

**MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET**

H600 Series Benex Block

MSDS DATE: 1/08/08

FILE NO.: 1 – R3

**SECTION 1: PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION**

**PRODUCT NAME:** Benex  
**PRODUCT CODES:** H600  
**MANUFACTURER:** Benex Bathurst Pty Ltd  
**ADDRESS:** 22 Michigan Rd, Bathurst, NSW, 2795  
**PHONE:** 02 6331 0155  
**FAX:** 02 6331 0255

**EMERGENCY PHONE:** Poisons Information Centre 13 11 26

**PRODUCT USE:** Construction  
**PREPARED BY:** Benex Group Pty Ltd

**SECTION 1 NOTES:** This Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is issued by the Supplier in accordance with the Code and guidelines from the Australian Safety and Compensation Council (ASCC, formerly National Occupational Health and Safety Commission – NOHSC). The information in it must not be altered, deleted or added to. The Supplier will not accept any responsibility for any changes made to its MSDS by any other person or organization. The Supplier will issue a new MSDS when there is a change in product specifications and/or ASCC standards, guidelines, or regulations.

**SECTION 2: HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION**

**STATEMENT OF HAZARD:** Dust created when the product is cut, abraded, or crushed contains crystalline silica and cement particulate that are classified as Hazardous substances according to the criteria of the Australian Safety and Compensation Council ASCC - Approved Criteria For Classifying Hazardous Substances 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.

H600 Benex Blocks are classified as Non-Dangerous goods according to the Australian Code for the Transport of Dangerous Goods by Road and Rail.

Risk Phrases	Safety Phrases
R20: Harmful by Inhalation (Applies to dust)	S22: Do not breathe dust
R21: Harmful in contact with skin. (Applies to dust)	S24: Avoid contact with Skin
R22: Harmful if Swallowed	S25: Avoid contact with Eyes
R48: Danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation (Applies to dust)	

**HEALTH EFFECTS**

**ACUTE** (effects may occur immediately or shortly after a single exposure)

**Swallowed:** Corrosive to the mouth, throat and stomach. May cause abdominal discomfort and burning sensation.

**Eyes:** Irritating to the eyes. May cause redness, swelling, burning sensation and chemical conjunctivitis. May damage the cornea.

**Skin:** Irritating to the skin. Water soluble hexavalent chromium may sensitise individuals and cause contact dermatitis. May cause alkaline burns.

**Inhaled:** Irritating to nose, throat and respiratory system causing coughing and sneezing

**CHRONIC** (effect may occur after repeated or prolonged exposure)

**Inhaled:** Prolonged inhalation of dust can cause silicosis, scleroderma, bronchitis and lung cancer.

**Skin:** Prolonged exposure to wet cement products may cause dermatitis due to water soluble hexavalent chromium.

**SECTION 3: COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS**

All significant ingredients are listed below:

Chemical Name	CAS Number	Proportion
Portland Cement	65997-15-1	10-60%
Sand containing Crystalline Silica	14828-60-7	20-40%
Hexavalent Chromium	18540-29-9	< 10ppm
Non-Hazardous Additives	-	20-40%

## SECTION 4: FIRST AID MEASURES

The following applies to dust from this product:

- EYES:** Flush thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes. If symptoms persist seek medical attention.
- SKIN:** Wash off skin thoroughly with water, using soap if available. Seek medical attention irritation or burning sensation persists.
- INGESTION:** Do not induce vomiting. Rinse mouth thoroughly with water. Seek medical attention.
- INHALATION:** Remove to clean, fresh air away from dusty area. If symptoms persist seek medical attention.

**NOTES TO PHYSICIANS OR FIRST AID PROVIDERS:** Treat symptomatically.

## SECTION 5: FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

- FLAMMABILITY:** This product is non-flammable
- EXTINGUISHING MEDIA:** Use appropriate extinguishing media as required for surrounding materials
- SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PROCEDURES:** None
- UNUSUAL FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARDS:** None
- HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS:** May evolve toxic gases if heated to decomposition (sustained heat above 1000°C)

## SECTION 6: ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

- ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES:** Collect and reuse where possible. Avoid creating dust during clean up. Wetting down before sweeping will help reduce airborne dust

## SECTION 7: HANDLING AND STORAGE

- HANDLING:** When handling Benex Blocks ensure appropriate manual handling techniques and aids are used at all times
- STORAGE:** Store in a cool, dry, well ventilated area.

