



## 1. IDENTIFICATION OF THE SUBSTANCE/MIXTURE AND OF THE COMPANY/UNDERTAKING

### 1.1 Product identifier

**Trade Name:** PORCELAIN STONEWARE SLABS FOR INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR USE  
**CAS No.:** Not applicable  
**EC No.:** Not applicable  
**Registration No.:** Not applicable  
**Registration No. without reference to individual declarant:** Not applicable  
**Index 67/548/EEC:** Not applicable

### 1.2 Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and uses advised against

**Identified uses:** Creation of flooring, wall tiling, decorations, interior and exterior cladding

**Uses advised against:** This product must not be used in applications different from those recommended in this document, without prior advice from the supplier.

### 1.3 Data relating to the supplier of the substance or mixture

**Manufacturer/Supplier:** Florim Ceramiche Spa SB  
Via Canaletto 24  
41042 Fiorano Modenese (MO) Italy.

**Telephone:** +39 0536/840111

**1.4 Emergency telephone number:** +39 0536/840111

**1.5 Other information:** The product is exempt from the obligation for registration according to the REACH regulation in compliance with Article 2(7)(b).

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

### 2.1 Classification of the substance

Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 (CLP)	
Hazard classes/Hazard categories	Hazard statement
None	None

EC Directives Nos. 67/548, 99/45 and subsequent amendments	
Hazard characteristics	R-phrases
None	None

### 2.2 Label elements

#### Labelling according to Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 CLP

**Pictogram(s):** None  
**Hazard instructions:** None  
**CLP hazard statements:** None

#### Labelling in compliance with Directive 1999/45/EC

**EC pictograms:** None  
**EC classification:** None  
**EC risk phrases:** None

EC precautionary statements:      None

### 2.3 Other hazards

**Health risks:** Porcelain stoneware slabs do not emit hazardous substances after installation: during the firing process stable chemical compounds are formed, and therefore porcelain stoneware slabs are not considered hazardous for the health.

During activities such as cutting, polishing, perforation, etc., of porcelain stoneware slabs, dust containing crystalline silica may be formed.

Inhaling this type of dust is hazardous for the health and must be avoided.

Prevent dispersion/inhaling of dust by means of suction systems or personal protection devices.



Repeated exposure, prolonged over time and/or massive inhaling of the breathable fraction may have an effect on the lungs causing fibrosis (silicosis).

Prolonged exposure over time to the finer fraction suspended in air may cause irritation of the cornea.

The glass fibre fabric applied is not “breathable” (i.e. cannot be inhaled and penetrate into the lungs)

The following risks have been identified:

- temporary irritation (itching) of a purely mechanical nature, affecting the skin, eyes and upper respiratory tract.
- Allergies in very rare cases.
- In processes with high probability of dust generation, formation of non-breathable fibrous particles and non-fibrous dust (broken pieces of different sizes) that is inhalable (can be breathed into the upper respiratory tract).

**Safety hazards:** The product does not present hazards for safety if used in compliance with the normal precautions for use.

**Environmental hazards:** Not classified as hazardous for the environment.

### 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

**Product identification:** Porcelain stoneware slabs comprise a mixture composed mainly of natural clays and other natural mineral substances.



Safety data sheet  
**FLORIMSTONE**  
**PORCELAIN STONEWARE SLABS**  
(Reg. (EC) 1907/2006, Article 32)

Print date: 26/11/2020  
REV 02  
Revision date: 26/11/2020  
Page 3 of 8

The mixture is created with natural raw materials, with humidity and appropriate granulometric distribution for the subsequent pressing stage.

After mixing with water and pressing of the tile, it is fired at high temperatures.

During the firing process a particularly stable crystalline structure is formed, which incorporates the individual chemical elements.

The main components of the ceramic mixture are silicon oxides and aluminium oxides; in addition, it contains small percentages of the following substances: sodium oxides, manganese oxides, iron oxides, magnesium oxides, potassium oxides and barium oxides.

**Chemical composition:** SiO<sub>2</sub> 67-70% (crystalline silica 15-25%), Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 18-20%; Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> < 1%, TiO<sub>2</sub> < 1%, CaO < 2%, MgO < 1%, Na<sub>2</sub>O < 5%, K<sub>2</sub>O < 5%, ZrO<sub>2</sub> < 2%

The glass fibre is produced with Class E glass.

E-Glass (CAS 65997-17-3) is glass with a low alkaline content. Its composition (expressed in oxides) is below the following percentages:

SiO<sub>2</sub> 56-62%; Alkaline Oxides (Na<sub>2</sub>O, K<sub>2</sub>O) <2%; Alkaline earth oxides (CaO, MgO) 16-30%; B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 0-10%; Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 11-16%; TiO<sub>2</sub> 0-3%; Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 0-1%; HF 0-2%

The sizing is a mixture of chemical components applied to glass filaments. It is usually in an amount less than 1%, mainly comprising non-reactive polymers with high molecular weight, often natural ingredients (starches) without reagents.

