



Safety Data Sheet

1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MATERIAL AND SUPPLIER

1.1 Product identifier

Product name GENERAL PURPOSE (GP) CEMENT

Synonyms BGC ULTRA CREME GP • BUILDERS CHOICE GREY CEMENT • BUILDERS CHOICE HIGH EARLY STRENGTH GREY CEMENT • CEMENT • CM20 • CREAM CEMENT • CREME CEMENT • GP20 • HE (HIGH EARLY) CEMENT • HG20 • HYDRAULIC CEMENT • OFF-WHITE CEMENT • OPC • ORDINARY PORTLAND CEMENT • ULTRA CREME HE • ULTRACREME

1.2 Uses and uses advised against

Uses BINDER IN CONCRETE, CONCRETE MASONRY & GROUTS • CEMENT • INDUSTRIAL APPLICATIONS • ROAD & SOIL STABILISATION

1.3 Details of the supplier of the product

Supplier name BGC CEMENT

Address 32 Beard St, Naval Base, WA, 6155, AUSTRALIA

Telephone (08) 9334 4555

1.4 Emergency telephone numbers

Emergency (08) 9334 4555

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

2.1 Classification of the substance or mixture

CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA CRITERIA

Physical Hazards

Not classified as a Physical Hazard

Health Hazards

Skin Corrosion/Irritation: Category 2

Serious Eye Damage / Eye Irritation: Category 1

Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Single Exposure): Category 3 (Respiratory Irritation)

Specific Target Organ Toxicity (Repeated Exposure): Category 2

Environmental Hazards

Not classified as an Environmental Hazard

2.2 GHS Label elements

Signal word DANGER

Pictograms



Hazard statements

H315 Causes skin irritation.

H318 Causes serious eye damage.

H335 May cause respiratory irritation.

H373 May cause damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure.

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Prevention statements

P260	Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapours/spray.
P264	Wash thoroughly after handling.
P271	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.
P280	Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection/hearing protection.

Response statements

P302 + P352	IF ON SKIN: Wash with plenty of water.
P304 + P340	IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.
P305 + P351 + P338	IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P310	Immediately call a POISON CENTRE or doctor/physician.
P314	Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell.
P321	Specific treatment is advised - see first aid instructions.
P332 + P313	If skin irritation occurs: Get medical advice/ attention.
P362 + P364	Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.

Storage statements

P403 + P233	Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.
P405	Store locked up.

Disposal statements

P501	Dispose of contents/container in accordance with relevant regulations.
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2.3 Other hazards

Physical characteristics of cements are that they are alkaline in nature, the pH of water solution (slurry) of cements can be as high as 13.5. Prolonged exposure to Portland Cement in the wet form can cause serious, potentially irreversible skin or eye damage in the form of chemical burns. The same serious injury can occur if wet or moist skin or eyes have prolonged contact exposure to dry Portland Cement.

Some susceptible individuals may exhibit an allergic skin response upon exposure to Portland Cement, possibly due to trace amounts of chromium.

3. COMPOSITION/ INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

3.1 Substances / Mixtures

Ingredient	CAS Number	EC Number	Content
PORTLAND CEMENT CLINKER*	65997-15-1	266-043-4	<95%
LIMESTONE (CALCIUM CARBONATE)	471-34-1	207-439-9	<8%
GYPSUM*	13397-24-5	603-783-2	2 to 8%
QUARTZ (CRYSTALLINE SILICA)	14808-60-7	238-878-4	<2%
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM	18540-29-9	-	0.002%

Ingredient Notes	1. Depending upon the source material, may contain varying amounts of respirable quartz (crystalline silica).
	2. Chromium VI is a trace impurity in general purpose cement (< 20 ppm).

