MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEET
SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Panels

United States Gypsum Company
125 South Franklin Street
Chicago, Illinois 60606-4678

Product Safety: 1 (800) 507-8899
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Version 3

SECTION I
PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

PRODUCT(S): USG SHEETROCK® Brand Gypsum Panels
CHEMICAL FAMILY: Gypsum (Calcium Sulfate Dihydrate, $CaSO_4 \cdot 2H_2O$)

SECTION II
INGREDIENTS

MATERIAL	WT%	TLV (mg/m^3)	PEL(mg/m^3)	CAS NUMBER
Gypsum	>85	10	15(T)/5(R)	13397-24-5
Or Calcium Sulfate Dihydrate		10	15(T)/5(R)	10101-41-4
Recycled Paper (Cellulose)	<15	10	15(T)/5(R)	9004-34-6
Starch	<3	10	15(T)/5(R)	9005-25-8
Crystalline Silica	<5	0.1(R)	0.1(R)	14808-60-7
May Contain the Following:				
Fibrous Glass (Textile Grade)	<1	(NE)	(NE)	65977-17-3
Boric Acid	<1	(NE)	(NE)	10043-35-3
Potassium Sulfate	<5	(NE)	(NE)	7778-80-5

(T) – Total (R) – Respirable (NE) – Not Established
All ingredients of this product are included in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Toxic Substances Control Act Chemical Substance Inventory. All components of this product are included in the Canadian Domestic Substances List (DSL) or the Canadian Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL).

INFORMATION FOR HANDLING AND IDENTIFICATION OF CHEMICAL HAZARDS

NFPA Ratings:	Health: 0	Fire: 0	Reactivity: 0	Other: N/A
HMIS Ratings:	Health: 0	Fire: 0	Reactivity: 0	

Personal Protection: Use eye and skin protection. Use NIOSH/MSHA-approved respiratory protection when necessary.

0 = Minimal Hazard 1 = Slight Hazard 2 = Moderate Hazard 3 = Serious Hazard 4 = Severe Hazard

SECTION III
PHYSICAL DATA

Appearance and Odor: Paper covered panel with off white core; low odor.
Bulk Density: 28 – 96 lbs/ft^3; varies with panel thickness.
Solubility in Water: ~ 0.2%

SECTION IV
FIRE AND EXPLOSION HAZARD DATA

Flash Point (Method Used): None

Extinguishing Media: Not Combustible
Special Fire Fighting Procedures: None
Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: None

SECTION V
HEALTH HAZARD DATA

EFFECTS OF OVEREXPOSURE:
ACUTE:
EYES: Particles may cause irritation.
SKIN: This material is not toxic. No toxic effects from powdered gypsum are noticed where air contains contaminate to excess. May dry skin. This material exhibits some affinity for moisture, and frequent exposures may have a drying effect on the skin. Possible itching and irritation may be experienced. This may lead to dermatitis. No penetration of intact skin. Absorption of boric acid into blood stream through damaged skin may result in erythema or macular rash.
INHALATION: Inhalation of dusts from this product may irritate the nose, throat, lungs, and upper respiratory tract. Boric acid may be absorbed through mucous membranes. Persons subjected to large amounts of this dust will be forced to leave area because of nuisance conditions such as coughing, sneezing and nasal irritation from dust. If respiratory symptoms persist, consult physician.
INGESTION: Calcium sulfate is nontoxic, however, ingestion of a sufficient quantity could lead to mechanical obstruction of the gut, especially the pyloric region. Large doses of boric acid absorbed into blood stream from ingestion may result in erythema, macular rash, nausea, diarrhea, dizziness and CNS effects after 36-72 hours. Ingestion of 5 grams or more of boric acid may irritate gastrointestinal tract and affect central nervous system.

CHRONIC:
INHALATION: Prolonged and repeated exposure to respirable crystalline silica can result in lung disease (i.e., silicosis) and/or lung cancer.

EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES:
EYES: Flush thoroughly with water for 15 minutes to remove particles. If irritation persists, consult physician.
SKIN: Wash with mild soap and water. A commercially available hand lotion may be used to treat dry skin areas. If skin has become cracked, take appropriate action to prevent infection and promote healing.
INHALATION: Leave the area of dust exposure and remain away until coughing and other symptoms subside.
INGESTION: The product contains gypsum and if ingestion of a large quantity occurs it could lead to mechanical obstruction of the gut, especially the pyloric region. If ingested, call physician.

TARGET ORGANS: Eyes, skin, lungs and respiratory system.
MEDICAL CONDITIONS WHICH MAY BE AGGRAVATED: Pre-existing upper respiratory and lung disease such as, but not limited to, bronchitis, emphysema and asthma.
PRIMARY ROUTES OF ENTRY: Inhalation, eyes and skin contact.

CARCINOGENICITY OF INGREDIENTS:

MATERIAL	IARC	NTP
Crystalline Silica	Group 1	Anticipated

The average concentration of respirable crystalline silica measured in USG gypsum bulk samples was less than 0.1 wt.%. Respirable crystalline silica was not detected in air samples taken while cutting USG gypsum panels with a power saw for eight hours.
In June, 1997, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) classified crystalline silica (quartz and cristobalite) as a human carcinogen. In making the overall evaluation, the IARC Working Group noted that carcinogenicity in humans was not detected in all industrial circumstances studied. Carcinogenicity may be dependent on inherent characteristics of the crystalline silica or on external factors affecting its biological activity or distribution of its polymorphs.
IARC states that crystalline silica inhaled in the form of quartz or cristobalite from occupational sources is carcinogenic to humans (Group 1).

SECTION VI
REACTIVITY DATA

STABILITY: Stable
INCOMPATIBILITY: None known.
HAZARDOUS POLYMERIZATION: Will not occur.
HAZARDOUS DECOMPOSITION: Above 1450°C could produce SO_2 & CaO.

SECTION VII
SPILL OR LEAK PROCEDURES

STEPS TO BE TAKEN IN CASE MATERIAL IS RELEASED OR SPILLED:
No special precautions. Wear appropriate protective equipment. Collect material from spillage place in a waste container for disposal, or it not damaged or contaminated by foreign material, gypsum panels may be reclaimed.

WASTE DISPOSAL METHOD:
Dispose of material in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

SECTION VIII
SPECIAL PROTECTION INFORMATION

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION:
Not typically necessary under normal conditions of use. Avoid inhalation of dust. Nuisance dust created from product may cause eye, skin, nose, throat or upper respiratory irritation. Provide general ventilation and, if necessary, local exhaust ventilation to meet TLV requirements. Wear a NIOSH/MSHA-approved respirator if TLV is exceeded and/or when dusty conditions exist to guard against nuisance particles.

VENTILATION:
General ventilation should be adequate but if necessary use local exhaust ventilation to keep exposures below the TLV.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:
Gloves or protective clothing are usually not necessary but may be desirable in specific work situations. Wear safety glasses or goggles for eye protection to avoid particulate irritation of the eye.

SECTION IX
SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN IN HANDLING AND STORAGE:
SAFETY FIRST! Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installing of all products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Store in a dry place. Store all SHEETROCK® brand Gypsum Panels flat. Panels are heavy and can fall over, causing serious injury or death. DO NOT move unless authorized.

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