



## MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET

### PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

Product Name: **UPA Back Blocking Cement**

Manufacturers Code: BBLOCK-20KGBAG

Compliance with Standard: Comply with ASTM C 475

**Use:** UPA Back Blocking Cement is a specially formulated plaster designed to provide extended working time to facilitate back - blocking. UPA Back Blocking Cement reinforces the joint, minimising the deformation and possible cracking of finished joints which may occur due to stresses resulting from building movement. Using UPA Back Blocking Cement to adhere back blocks on all ceiling joints is strongly recommended. UPA Back Blocking Cement is not recommended to be used for any other purpose.

### STATEMENT OF HAZARDOUS NATURE:

This product has been assessed by United Plasterworks Australia Pty Ltd. according to the criteria of the National Occupational and Safety Commission (NOHSC): 1008(1999) and NOHSC: 10005(1999). As a result of this assessment this product is classified as hazardous according to the NOHSC criteria.

UN Number:	None allocated
Dangerous goods class & Subsidiary risk:	None allocated
Hazchem code:	None allocated
Poisons schedule number:	Not scheduled

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

This Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) is issued by the Supplier in accordance with National Occupational Health and Safety Commission (NOHSC) guidelines. As such, the information in it must not be altered, deleted or added to. The supplier will issue a new MSDS when there is a change in product specifications and/or NOHSC guidelines/regulations. The supplier will not accept any responsibility for any changes made to its MSDS by any other person or organisation.

Date of preparation of MSDS Sheet: 01/05/2007

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### PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION/PROPERTIES

Appearance and Odour:	White powder, low odour. Dry white to off-white powder, or light pink paste, depending on formulation
Boiling Point/Melting Point:	Not applicable
Vapour Pressure:	Not applicable
Specific Gravity:	2.3 – 2.6 (H <sub>2</sub> O=1) (Bulk Density: 0.80-1.2 g/cm <sup>3</sup> )
Flashpoint:	Not applicable
Flammability Limits:	Not applicable
Solubility in Water:	0.2%
Hardening Time:	120-240 min knife set

Reactivity with common substances, for example, air or water: Not Reactive

Odour Threshold:	Plaster odour
pH, at stated concentration:	7.5 – 8.5
Molecular Weight:	Not applicable
Self-Accelerating Decomposition:	>300 deg C

Ingredients:			
Chemical Name:	CAS Number:	Proportion:	Exposure Limits*
Calcium sulphate hemihydrate	10101-41-4	65-95%	-
Calcium Carbonate	1317-65-3	0-30%	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> time weighted average (TWA) measured as inspirable dust
Kaolin clay and bentonite	1332-58-7	0-10%	-
Crystalline silica (quartz) included in clay	14808-60-7	<1%	0.2 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA measured as respirable dust
Mica	12001-26-2	0-10%	2.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> TWA measured as inspirable dust
Starch	9005-25-8	0-3%	-
Calcium oxide	1305-78-8	0-2%	inspirable dust
Polyvinyl alcohol (Adhesive)	9002-89-5	0-2%	-
Cellulose thickener, dispersants	-	0-2%	-
Red dye	-	Trace	-



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### (II) HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Plasterboard finishing compounds are powders, which contain particulars greater than 7 microns, and therefore outside the respirable range unless milled or mechanically crushed. However, inhalation of the dust may aggravate pre-existing respiratory conditions such as bronchitis and asthma. They may be irritating to the skin and eyes.

The product may contain up to 2% crystalline silica, and if respirable particles are generated, occupational exposures may lead to respiratory disease.

#### Health Effects

##### Acute

**If Swallowed:** Low toxicity. May cause gastro intestinal irritation & minor constipation. Unlikely under normal conditions of use, but swallowing the powder or paste may result in abdominal discomfort.

**Eye Contact:** May result in eye irritation causing watering and redness.

**Skin Contact:** The powder and paste, particularly in association with heat and sweat, may cause skin irritation, and occasionally skin redness.

**Inhalation:** Inhalation of the dust, before mixing with water may cause irritation of the nose, throat and respiratory system.

**Chronic:** There are no known long-term health effects; through prolonged and repeated skin contact may result in chronic skin irritation (dry, cracked skin). Repeated inhalation of dusts containing crystalline silica (present in concentrations ranging from 0.1% to 2.0% in some of these products) may cause bronchitis, silicosis (scarring of the lung), and lung cancer; and may increase the risk of scleroderma and renal disease. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) evaluated crystalline silica in 1996 and concluded that "crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (group 1)".

#### First Aid

**Swallowed:** Wash mouth out with water. Drink copious amounts of water if actual ingestion has occurred. Seek medical attention if abdominal symptoms persist.

**Eye Contact:** Flush with plenty of clean water for 15 mins. If irritation persists seek medical attention.

**Skin Contact:** Wash thoroughly with soap and water. Apply skin moisturizer. If symptoms of skin irritation persist or rash appears seek medical attention.