4. FIRST AID MEASURES

4.1 Description of first aid measures

Eye	If in eyes, hold eyelids apart and flush continuously with running water. Continue flushing until advised to stop by a Poisons Information Centre, a doctor, or for at least 15 minutes.
Inhalation	If inhaled, remove from contaminated area. Apply artificial respiration if not breathing.
Skin	If skin or hair contact occurs, remove contaminated clothing and flush skin and hair with running water. Continue flushing with water until advised to stop by a Poisons Information Centre or a doctor.
Ingestion	For advice, contact a Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26 (Australia Wide) or a doctor (at once). If swallowed, do not induce vomiting.
First aid facilities	Eye wash facilities and safety shower are recommended.

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

Irritating to the eyes, skin and respiratory system. Chronic over exposure to silica quartz dust may result in silicosis (lung disease). Principal symptoms of silicosis are coughing and breathlessness. Some individuals may exhibit an allergic response upon exposure to this product, possibly due to the trace amounts of chromium present. Crystalline silica and hexavalent chromium compounds are classified as carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1).

4.3 Immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically.

5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

5.1 Extinguishing media

Use an extinguishing agent suitable for the surrounding fire.

5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Non flammable. May evolve toxic gases if strongly heated.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

Treat as per requirements for surrounding fires. Evacuate area and contact emergency services. Remain upwind and notify those downwind of hazard. Wear full protective equipment including Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) when combating fire. Use waterfog to cool intact containers and nearby storage areas.

5.4 Hazchem code

None allocated.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as detailed in section 8 of the SDS. Clear area of all unprotected personnel. Contact emergency services where appropriate.

6.2 Environmental precautions

Prevent product from entering drains and waterways.

6.3 Methods of cleaning up

Contain spillage, then collect and place in suitable containers for reuse or disposal. Avoid generating dust.

6.4 Reference to other sections

See Sections 8 and 13 for exposure controls and disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

7.1 Precautions for safe handling

Before use carefully read the product label. Use of safe work practices are recommended to avoid eye or skin contact and inhalation. Observe good personal hygiene, including washing hands before eating. Prohibit eating, drinking and smoking in contaminated areas.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated area, removed from moisture, incompatible substances and foodstuffs. Ensure packages are adequately labelled, protected from physical damage and sealed when not in use.

7.3 Specific end uses

No information provided.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

8.1 Control parameters

Exposure standards

Ingredient	Reference	TWA		STEL	
		ppm	mg/m ³	ppm	mg/m ³
Calcium carbonate (Limestone, Marble, Whiting)	SWA [AUS]	--	10	--	--
Chromium (VI) (as Cr)	SWA [Proposed]	--	7E-6	--	--
Chromium (VI) compounds (as Cr)	SWA [AUS]	--	0.05	--	--
Gypsum (Calcium sulphate)	SWA [AUS]	--	10	--	--
Portland cement	SWA [AUS]	--	10	--	--
Portland cement	SWA [Proposed]	--	1	--	--
Quartz (respirable dust)	SWA [AUS]	--	0.05	--	--
Quartz (respirable dust) (Precautionary advice)	WorkSafe VIC	--	0.02	--	--

Biological limits

Ingredient	Determinant	Sampling Time	BEI
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM	Total chromium in urine	End of shift at end of workweek	25 µg/L
	Total chromium in urine	Increase during shift	10 µg/L
	Total chromium in urine	Post shift	10 µmol chromium/mol creatinine in urine
	Total chromium in urine	End of shift at end of workweek	30 µg/L
	Total chromium in urine	End of shift at end of workweek	25 µg/L

Reference: ACGIH Biological Exposure Indices

8.2 Exposure controls

Engineering controls

Avoid inhalation. Use in well ventilated areas. Where an inhalation risk exists, mechanical extraction ventilation is recommended. Maintain dust levels below the recommended exposure standard.

