



a.b.e.[®] Construction Chemicals **HEALTH & SAFETY**

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Since many a.b.e.[®] products are -

- Solvent borne
- Based on resins which can be dermatitic
- Require heating before use it is in all users' interests to observe certain simple, basic safety precautions.

Ventilate Work Area

Always provide adequate ventilation and air flow around any working area, particularly in confined spaces.

Air flow:

- ensures removal of solvent vapours
- speeds drying of solvent and water carried compounds
- removes toxic vapours

Maintain such ventilation until the material has set.

Skin Protection

Operators should use barrier creams and wear gloves when handling resin based compounds. These are known to be possible causes of dermatitis. Avoid prolonged or repeated skin contact with such materials. If resin/skin contact occurs, wiping with a cloth moistened with the minimum amount of **abe[®] super brush cleaner** followed by thorough soap and warm water washing. Repeated use of this method removes natural skin oils which will induce cracking and increase risk of dermatitis. Combat cracking by a daily use of a lanolin based cream.

When working with resins, personal cleanliness must always be maintained and hands must be washed with soap and water before eating, smoking or visiting the toilet.

Eyes

Goggles should be worn. If materials are splashed into the eyes, flush with copious quantities of clean water and consult a doctor without delay.

A particularly dangerous practice is acid etching concrete surfaces without eye protection.

Burns

When handling hot compounds such as molten bitumen, burns due to splashing or spillage are always a possibility. This risk can be reduced by operators wearing long sleeved overalls, gloves and goggles.

Note:

Always refer to specific Material Safety Datasheet.

BITUMEN BURNS

Treatment of Burns:

NO ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE TO REMOVE THE BITUMEN

First Aid

- If hot bitumen contacts the skin, no attempt should be made to remove it.
- The bitumen – covered burned area should be drenched immediately in cold, preferably running, water. (If iced water is available it should be used)
- In the case of burns to the head and neck, shoulder, chest, abdominal wall or back, cold wet towels should be applied to the burned area. These should be changed frequently to maintain the cooling effect.
- The cooling treatment should be persisted with for 30 minutes, but no longer.

Further Treatment – First Aid and Medical Care

- **NO ATTEMPT SHOULD BE MADE TO REMOVE THE BITUMEN**
(it acts as a sterile dressing to the underlying burned area of the skin)
- The bitumen should be covered with tulle gras dressing and left for 2 days, when any detached bitumen can be removed.
- The remaining burned area to which bitumen is adherent should be re-covered with sterile tulle gras dressings and left for a further week.
- The appearance of the burns when the dressings are first taken down, together with the body surface area involved and the general condition of the patient, will dictate when transfer to a specialised Burns Unit is indicated.

Circumferential Burns

- When hot bitumen completely encircles the limb it may have a tourniquet effect and should be split longitudinally as the bitumen cools. The patient should be referred urgently for medical attention.

EYE BURNS

- If hot bitumen enters the eye, it should be flushed with water for 20 minutes and padded. The patient should be hospitalised. No attempt to remove the bitumen should be made by unqualified personnel.

IMPORTANT NOTE

This datasheet is issued as a guide to the use of the product(s) concerned. Whilst **a.b.e.® Construction Chemicals** Limited endeavours to ensure that any advice, recommendation,

specification or information is accurate and correct, the company cannot – because **a.b.e.®** has no direct or continuous control over where and how **a.b.e.®** products are applied – accept any liability either directly or indirectly arising from the use of **a.b.e.®** products, whether or not in accordance with any advice, specification, recommendation, or information given by the company.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Where other products are to be used in conjunction with this material, the relevant technical datasheets should be consulted to determine total requirements. **a.b.e.® Construction Chemicals** Limited has a wealth of technical and practical experience built up over years in the company's pursuit of excellence in building and construction technology.