**Inhalation:** Remove to fresh air. Allow to rest. Seek medical attention if discomfort persists. Remove to fresh air. If respiratory symptoms persist seek medical attention.

#### First Aid

**Facilities:** Eye wash station.

#### Advice to

**Doctor:** Treat Symptomatically

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### (III) PRECAUTIONS FOR USE

Exposure Standards: 10mg/m<sup>3</sup> (inhale able dust.) Exposure standard not otherwise classified by Work safe Australia.  
Occupational Exposure Standard (NOHSC: 1003(1995)):  
There is no specific standard for Plasterboard Finishing Compounds, but the following should apply:  
Silica – crystalline (quartz): 0.2mg/cubic metre time weighted average (TWA) as respirable dust;  
Talc: 2.5 mg/cubic metre TWA as inspirable dust  
Mica: 2.5mg/cubic metre TWA as inspirable dust  
Calcium Carbonate: 10mg/cubic metre TWA as inspirable dust  
UPA Recommendation:  
Keep exposures as low as practicable and ensure that airborne reportable quartz concentrations do not exceed 0.1mg/cubic metre.

Engineering Control Ventilation: Local dust extraction is recommended if dust is created when using power operated equipment for handling, mixing, sanding, or drilling in an enclosed or poorly ventilated area. Keep exposures as low as practicable with the aim of ensuring that inspirable dust concentrations do not exceed 2.0mg/m<sup>3</sup>, and respirable quartz concentrations do not exceed 0.1mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

Engineering controls and work practices should aim to minimise exposure to the finishing compounds and dust generation.  
If engineering controls and work practices are not effective in controlling dust, then personal protective equipment may be required.

Work areas should be cleaned regularly by wet sweeping or vacuuming. General room ventilation should be adequate, but local mechanical ventilation may be required if dusts are generated, particularly in confined or poorly ventilated spaces.

### PERSONAL PROTECTION

Skin Protection: Comfortable protective clothing, conforming to Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 4501 Occupational protective clothing should be worn. Direct skin contact should be avoided by wearing standard duty gloves conforming to Australian Standard AS 2161:Industrial safety gloves and mittens.

Respirator Type (protection): None required if engineering and handling controls are adequate. If dust is generated, an approved particulate respirator (disposable or cartridge) conforming to Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 1715: Section, use and maintenance or respiratory protective devices and AS/NZS 1716: Respiratory protective devices should be worn. Where cartridge respirators are used, filters and cartridges should be replaced regularly in accordance with the manufactures guidelines and Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 1715 and 1716.

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Eye Protection:	Dust resistant safety spectacles with side shields or goggles with direct ventilation conforming to Australian and New Zealand Standards AS/NZS 1336: Recommended practices for eye protection in the industrial environment should be worn if exposed to dust, or a risk of eye contact exists.
Glove Type:	Wear impervious PVC, Nitrile or Rubber gloves if dust causes irritation.
Clothing:	General work clothes are satisfactory.
Flammability:	Non combustible Plasterboard Finishing Compounds are non-flammable. If heated to decomposition, oxides of sulphur and carbon dioxide are emitted. Fire fighters to wear self-contained breathing apparatus. Avoid a build-up of dust and keep all storage and work areas well ventilated.

### (IV) SAFE HANDLING INFORMATION

Storage and Transport:	Store in a dry place. Keep dry at all times as product will set when wet. Not Regulated for Transport Purposes. There are no special transport requirements, and this product is not regulated as a dangerous good.
Spills and Disposal:	Vacuum if possible or sweep up dry and place into waste containers. Do not hose into drains as blockages may occur.
Clean up Spills/leaks:	Dust and waste should be cleaned up by bagging, wet sweeping and/or vacuuming. Place in container and dispose of in accordance with local authority guideline. Keep out of storm water, sewers and watercourses.
Ecotoxicity Data:	This product has not been tested. However, the physical and chemical nature of the product and toxicological data on ingredients indicate that this product is of relatively low risk.
Precautions for Clean up Crew:	Avoid creating excessive dust. Wear P1 Respirator.
Disposal Method:	Dispose to landfill in accordance with local government regulations. Contact local waste authority.
Fire and Explosion Hazard:	Non combustible. Non flammable but will decompose in a fire generating acid smoke. Use carbon dioxide, foam, and dry chemical or water spray to extinguish, as for surrounding materials.

### End of Material Safety Data Sheet

#### Disclaimer

The information presented herein is based on data considered to be accurate as of the date of preparation of this Material Safety Data Sheet. However, no warranty or representation, express or implied, is made as to the accuracy or completeness of the foregoing data and safety information, nor is any authorisation given or implied to practice any patented invention without a license. In addition, no responsibility can be assumed by the vendor for any damage or injury resulting from abnormal use, from any failure to adhere to recommended practices, or from any hazards inherent in the nature of the product.

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