## SECTION 8: EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

The following applies to dust from this product

- ENGINEERING CONTROLS:** Keep exposure to dust as low as possible using local ventilation.
- VENTILATION:** Work in the open air or external openings (doors, windows, etc) open to provide adequate ventilation. Local mechanical ventilation or extraction may be required in areas where dust could escape into the working environment.
- RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:** Respiratory protection should be worn at all times when Benex Blocks are being cut, abraded, crushed or drilled. A suitable P1 or P2 particulate respirator chosen and used in accordance with AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716 may be sufficient for many situations, but where high levels of dust are encountered, more efficient cartridge-type or powered respirators may be necessary.
- EYE PROTECTION:** Ventilated non-fogging goggles should be worn when working in a dusty environment.
- SKIN PROTECTION:** Direct skin contact should be avoided by wearing long sleeved shirts and long trousers, a cap or hat, and gloves. Wash all clothing regularly and wash hands before eating or smoking.

**SECTION 9: PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

<b>APPEARANCE:</b>	Off White Blocks
<b>ODOUR:</b>	None
<b>PHYSICAL STATE:</b>	Solid
<b>pH AS SUPPLIED:</b>	Not Available
<b>BOILING POINT:</b>	Not Available
<b>MELTING POINT:</b>	> 1000°C
<b>FREEZING POINT:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>VAPOR PRESSURE:</b>	Not Available
<b>VAPOR DENSITY:</b>	Not Available
<b>SPECIFIC GRAVITY:</b>	1
<b>EVAPORATION RATE:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>FLASH POINT:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>EXPLOSIVE PROPERTIES:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>SOLUBILITY IN WATER:</b>	Not Applicable

**SECTION 10: STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

<b>STABILITY:</b>	Stable
<b>CONDITIONS TO AVOID:</b>	Dust generation
<b>INCOMPATIBILITY:</b>	None
<b>HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION OR BY-PRODUCTS:</b>	None
<b>HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION:</b>	None

**SECTION 11: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION****HEALTH EFFECTS:  
ACUTE (short term)**

<b>SWALLOWED:</b>	Unlikely under normal use, but swallowing the dust from this product may result in abdominal discomfort.
<b>EYE:</b>	Dust is irritating to the eyes causing watering and redness. Exposure to the dust may aggravate pre-existing eye conditions.
<b>SKIN:</b>	The dust from this product, particularly in association with heat and sweat, may cause irritation. The dust from this product is not absorbed through the skin but may mildly irritate and dry the skin.
<b>INHALED:</b>	Dust is mildly irritating to the nose, throat, and respiratory tract and may cause coughing and sneezing. Pre-existing upper respiratory and lung diseases including asthma and bronchitis may be aggravated.
<b>CHRONIC (long term)</b>	
<b>EYES:</b>	Dust may cause irritation and inflammation of the eyes and aggravate pre-existing eye conditions.
<b>SKIN:</b>	Repeated heavy contact with the dust may cause drying of the skin and can result in skin rash (dermatitis) typically affecting the hands. Over time this may become chronic and can also become infected.
<b>INHALED:</b>	Repeated exposure to the dust may result in increased nasal and respiratory secretions and coughing.

Inflammation of lining tissue of the respiratory system may follow repeated exposure to high levels of dust with increased risk of bronchitis and pneumonia.

**SECTION 12: ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

<b>ECOTOXICITY:</b>	Benex Blocks are not toxic to aquatic or terrestrial life.
<b>DEGRADABILITY:</b>	This product is persistent and is expected to have a low degradability.
<b>MOBILITY:</b>	In landfill this product is expected to have low mobility.

**SECTION 13: DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

<b>WASTE DISPOSAL:</b>	Benex Blocks are to be disposed of in accordance with the relevant authority guidelines for common waste. All efforts should be made to ensure that dust generation is kept to a minimum while disposing of Benex Block waste.
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**SECTION 14: TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

<b>TRANSPORT:</b>	No special transport requirements are required.
<b>UN NUMBER:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>PROPER SHIPPING NAME:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>CLASS:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>SUBSIDIARY RISK:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>PACKING GROUP:</b>	Not Applicable
<b>SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS:</b>	Observe safe manual handling practices.
<b>HAZCHEM CODE:</b>	Not Applicable

**SECTION 15: REGULATORY INFORMATION**

<b>POISONS SCHEDULE:</b>	None Scheduled
<b>STATE REGULATIONS:</b>	Exposure to high levels of dust may be covered under the State and Territory Hazardous Substances Regulations as they apply to Respirable Crystalline Silica.

**SECTION 16: OTHER INFORMATION**

<b>EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBER:</b>	Poisons Information Centre – 13 11 26
<b>PREPARATION INFORMATION:</b>	Prepared on 1/8/08 by Benex Group Pty Ltd.