PPE

- Eye / Face** Wear dust-proof goggles.
- Hands** Wear PVC or rubber gloves.
- Body** When using large quantities or where heavy contamination is likely, wear coveralls.
- Respiratory** Where an inhalation risk exists, wear a Class P1 (Particulate) respirator. At high dust levels, wear a Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) with Class P3 (Particulate) filter or a Class P3 (Particulate) respirator.



9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Appearance	GREY POWDER
Odour	ODOURLESS
Flammability	NON FLAMMABLE
Flash point	NOT RELEVANT
Boiling point	NOT AVAILABLE
Melting point	NOT AVAILABLE
Evaporation rate	NOT AVAILABLE
pH	ALKALINE

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

Vapour density	NOT AVAILABLE
Relative density	3.0 to 3.4
Solubility (water)	INSOLUBLE
Vapour pressure	NOT AVAILABLE
Upper explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Lower explosion limit	NOT RELEVANT
Partition coefficient	NOT AVAILABLE
Autoignition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Decomposition temperature	NOT AVAILABLE
Viscosity	NOT AVAILABLE
Explosive properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Oxidising properties	NOT AVAILABLE
Odour threshold	NOT AVAILABLE

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

10.1 Reactivity

Carefully review all information provided in sections 10.2 to 10.6.

10.2 Chemical stability

Stable under recommended conditions of storage.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

Polymerization will not occur.

10.4 Conditions to avoid

Avoid heat, sparks, open flames and other ignition sources.

10.5 Incompatible materials

Incompatible with oxidising agents (e.g. hypochlorites), ethanol, acids (e.g. hydrofluoric acid) and interhalogens (e.g. chlorine trifluoride). Water contact may increase product temperature 2°C to 3°C.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

May evolve toxic gases if heated to decomposition.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

Information available for the ingredients:

Ingredient	Oral LD50	Dermal LD50	Inhalation LC50
LIMESTONE (CALCIUM CARBONATE)	> 2000 mg/kg (rat)	> 2000 mg/kg (rat)	> 3.0 mg/L

Skin Irritating to the skin. Contact with powder or wetted form may result in irritation, rash and dermatitis. Prolonged exposure to wet cement can cause serious, potentially irreversible skin damage in the form of chemical burns.

Eye Causes serious eye damage. Contact with moisture in the eyes may result in irritation, lacrimation, pain, redness, conjunctivitis and possible alkaline burns aided by mechanical irritation and abrasion. Exposure to wet cement can cause serious, potentially irreversible eye damage in the form of chemical burns.

Sensitisation Not classified as causing respiratory sensitisation. However, some individuals may exhibit an allergic response upon exposure to cement, possibly due to trace amounts of chromium.

Mutagenicity Insufficient data available to classify as a mutagen.

Carcinogenicity This product may contain trace amounts of 'respirable' crystalline silica and hexavalent chromium compounds which are classified as carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1). However, there is sufficient information to conclude that the relative risk of lung cancer from exposure to crystalline silica is increased in persons with silicosis. Therefore preventing the onset of silicosis will also reduce the cancer risk. In the wet state, the likelihood of an inhalation hazard is reduced

Reproductive Insufficient data available to classify as a reproductive toxin.

STOT - single exposure Irritating to the respiratory system. Over exposure may result in irritation of the nose and throat, with coughing. High level exposure may result in breathing difficulties.

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STOT - repeated exposure	Repeated exposure to respirable silica may result in pulmonary fibrosis (silicosis). Silicosis is a fibronodular lung disease caused by deposition in the lungs of fine respirable particles of crystalline silica. Principal symptoms of silicosis are coughing and breathlessness. In the wet state, the likelihood of an inhalation hazard is reduced.
Aspiration	This product is a solid and aspiration hazards are not expected to occur.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

12.1 Toxicity

Based on available data, classification criteria is not met, and there is a high probability that the product is not acutely harmful to aquatic organisms. However, due to the high pH of Portland Cement, the pH of waterways may be increased with adverse effects on aquatic life. This product is non-toxic to aquatic organisms when present as a cured solid.

