



**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET**

Company: James Hardie New Zealand Limited  
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**IDENTIFICATION**

PRODUCT NAME:  
James Hardie Mineral Insulation

OTHER NAMES:  
Mineral Wool  
Rock Wool  
Slag Wool  
Mineral Cotton  
Silicate Cotton

UN NO: None allocated  
DANGEROUS GOODS CLASS: None allocated  
HAZCHEM CODE: None allocated  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES SCHEDULE: None allocated

USE: The above product is used to insulate private, commercial and industrial premises.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION / PROPERTIES:

Appearance: Solid odourless amorphous fibres.

Vapour pressure:	Not relevant	Flash Point (oC):	Not relevant
Specific gravity:	Not relevant	Autoignition Temp. (oC):	Not relevant
Flammability limits:	Non-flammable	Volatility:	Not relevant
Boiling Point:	Not relevant	Solubility in Water:	Not relevant
Melting Point:	In excess of 2,000 degrees F		

Ingredients:

Substance Name	CAS Number	Proportion
Mineral Wool	Not assigned	100%

**HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION**

HEALTH EFFECTS:

Acute Effects:

Swallowed: No information on adverse effect.  
Eye: Particulate from this product may irritate the eyes.  
Skin: Fibres from this product may cause itching and irritation.  
Inhaled: Airborne particulate can irritate upper respiratory system.

Chronic Effects:

Extensive medical-scientific research has been conducted into the health aspects of Man Made Vitreous Fibres (MMVF) over the past 50 years. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) has reviewed this research. Animal studies have shown that MMVF's are not a carcinogen by inhalation, but malignant tumours were produced in animals when large doses of MMVF's were implanted surgically, by passing the animal's natural defence mechanism. Based on these studies, the IARC classified MMVF's as Group 2B, "possible carcinogenic to humans".

No increased risk of lung cancer has been demonstrated through inhalation experiments, even at doses 100 to 1000 times greater than level in the workplace.

In a large animal inhalation study, minimal fibrosis (lung scarring) was observed in animals exposed to high concentrations of rock wool (mineral wool) fibre. However, based upon current exposure levels in manufacturing and end-use environments coupled with existing health effects information on mineral wool, these results are not thought to be indicative of an increased risk for humans.

**PRECAUTIONS FOR USE** □FIRST AID:

- Swallowed: Not likely, but seek medical assistance if it occurs.
- Eye contact: Flush with large quantities of water. Seek medical assistance if irritation persists.
- Skin contact: Wash with cold water, then warm water and soap.
- Inhaled: Remove from adverse environment to fresh air and drink water.

ADVICE TO DOCTOR: Treat symptomatically.

ENGINEERING CONTROLS:

Ventilation: Local exhaust ventilation is the preferred method for effective control.

EXPOSURE LIMITS:

Not relevant

PERSONAL PROTECTION:

- Eye: AS/NZS 1336 -1997 "Recommended Practices for Occupational Eye Protection" and AS/NZS 1337 - 1992 "Eye Protection For Industrial Application", provide further guidance.
- Skin: Loose comfortable clothing should be worn. Direct skin contact with fibres should be avoided by wearing long sleeved shirts and long trousers, a cap or hat. Depending on job conditions gloves may be necessary – standard duty leather or the equivalent NZS 5812–1982 Industrial Protective Gloves. Work clothes should be washed regularly, separate from household clothing.
- Inhalation: Use Class P1 or P2 particulate respirators conforming to AS/NZS 1716 – 1994 "Respiratory Protective Devices", should be used, e.g. disposable type. Refer to AS/NZS 1715 - 1994 "Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices". Use only respirators which bear the Standards mark and ensure correct fitting.



Note that persons with facial hair will have difficulty in obtaining a satisfactory face seal and refer to AS/NZS 1715 - 1994 "Selection, Use and Maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices".

FLAMMABILITY

Not Relevant

**SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION**

STORAGE & TRANSPORT:

There are no special requirements for handling and storage. This product is stable under all conditions. Store in original container in a dry area.

SPILLS AND DISPOSAL:

Collect spilled material in appropriate container for disposal.

FIRE / EXPLOSION HAZARD:

Not considered flammable nor combustible. Use extinguishing agents appropriate for surrounding materials.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

Note: As of the date of the preparation of this document, the foregoing information is believed to be accurate. Please check the currency of this MSDS by contacting the Customer Services Helpline on 0800 808 868.

**CONTACT POINT:**

If additional information is required, please contact the Customer Services Helpline on 0800 808 868 between 7.30 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. Monday to Friday.