Hazardous components: None

**Mineralogical composition:** mixture of raw materials and natural minerals (clays, feldspars, quartz).

#### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

**NB: this section applies exclusively to activities of cutting, polishing, etc.**

##### 4.1 Description of first aid measures

**Skin contact:** Rinse, and subsequently wash the skin with water and soap.

**Eye contact:** Wash the eyes for several minutes using copious amounts of water, keeping eyelids open.

**Ingestion:** In the unlikely event that ingestion takes place, have the subject drink water.

**Inhalation:** Remove the subject from the area of exposure and have the subject breathe fresh air.

##### 4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

Irritation of the respiratory tract.

Eye irritation.

In the case of persistent irritation consult a doctor.

##### 4.3 Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed.

In the case of accident or illness consult a doctor immediately and if possible show this safety data sheet.

#### 5. FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

##### 5.1 Extinguishing media:

**Suitable extinguishing media:** Water, CO<sub>2</sub>, chemical dust, foam, sand or inert gases.

**Unsuitable extinguishing media that must not be used for safety reasons:** None.

##### 5.2 Special hazards arising from the substance or mixture

The ceramic part is NON COMBUSTIBLE and does not create gases or other hazardous elements in the case of fire. The adhesive used for the fibreglass backing may cause hazardous fumes in the case of fire.

The fibreglass applied is non-flammable.

##### 5.3 Advice for firefighters

None in particular.

## 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

**NB: this section applies exclusively to activities of cutting, polishing, etc.**

### 6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

In the case of prolonged exposure or a high level of suspended dust, wear personal protection devices for the respiratory tract.

### 6.2 Environmental precautions

If appropriate dampen the material to limit dust dispersion.

### 6.3 Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

Collect the mixture with suction or other mechanical means.

Place the mixture in covered containers.

### 6.4 Reference to other sections

See also Sections 8 and 13.

## 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

### 7.1 Precautions for safe handling.

No special precautions are required for handling and laying the tiles, except for the normal PPDs in use for the work activities (gloves, safety shoes).

For cutting, polishing etc. activities safety glasses and respiratory tract protection devices are also necessary. Wet-cutting systems are preferable to dry-cutting.

### 7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

No particular precautions are required.

### 7.3 Specific end uses:

No specific technical measures or particular precautions are required.

## 8. EXPOSURE CONTROL/PERSONAL PROTECTION

### 8.1 Control parameters

**NB: this section applies exclusively to activities of cutting, polishing, etc.**

#### Occupational exposure limits

Free crystalline silica SiO<sub>2</sub> = 0.05 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> (European Network on Silica limit NEPSIO<sub>2</sub>); 0.100 mg / Nm<sup>3</sup> (Directive (EU) 2017/2398 of the European Parliament and of the Council, of 12 December 2017, implemented in Italy by Legislative Decree 44/2020 of 01/06/2020)

Dust – breathable fraction = 3 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup> (European Network on Silica limit NEPSIO<sub>2</sub>)

Inhalable dust = 10 mg/Nm<sup>3</sup>

**Biological exposure index (BEI):** No attribution of biological limits.

### 8.2 Exposure controls

#### 8.2.1 General information.

Wash hands after work and before breaks.

Do not eat or drink during handling of the mixture.

#### 8.2.2 Occupational exposure controls

**Eye protection:** Use of protective glasses recommended.

**Hand protection:** Use of protective work gloves recommended.

**Skin protection:** Use of protective workwear recommended; operate according to best work practices

**Respiratory protection:** In the absence of adequate ventilation, use suitable personal respiratory protection devices with filter for inert particles.

### 8.2.3 Environmental exposure controls

Provide appropriate suction and filtering at the points where the mixture may be dispersed into the environment since it can release inhalable, breathable dust.

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

### 9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties.

Appearance: solid

Odour: odourless

pH: not applicable

Melting point/range: > 1300°C

Boiling point/range: not applicable

Flash point: not applicable

Flammability: non-flammable

Oxidising properties: non-oxidising

Explosive properties: non-explosive

Density: 2.4-2.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

Water solubility: insoluble.

### 9.2 Other information

**Not applicable.**

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

### 10.1 Reactivity

The mixture is NON REACTIVE in normal conditions of use.

### 10.2 Chemical stability

The mixture is STABLE in normal conditions of use.

### 10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

The mixture DOES NOT CAUSE HAZARDOUS REACTIONS in normal conditions of use.

### 10.4 Conditions to avoid

The mixture is STABLE in normal conditions of use.

### 10.5 Incompatible materials

No particular incompatibility.

### 10.6 Decomposition products

The formation of hazardous decomposition products is not expected in normal conditions of storage and use.

## 11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

**NB: this section applies exclusively to activities of cutting, polishing, etc.**

### Information on toxicological effects

Repeated exposure, prolonged over time and/or a massive inhalation of the breathable fraction of dust containing quartz may cause pulmonary fibrosis (silicosis) due to the action of free crystalline silica particles on lung tissue.

NOT TOXIC article, considered as physiologically non-hazardous.



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Print date: 26/11/2020  
REV 02  
Revision date: 26/11/2020  
Page 6 of 8

**Bases for assessment:** The information supplied is based on product data, on knowledge of the components and on the toxicology of similar products.

**Probable ways of exposure:** Inhalation is the primary way of exposure.

**Acute toxicity, by oral route:** Not applicable.

**Acute toxicity, by dermal route:** