE AUSTRALIA**

**Ingredients**

**Occupational Exposure Standards**

Crystalline Silica (Quartz)	0.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> time-weighted average (TWA) respirable dust
Dust (NOS - not otherwise specified)	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA as inhalable dust
Calcium Silicate	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA as inhalable dust
Cellulose (paper )	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA as inhalable dust

Where a state or local authority prescribes a lower standard, the lower standard applies.

**Personal Protection**

**Respiratory:** When handling products that may generate silica dust: (1) Limit the release of dust by following our best practices found in our product specific installation manuals and technical specifications, or at [www.jameshardie.com.au](http://www.jameshardie.com.au); (2) work outdoors whenever possible, (3) wear a properly-fitted, approved dust mask or respirator (e.g. P1 or P2) in accordance with applicable government regulations and manufacturers instructions to further limit respirable silica exposures, and (4) warn others in the area. Use and maintain respirators in accordance with AS/NZS 1715 & 1716 for particulate respirators. Select respirators based on the level of exposure to crystalline silica. Use respirators that offer protection to the highest concentrations of crystalline silica if actual concentrations are unknown. Comply with all other federal and state laws.

**Eye:** If cutting materials with power tools, dust resistant safety goggles/glasses should be worn. AS/NZS1336 “Recommended Practices for Eye Protection in the Industrial Environment” provides further guidance.

**Skin:** Loose comfortable clothing should be worn. Direct skin contact with dust and debris should be avoided by wearing long sleeved shirts and long trousers, a cap or hat, and gloves - standard duty leather or equivalent AS 2161 “Industrial Safety Gloves and Mittens”. Work clothes should be washed regularly.



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## **Engineering Controls:**

### **CUTTING OUTDOORS**

1. Position cutting station so that wind will blow dust away from user or others in working area and allow for ample dissipation.
2. Use one of the following methods for cutting::

#### **Best**

- Score and snap
- Hand guillotine
- shear

#### **Better**

- Dust reducing circular saw equipped with HardiBlade<sup>®</sup> Saw Blade and HEPA vacuum extraction

*Note: Other cutting methods may be permissible for certain products. Refer to the product specific installation manuals, technical specifications, or consult a qualified industrial hygienist.*

### **CUTTING INDOORS**

- Cut only using score and snap, hand guillotine or shears (manual, electric or pneumatic).
- Position cutting station in well-ventilated area to allow for dust dissipation.

### **SANDING/REBATING/DRILLING/OTHER MACHINING**

If sanding, rebating, drilling, or other machining are necessary, you should always wear a P1 or P2 dust mask and warn others in the immediate area. When using a grinder, always use an attached HEPA vacuum dust extraction system.

**IMPORTANT** 1. For maximum protection (lowest respirable dust production), James Hardie recommends always **NOTES:** using “Best”- level cutting methods where feasible

2. NEVER use a power saw indoors
3. NEVER use a circular saw blade that does not carry the HardiBlade<sup>®</sup> logo
4. NEVER dry sweep – Use wet suppression or HEPA Vacuum
5. NEVER use grinders without an attached HEPA vacuum dust extraction system and proper respiratory protection
6. ALWAYS follow tool manufacturer’s safety recommendations



## Section 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

**Appearance and Odour:** Solid boards or planks, coloured through grey or pink, or coated with various colours, flat or corrugated with various dimensions according to product.

**Vapour Pressure:** Not Relevant

**Specific Gravity:** Not Relevant

**Flammability Limits:** Not Relevant

**Boiling Point:** Not Relevant

**Melting Points:** Not Relevant

**Flash Point:** Not Relevant

**Autoignition Temp:** Not Relevant

**Volatility:** Not Relevant

**Solubility in Water:** Not Relevant

**Evaporation Rate:** Not applicable

## Section 10. Stability and Reactivity

**Stability:** Crystalline silica is stable under ordinary conditions.

**Conditions to Avoid:** Excessive dust generation during storage and handling.

### Materials to Avoid:

**Incompatibility:** Hydrofluoric acid will dissolve silica and can generate silicon tetrafluoride, a corrosive gas. Contact with strong oxidizing agents such as fluorine, boron trifluoride, chlorine trifluoride, manganese trifluoride or oxygen difluoride may cause fires and/or explosions.

## Section 11. Toxicological Information

The product is not toxic in its intact form. The following applies to dust that may be generated during cutting, sanding, drilling, routing, crushing, otherwise abrading the product, or moving dust during cleaning process:

### Chronic Effects:

#### Inhaled:

Repeated and prolonged overexposures to dust containing crystalline silica can cause silicosis (scarring of the lung) and increases the risk of bronchitis, tuberculosis, lung cancer, renal disease and scleroderma (a disease affecting the connective tissue of the skin, joints, blood vessels and internal organs). Some studies suggest that cigarette smoking increases the risk of silicosis, bronchitis, and lung cancer in persons also exposed to crystalline silica. Acute silicosis is a rapidly progressive, incurable lung disease that is typically fatal. Symptoms include, but are not limited to: shortness of breath, cough, fever, weight loss and chest pain. Such exposure may cause pneumoconiosis and pulmonary fibrosis.

The following relates to health effects of cellulose: Based on limited animal research, it is possible that repeated chronic inhalation exposure to cellulose fibre dust over time may lead to inflammation and scarring of the lung in humans. Precautions taken for crystalline silica dust will protect against cellulose.





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## **Section 12. Ecological Information**

There is a very limited amount of ecological data available on the effects of releases that may occur from this product being released into the environment. Clean up of the spilled product would not be expected to leave any hazardous material that could cause a significant adverse impact. There is a limited amount of ecological data available on crystalline silica, primarily because it is a naturally occurring mineral. An adequate representation of this data is beyond the scope of this document.

## **Section 13. Disposal Consideration**

Dispose of material as inert, non-metallic mineral in conformance with local, state and federal regulations.

## **Section 14. Transport Information**

There are no special requirements for storage and transport.

<b>UN No:</b>	None Allocated
<b>Dangerous Goods Class:</b>	None Allocated
<b>Hazchem Code:</b>	None Allocated
<b>Poisons Schedule:</b>	None Allocated
<b>Packing Group:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>Label:</b>	Local regulations may apply

## **Section 15. Regulatory Information**

Regulatory information is provided within the relevant sections of this material safety data sheet, as appropriate.



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## Section 16. Other Information

### **WARNING DO NOT BREATHE DUST AND CUT ONLY IN WELL VENTILATED AREA**

James Hardie products contain sand, a source of respirable crystalline silica which is considered by some international authorities to be a cause of cancer from some occupational sources. Breathing excessive amounts of respirable silica dust can also cause a disabling and potentially fatal lung disease called silicosis, and has been linked with other diseases. Some studies suggest smoking may increase these risks. During installation or handling: (1) work in outdoor areas with ample ventilation; (2) minimise dust when cutting by using either 'Score and Snap' knife, cement shears or, where not feasible, use a HardiBlade® Saw Blade and dust-reducing circular saw attached to a HEPA vacuum; (3) warn others in the immediate area to avoid breathing dust; (4) wear a properly-fitted, approved dust mask or respirator (e.g. P1 or P2) in accordance with applicable government regulations and manufacturer instructions to further limit respirable silica exposures. During clean-up, use HEPA vacuums or wet cleanup methods - never dry sweep. For further information, refer to our installation instructions and Material Safety Data Sheets available at [www.jameshardie.com.au](http://www.jameshardie.com.au). **FAILURE TO ADHERE TO OUR WARNINGS, MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS, AND INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH.**

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