

**Aluminium****General Data**

Although it is generally agreed that aluminium is an inert substance, hazardous situations can arise when it is subjected to various processes such as: anodising, polishing, thermal breaking, welding and information on these operations is given in the attached appendices.

Product Name and Description

Aluminium extrusions supplied in various forms. ie. mill, anodised, painted, thermally broken.

Composition

Magnesium/silicon aluminium alloys.

Physical Data

Melting point	660°
Boiling point	Not applicable
Vapour pressure	Not applicable
Vapour density	Not applicable
Specific gravity	2.6 approximately
Solubility in water	Insoluble
Appearance and odour	Solid - grey/silver colour, no odour

Hazards

The hazards associated with aluminium are as follows:

Handling

Solid Aluminium experiences no colour change when heated - use gloves to protect against burns.

Liquid when melting, casting and processing, appropriate protective equipment must be worn- glasses, goggles or visor, metal shedding overalls, foundry footwear, gloves. All tools used with molten metal must be dry.

Fire

Not a fire hazard.

Explosion

Molten aluminium may explode upon contact with water, and many other substances including oxidising agents. All aluminium solids must be free from moisture before adding to molten metal.

Health and Toxicity

Aluminium is poorly absorbed by the body. Little of the element that gets into the body through normal action remains.

Aluminium (con't)**Precautions****Storage**

Keep dry, away from incompatible materials, including nitrates, acids and alkalis, which may result in fire and explosion.

Spillage

Solid aluminium presents no problem.

Disposal

Recycle, finely divided aluminium may be reactive and its hazard characteristics should be determined prior to disposal.

Transport

Solid and liquid aluminium are not classified as dangerous for conveyance by road in the UK.

Appendix 1**Anodising and Organic Coating**

Both anodisers and etchs produce hydrogen gas. At normal extraction rates, the hydrogen/air ratio does not present a risk unless deliberately ignited, but a low or nil extraction rate can result in the formation of an explosive mixture. Operation should, therefore, stop if the extraction system fails.

Appendix 2**Polishing**

The regulation for the grinding and polishing of metals must be observed. Extraction is essential.

Appendix 3**Thermal Break**

This product involves the exothermic interaction of two chemicals to form a polyurethane polymer: the manufacturers recommendations for handling the components must be followed. In addition, the presence of water, which modifies the reaction, must be avoided. Extraction of air from the process area is essential.

Appendix 4**Welding**

MIG welding or plasma arc cutting of aluminium alloys can generate ozone, nitric oxides and ultraviolet radiation. Ozone over exposure may result in mucous membrane irritation, as well as other pulmonary discomforts.

**Cold Rolled Steel Sections****Material Composition**

Pre-Galvanised/Pre-Coated Mild Steel

Product

Steel Sections (0.4mm-2.0mm)

Uses

To be used within perimeters laid down in our catalogue and any special technical instruction.

Health Hazards

When subjected to elevated temperatures during welding or cutting, toxic fumes are produced. Inhalation of these may cause metal fume fever, a short lasting condition with symptoms similar to those of influenza. Therefore, adequate ventilation or fume extraction should be provided, and where necessary, protective masks should be worn.

Some sections may have a light film of lubricants on them. In the unlikely event of a build up of lubricants draining from a bundle of sections, heat or open flame should be kept away. Avoid prolonged contact with the skin and avoid prolonged breathing of any vapour.

Handling

Products may have sharp corners and edges which can cause lacerations. Products may have residue of lubricants/rust inhibitors on the surface which could cause problems to persons with sensitive skin. Always use suitable gloves when handling. Never rely on banding for lifting - always use suitable slings.

Storage

Products should be stored dry and stacked in a safe manner.

Health & Safety Relevant References

No. 43 Safety in Mechanical Handling
No. 47 Safety in Stacking Materials
No. EH40 Occupational Exposure Limits

**Glass****Specification**

Glass for use in construction, for decoration and in transport is generally of a soda lime silicate composition. Body coloured glasses for solar control and decoration are produced by small additions of suitable constituents which do not materially affect the basic properties other than those of heat and light transmissions.

Glass can also be coated to alter heat and light transmissions, again not materially affecting the basic properties.

