









GENERAL WORK AND SAFTY PRACTICES




Applicable to all work involving fibreglass (SVF) products.

These recommended work practices are in addition to all applicable OSH requirements and all work must be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety Employment Act 1992 (HSE Act) and the NZBC.



Minimize Dust Generation:

-  Keep the material in its packaging as long as practical and if possible.
-  Tools that generate the least amount of dust should be used.
 - If power tools are to be used, they should be equipped with appropriate dust collection systems as necessary.
-  Keep work areas clean and free of scrap SVF material.
-  Do not use compressed air for clean up unless there is no other effective method. If compressed air must be used, proper procedures and control measures must be implemented. Other workers in the immediate area must be removed or similarly protected.
-  Where repair or maintenance of equipment that is either insulated with SVF or covered with settled SVF dust is necessary, clean the equipment first with HEPA vacuum or equivalent (where possible) or wipe the surface clean with a wet rag to remove excess dust and loose fibres.
 - If compressed air must be used proper procedures and control measures must be implemented. Other workers in the immediate area must be removed or similarly protected.
-  Avoid unnecessary handling of scrap materials by placing them in waste disposal containers and keep equipment as close to working areas as possible to prevent the release of fibres.




Maintain Adequate Ventilation:

-  Unless other proper procedures and control measures have been implemented, dust collection systems should be used in manufacturing and fabrication settings where appropriate and feasible.
-  Exhausted air containing SVFs should be filtered prior to recirculation into interior workspaces.
-  If ventilation systems are used to capture SVFs, they should be regularly checked and maintained.




Wear Appropriate Clothing:

-  Loose-fitting, long-sleeved and long-legged clothing is recommended to prevent irritation*. A head cover is also recommended, especially when working with material overhead. Gloves are also recommended. Skin irritation cannot occur if there is no contact with the skin.
Do not tape sleeves or pants at wrists or ankles.
-  Remove SVF dust from the work clothes before leaving work to reduce potential for skin irritation.









Wear Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment:

-  To minimize upper respiratory tract irritation, measures should be taken to control the exposure. Such measures will be dictated by the work environment and may include appropriate respiratory protective equipment.
Use Air purifying respirator P1.
See OSH's Respiratory Protection Standard.
-  When appropriate, eye protection should be worn whenever SVF Products are being handled.
-  Personal protective equipment should be properly fitted and worn when required.

Removal of Fibres from the Skin and Eyes:

-  If fibres accumulate on the skin, do not rub or scratch.
Never remove fibres from the skin by blowing with compressed air.
-  If fibres are seen penetrating the skin, they may be removed by applying and then removing adhesive tape so that the fibres adhere to the tape and are pulled out of the skin.
-  SVF may be deposited in the eye. If this should happen, do not rub the eyes.
Flush them with water or eyewash solution (if available).
Consult a physician if the irritation persists.

Electric cables and Electricity:

-  Electric cables and equipment surrounded with bulk thermal Insulation may overheat and fail.
-  Be careful as not to place insulation over electrical cables.
-  When retrofitting insulation and where possible, lift the cables over the insulation. Care should be taken with older cables to avoid damaging the electrical insulation covering.
-  The main risk of electrical shock is serious injury or death!
-  Check for exposed wires.
-  Do not staple or strike electric cables.
-  Ensure all power tools are connected to a Residual Current Device.
-  If any electrical faults are found, call a registered electrical prior to commencing the work.

Note to User

This GENERAL WORK AND SAFTY PRACTICES Sheet does not constitute the users own workplace risk assessment, which is required under Health and Safety Employment Act 1992 (HSE Act).

GreenBull Ltd. reserves the right to alter or amend product specification without notice. The information given in this publication is correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of publication. Whilst GreenBull Ltd. will endeavour to ensure publications are up to date, it is the user's responsibility to check with the supplier that it is correct prior to use.

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