

# SAFETY DATA SHEET

## 1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

### MATERIAL IDENTIFICATION

**NaturaStone Low Crystalline Silica Quartz Surfacing Material (LCS)**  
containing less than 38% crystalline silica.

### MATERIAL USE

Low Crystalline Silica Quartz Surfacing for Interior Horizontal and Vertical Worksurfaces.

### COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

NaturaStone Australia Pty Ltd  
ACN: 611 172 966  
14 Lanyon Street  
Dandenong  
Victoria 3175 Australia  
Ph: 61-3-9794 0515

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Not classified as hazardous according to Safe Work Australia criteria as shipped.

NaturaStone Low Crystalline Silica Quartz Surfacing Material containing less than 40% crystalline silica:  
(values at: up to 36% crystalline silica - up to 54% amorphous non-crystalline silica - 10% PMMA binders )

### **Safework Australia**

**"The non-crystalline or amorphous forms of silica do not cause this kind of lung damage"**

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[https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/562CF83B7AECFC8FCA2584420002B113/\\$File/NDDT-Final-Report-June-2021.pdf](https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/562CF83B7AECFC8FCA2584420002B113/$File/NDDT-Final-Report-June-2021.pdf)

**"There are crystalline and non-crystalline forms of silicon-dioxide. While inhalation of the amorphous form does not often cause clinically significant complications, inhalation of the crystalline form can cause lung disease."**

**Not classified as Engineered Stone in accordance as defined by:**

**Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Crystalline Silica) Regulations 2021 S.R. No. 137/2021**

**"engineered stone means a manufactured composite stone material that contains—**

**(a) resins; and**

**(b) 40% or more crystalline silica;"**

### **Worksafe Victoria**

[https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/changes-protect-victorians-working-crystalline-silica?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=Email&utm\\_campaign=WorkWell%20Wednesday&utm\\_term=Work%20design&utm\\_content=work%20design](https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/changes-protect-victorians-working-crystalline-silica?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=Email&utm_campaign=WorkWell%20Wednesday&utm_term=Work%20design&utm_content=work%20design)

**International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) made the following evaluation:**

**Crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from work-related sources is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).**

The solid product as supplied is classified as non-hazardous under normal conditions and does not present an inhalation, ingestion skin, or eye hazard. However, dust generated during machining operations such as dry cutting, dry drilling, dry grinding etc., can generate crystalline silica in a respirable form. Over exposure to airborne crystalline silica can cause silicosis, a chronic and progressively debilitating disease. Individuals with chronic respiratory disorders may be more susceptible to the effects of this material. May be harmful if dust inhaled. The product contains less than 40% crystalline silica and is not classified as an engineered stone in accordance to the meaning as defined by **Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Crystalline Silica) Regulations 2021, S.R. No.137/2021, Worksafe Victoria:**  
**"The non-crystalline or amorphous forms of silica do not cause this kind of lung damage"**

**CDC - Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) state:**

<https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaqs/tfacts211.pdf>

**"There are no known health effects from exposure to amorphous silica at the levels found in the environment or in commercial products"**

**"A few reports suggest that amorphous silica can cause respiratory diseases (but no silicosis) in workers."**

**"Studies of amorphous silica in workers and lab animals have not found cancer."**

**National Toxicology Program (NTP) state:**

[https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/newhomeroc/other\\_background/silica\\_no\\_app\\_508.pdf](https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/newhomeroc/other_background/silica_no_app_508.pdf)

**"cancer risks are associated with exposure to quartz and cristobalite but not to amorphous silica."**

<https://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/ntp/roc/content/profiles/silica.pdf>

**"Human cancer risks are associated with exposure to respirable quartz and cristobalite but not to amorphous silica."**

The duty holder will still have the requirement to control the risk (the exposure of silica dust ) under regulation 163 under the hazardous substance regulation and any other applicable National and or State regulations

It is highly recommended that the product be machined under suitable exposure controls that minimise the risk of exposure to generated dust for example using tools with dust collection attachments connected to H Class vacuums or alternatively equipment fitted with water suppression (wet cutting) and local exhaust ventilation.

During machining operations use a mask with minimum of P2 filter suitable for dust or mist. Respirators should be selected based on type and concentration of contaminant in the air. Advice from safety equipment suppliers should be sought before selection of filters. Reference to AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716 should be made. Please see 8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protection.