12.2 Persistence and degradability

Not applicable for inorganic substances.

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

Not expected to bioaccumulate.

12.4 Mobility in soil

A low mobility would be expected in a landfill situation.

12.5 Other adverse effects

Avoid contamination of drains and waterways.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 Waste treatment methods

Waste disposal Reuse or recycle where possible. Alternatively, ensure product is covered with moist soil to prevent dust generation and dispose of to an approved landfill site. Contact the manufacturer/supplier for additional information (if required).

Legislation Dispose of in accordance with relevant local legislation.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

NOT CLASSIFIED AS A DANGEROUS GOOD BY THE CRITERIA OF THE ADG CODE, IMDG OR IATA

	LAND TRANSPORT (ADG)	SEA TRANSPORT (IMDG / IMO)	AIR TRANSPORT (IATA / ICAO)
14.1 UN Number	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.
14.2 Proper Shipping Name	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.
14.3 Transport hazard class	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.
14.4 Packing Group	None allocated.	None allocated.	None allocated.

14.5 Environmental hazards

No information provided.

14.6 Special precautions for user

Hazchem code None allocated.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture

Poison schedule A poison schedule number has not been allocated to this product using the criteria in the Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP).

Classifications Safe Work Australia criteria is based on the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Revision 7).

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Inventory listings AUSTRALIA: AIC (Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals)
All components are listed on AIC, or are exempt.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Additional information

CEMENT CONTACT DERMATITIS: Individuals using wet cement, mortar, grout or concrete could be at risk of developing cement dermatitis. Symptoms of exposure include itchy, tender, swollen, hot, cracked or blistering skin with the potential for sensitisation. The dermatitis is due to the presence of soluble (hexavalent) chromium.

RESPIRATORS: In general the use of respirators should be limited and engineering controls employed to avoid exposure. If respiratory equipment must be worn ensure correct respirator selection and training is undertaken. Remember that some respirators may be extremely uncomfortable when used for long periods. The use of air powered or air supplied respirators should be considered where prolonged or repeated use is necessary.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:

The recommendation for protective equipment contained within this report is provided as a guide only. Factors such as form of product, method of application, working environment, quantity used, product concentration and the availability of engineering controls should be considered before final selection of personal protective equipment is made.

HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:

It should be noted that the effects from exposure to this product will depend on several factors including: form of product; frequency and duration of use; quantity used; effectiveness of control measures; protective equipment used and method of application. Given that it is impractical to prepare a report which would encompass all possible scenarios, it is anticipated that users will assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

Abbreviations

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
CAS #	Chemical Abstract Service number - used to uniquely identify chemical compounds
CNS	Central Nervous System
EC No.	EC No - European Community Number
EMS	Emergency Schedules (Emergency Procedures for Ships Carrying Dangerous Goods)
GHS	Globally Harmonized System
GTEPG	Group Text Emergency Procedure Guide
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer
LC50	Lethal Concentration, 50% / Median Lethal Concentration
LD50	Lethal Dose, 50% / Median Lethal Dose
mg/m ³	Milligrams per Cubic Metre
OEL	Occupational Exposure Limit
pH	relates to hydrogen ion concentration using a scale of 0 (high acidic) to 14 (highly alkaline).
ppm	Parts Per Million
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
STOT-RE	Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure)
STOT-SE	Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure)
SUSMP	Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons
SWA	Safe Work Australia
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TWA	Time Weighted Average

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Report status

This document has been compiled by RMT on behalf of the manufacturer, importer or supplier of the product and serves as their Safety Data Sheet ('SDS').

It is based on information concerning the product which has been provided to RMT by the manufacturer, importer or supplier or obtained from third party sources and is believed to represent the current state of knowledge as to the appropriate safety and handling precautions for the product at the time of issue. Further clarification regarding any aspect of the product should be obtained directly from the manufacturer, importer or supplier.

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