Physical Properties

Glass is a hard, amorphous brittle substance manufactured by melting together the constituent substances at temperatures up to 1600°C.

Hazards

Soda-lime-silicate glasses are non-toxic and any additives or surface coatings are chemically bound into the glass or are present in such small quantities as to present no hazard.

Silica in the glass is present as silicates and does not present a hazard to health.

Processes such as grinding, polishing and edgeworking can generate glass dust, personal exposure to which should be kept below 10mg per cubic metre per 8 hour time weighted average (TWA) total inhalable dust or 5mg per cubic metre per 8 hour TWA respirable dust.

Grinding, polishing and edgeworking are generally carried out using water as a flux which largely eliminates the glass dust risks.

Glass may be supplied with an interleaving powder to prevent surface damage, which may contain a small amount of stain inhibitor. This may cause temporary irritation during periods of high ambient temperature.

If irritation from interleaving powder is experienced steps should be taken to reduce the airborne dust levels and/or provide respiratory protection.

Airborne interleaving powder should be controlled to less than 10mg per cubic meter per 8 hour TWA total inhalable dust or 5mg per cubic metre per 8 hour TWA respirable dust.

If the interleaving powder is left to accumulate on workspace floors, the floors may become slippery. Good housekeeping is necessary to minimise this risk.

Glass (con't)**Handling of Glass or Packages**

There is a risk of breakage in transit and care should be taken when unloading.

Eye protection must be worn in accordance with the Protection of Eyes Regulations 1974. Other protective clothing such as gloves, safety shoes and headwear may be appropriate.

The greatest risk in the handling of glass is through laceration - appropriate first aid and further medical assistance should be available or easily obtainable at short notice.

Glass is brittle and especially in pack form, heavy, and hence the storage and movement of glass in warehouses also raises the need for safe working practices to be laid down.

Plastic

Scope

Some of our more commonly used materials are: EPDM, TPR, Nitrile, ABS and PVC.

Information on the constituent material used in the formulation of these compounds is not included except where it is relevant to the use, handling or storage.

Product Information

Compounds with a notifiable hazard, will have additional guidance provided.

Some products are supplied with a silicone coating.

Hazards

Fire In common with organic materials they can be consumed by fire.

In the case of a minor fire, all commonly available fire extinguishers are effective. Although due regard should be taken when live electrical equipment is nearby.

Fumes Our compounds burn to give dense fumes with contain carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and hydrogen chloride.

If personnel are overcome by fumes take outside to fresh air and consult medical advice.

Skin Irritation Our products are not considered to be skin sensitisers.

Eye Irritation The basic products are not likely to cause eye irritation. However, if a silicone coating is present it can be transferred manually to the eye, where it may cause irritation which is not itself harmful. Good hygiene and care in handling should be observed in using such products.

The appropriate treatment is flush eye out thoroughly with clean warm water.

Dust Non hazardous.

Storage Store in dry, cool place making sure that the compounds are not subjected to extreme temperatures.

Ingestion Seek medical advice.

**Plasterboard****1. Identification of the substance/preparation and company**

Gyproc Wallboard	Gyproc Gypwall Board
Gyproc Wallboard Duplex	Gyproc Handi-board
Gyproc Core Board	Gyproc Handi-board Duplex
Gyproc Duraline XL	Gyproc Industrial Grade Board
Gyproc XL Moisture Resistent	Gyproc Moisture Resistant Board
Gyproc Duraline XL Severe	Gyproc Plank
Gyproc Fireline	Gypoc SoundBloc
Gyproc Fireline Duplex	Gyproc Fireline Moisture Resistant Board

Manufacturer: British Gypsum Ltd, Head Office, East Leake, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 6HX.
Telephone: 08705 456123

2. Composition/Information of Ingredients

General composition: calcium sulphate dihydrate encased in paper liners, natural constituents may include minor amounts of quartz. Small quantities of chopped glass fibre, microsilica and vermiculite may be added, with starch, foam and dispersants.

Fireline, DuraLine XL and Core boards include small quantities of chopped man-made mineral fibre and micro silica.

Moisture Resistant and Core boards include a silicone and/or wax additive.