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### 3. COMPOSITION / INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

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INGREDIENT NAME	CAS NUMBER	WEIGHT
Quartz containing crystalline silica	14808-60-7	Up to 36%
Amorphous non crystalline silica particulate, aggregates, inorganic pigments and other ingredients not considered to be hazardous		Up to 54%
Poly(methyl methacrylate)	9011-14-7	Up to 10%

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### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

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#### INHALATION

If breathing difficulties arise after inhalation of dusts during machining, remove to fresh air. Give oxygen and seek medical attention.

#### EYE

Flush open eye with copious amounts of fresh clean water, if symptoms persist seek medical attention.

#### HAND

Always use leather or cotton gloves and proper foot protection when moving sheets.

#### EAR

Ear plugs or ear muff protection is required during machining operations.

#### SKIN

After machining operations wash skin with soap and water and apply a moisturiser.

#### INGESTION

Not likely to be hazardous by ingestion, however if large amounts are ingested seek medical attention.

#### ADVICE TO PHYSICIAN

Treat symptomatically

#### PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

Cotton overalls buttoned at the neck and wrist should be worn during machining operations.

#### HYGIENE

Wash hands with soap and water after machining operations. The use of moisturisers is also recommended.

#### EXPOSURE GUIDELINES

##### INGREDIENT NAME

Silica, Crystalline (Quartz)

##### SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA

Respirable dust (0.05mg/m3/%SiO2+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

##### Worksafe Victoria

Respirable dust (0.02mg/m3/%SiO2+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

##### OSHA

Respirable dust (25ug/m3/%SiO2+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

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### 5. FIRE FIGHTING MEASURES

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#### FLAMMABLE PROPERTIES

Not flammable.

#### FLASH POINT

NA

#### AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE

Above 550 deg C.

#### FLAME PROPAGATION RATE

Flame will not be supported.

Vapours produced in a fire are carbon dioxide, methyl methacrylate, water

No explosion hazard exists

**EXTINGUISHING MEDIA**

Dry chemical, CO2, Foam.

**SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING PRECAUTIONS / INSTRUCTIONS**

Use self contained breathing apparatus.

**HAZCHEM CODE**

None allocated

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**6. ACCIDENTIAL RELEASE MEASURES**

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**PERSONAL PRECAUTIONS, PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**

Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as detailed in section 8 of the SDS.

**ENVIRONMENTAL PRECAUTIONS**

Prevent product from entering drains and waterways.

In the event large quantities enter the waterways contact the local authorities.

**METHODS OF CLEANING UP**

Gather up minimally damaged material for reuse.

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**7. HANDLING AND STORAGE**

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**CONDITIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING AND STORAGE**

Uncrated slabs should always be carried on a vertical plane.

Store indoors on a flat surface.

Store away from incompatible materials.

**PRECAUTIONS FOR SAFE HANDLING**

Before use carefully read the product label. Use of safe work practices are recommended

Observe good personal hygiene, including washing hands before eating.

Prohibit eating, drinking and smoking in working areas

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**8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION**

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**ENGINEERING CONTROLS**

The solid product as supplied is classified as non-hazardous under normal conditions and does not present an inhalation, ingestion, skin, or eye hazard. However, dust generated during machining operations such as dry cutting, dry drilling, , dry grinding etc. can generate crystalline silica in a respirable form. Over exposure to airborne crystalline silica can cause silicosis, a chronic and progressively debilitating disease. Individuals with chronic respiratory disorders may be more susceptible to the effects of this material. May be harmful if dust inhaled. The product contains less than 40% crystalline silica and is not classified as an engineered stone in accordance to the meaning as defined by **Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Crystalline Silica) Regulations 2021, S.R. No.137/2021, Worksafe Victoria and Safework Australia state:**

***"The non-crystalline or amorphous forms of silica do not cause this kind of lung damage"***

It is highly recommended that the product be machined under suitable exposure controls that minimise the risk of exposure to generated dust for example using tools with dust collection attachments connected to H Class vacuums or alternatively equipment fitted with water suppression (wet cutting) and local exhaust ventilation.

The duty holder will still have the requirement to control the risk (the exposure of silica dust ) under regulation 163 under the hazardous substance regulation and any other applicable National and or State regulations

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT****EYE**

Safety glasses with side shields according local standards should be worn during machining operations small chips can fly off blunt cutting edges.

**RESPIRATORY**

During machining operations use a mask with minimum of P2 filter suitable for dust or mist. Respirators should be selected based on type and concentration of contaminant in the air. Advice from safety equipment suppliers should be sought before selection of filters. Reference to AS/NZS 1715 and AS/NZS 1716 should be made. Please see 8. Exposure Controls / Personal Protection.

**HAND**

Always use leather or cotton gloves and proper foot protection when moving sheets.

**PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**

Cotton overalls buttoned at the neck and wrist should be worn during machining operations.

**HYGIENE**

Wash hands with soap and water after machining operations. The use of moisturisers is also recommended.

**EXPOSURE CONTROLS****INGREDIENT NAME**

Silica, Crystalline (Quartz)

**SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA**

Respirable dust (0.05mg/m<sup>3</sup>/%SiO<sub>2</sub>+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

**Worksafe Victoria**

Respirable dust (0.02mg/m<sup>3</sup>/%SiO<sub>2</sub>+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

**OSHA**

Respirable dust (25ug/m<sup>3</sup>/%SiO<sub>2</sub>+2 for 8Hr time weighted average)

**INGREDIENT NAME**

Amorphous Non-Crystalline Silica

**SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA**

Not applicable

**Worksafe**

Not applicable

**OSHA**

Not applicable

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**9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

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**APPERANCE**

Solid homogenous one piece material

**ODOUR**

Odourless

**SPECIFIC GRAVITY**

2.4

pH

NA

**SOLUBLITY IN WATER**

Insoluble

**STABILITY**

Stable

**INCOMPATIBILITIES**

None foreseen

**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS**

Thermal decomposition may lead to the release of various hydrocarbons, carbon oxides and water.

**HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION**

Will not occur.

**AUTOIGNITION TEMPERATURE**

Above 550 deg C.

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**10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY**

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**STABILITY**

Stable under recommended conditions of storage.

**INCOMPATIBILITIES**

None foreseen.

**HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION PRODUCTS**

Thermal decomposition may lead to the release of various hydrocarbons, carbon oxides and water.

**HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION**

Will not occur.

**CONDITIONS TO AVOID**

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

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**11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

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**ACUTE TOXICITY**

This product is expected to be of low toxicity. Ingestion is considered unlikely due to product form.

**SKIN**

Mechanical irritant. Prolonged or repeated contact may result in mild irritation due to mechanical action.

**EYE**

Due to product form and nature of use, the potential for exposure is reduced. Product may only present a hazard during machining operations such as cutting, drilling or sanding with dust generation, which may result in mechanical irritation.

**MUTAGENICITY**

Not classified as a mutagen.

**REPRODUCTIVE**

Not classified as a reproductive toxin.

**ASPRIATION**

Not applicable for solid product form as supplied.

**CARCINOGENICITY**

Respirable crystalline silica quartz is classified as carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1).

The solid product as supplied is classified as non-hazardous under normal conditions and does not present an inhalation, ingestion, skin, or eye hazard. However, dust generated during machining operations such as dry cutting, dry drilling, dry grinding etc., can generate crystalline silica in a respirable form. Over exposure to airborne crystalline silica can cause silicosis, a chronic and progressively debilitating disease. Individuals with chronic respiratory disorders may be more susceptible to the effects of this material. May be harmful if dust inhaled. The product contains less than 40% crystalline silica and is not classified as an engineered stone in accordance to the meaning as defined by **Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004, Occupational Health and Safety Amendment (Crystalline Silica) Regulations 2021, S.R. No.137/2021, Worksafe Victoria and Safework Australia state**

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**12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

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**AQUATIC**

No ecological information is available, however toxicity is expected to be low due to insolubility in water.

**BIOACCUMULATIVE POTENTIAL**

The substance is inert and will not be absorbed and accumulate in tissues.

**MOBILITY IN SOIL**

No information available.

**OTHER ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Not anticipated to cause any adverse effects to plants or animals.

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**13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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**WASTE DISPOSAL**

Recycle.

Landfill in accordance with local, state and federal government regulations.

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## 14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

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Not regulated. Not classified as dangerous goods.

### U.N. NUMBER

Not allocated.

### HAZCHEM CODE

Not allocated.

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## 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

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### POISONS SCHEDULE

Not allocated

### CLASSIFICATION

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NaturaStone Low Crystalline Silica Quartz Surfacing Material containing less than 40% crystalline silica:  
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### INVENTORY LISTINGS

AICS (Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances):      Components are listed on AICS, or are exempt

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**16. OTHER INFORMATION**

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**MEDICAL USE**

Do not use in medical uses involving implanting into human body.

**PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:**

Protective equipment contained within this report is provided as a guide.

Product form, product classification, method of application, working environment, quantity used, engineering controls should be considered before selection of PPE.

**HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE:**

Product form, product classification, method of application, working environment, quantity used, engineering controls should be considered before selection of PPE.

Users must assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

The data in this SDS refers to the specific material and not to other materials used in combination with this material.