Duplex boards are backed with a metallised polymer or polyethylene film.

Industrial Grade and Modular Grid boards are faced with a polyvinylchloride film and backed with metallised polymer or polyethylene film.

3. Hazards Identification

These products are not classified as hazardous under CHIP 2000. Refer to section 15 - regulatory information.

Dust from sawing or sanding may irritate the respiratory system, skin and eyes.

4. First Aid Measures

Inhalation - remove person to fresh air.

Skin contact - flush and wash with water and soap.

Eye contact - wash eye with clean water for 10 mins and seek medical advice if irritation persists.

Ingestion - wash mouth out and drink plenty of water.

Please note should these symptoms persist obtain medical assistance

5. Fire Fighting Measures

The products are fire resistant, but facings or packaging may burn. All fire extinguishers are suitable media, observing normal fire fighting procedures.



Plasterboard (con't)

6. Accidental Release Measures

Not applicable

7. Handling and Storage

Minimise and control dust when sawing or sanding plasterboards in confined spaces.

When manually handling plasterboards, use correct manual handling techniques according to size, thickness and density.

Store in dry conditions, on firm level ground and to preserve stability do not stack above 3 metres high.

Plasterboards will not support body weight between rafters, joists or frame members.

Fixers must work from an independent support system.

8. Exposure Controls/Personnel Protection

Occupational Exposure Limits

OES - Occupational Exposure Standards

Plaster	Total Inhalable	10mg/m ³ 8hr TWA
Respirable	4mg/m ³	8hr TWA

MEL - Maximum Exposure Limit

Quartz (silica) Total Inhalable 0.3mg/m³ 8hr TWA - MMMF (Man Made Mineral Fibres) 5mg/m³ 8hr TWA (gravimetric method)

Refer to current edition of HSE EH40 "Occupational Exposure Limits".

Note The Man Made Mineral Fibres used in plasterboards are non respirable with fibre diameters in excess of 10µm.

Personal Protection

Respiratory When sawing or sanding plasterboards, use local exhaust system to control dust or wear a half face mask to EN149 Class FFP 2s. if dust cannot be controlled.

Skin Wear gloves to avoid prolonged or repeat contact.

Eye Wear safety goggles to BS EN 166 when sawing or sanding, or when handling products overhead.

9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Appearance: Flat sheet boards in different widths and thickness, with square tapered or rebated edges.

<i>Thickness</i>	9.5mm -	=	7.0kgs approx.
	12.5mm -	=	9.0kgs
	15.0mm -	=	11.5kgs
	19.0mm -	=	14.5kgs

Plasterboard (con't)

(SoundBloc)	12.5mm	-	=	10.5kgs
	15.0mm	-	=	12.5kgs
(Duraline XL)	13.0mm	-	=	11.5kgs

Note all dimensions and weights are only approximate, reference should be made to product technical information publications.

10. Stability and Reactivity

No special physical conditions need to be avoided or restrictions regarding incompatible materials.

11. Toxicological Information

No known toxicological effects.

12. Ecological Information

Stable product with no known adverse environmental effects.

13. Disposal Considerations

Dispose at an authorised landfill site according with the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994.

14. Transport Information

Not classified as hazardous for transport.

15. Regulatory Information

Not classified as hazardous under the Chemicals (Hazard, Information and Packaging for Supply) (Amendment) Regulations 2000 (CHIP 2000).

This Safety Data Sheet prepared in accordance to the approved Code of Practice L62: Safety data sheets for substances and preparations dangerous for supply (2nd edition).

16. Other Information

Sources of key data used to compile Safety Data Sheet:

The Control of Substance Hazardous to Health Regulations 1999 (COSHH). Health & Safety Executive Guidance Note EH40 Occupational Exposure Limits (current edition).

Recommended uses - Gyproc plasterboards are used as internal linings in buildings. Moisture resistant grades may also be used in protected external situations or in temporary exposure conditions.

This information reflects typical values and is not a product specification.

No warranty is hereby expressed or implied.

Note to user: This Safety Data Sheet does not constitute the users own workplace risk assessment, which is required under COSHH Regulations 1999.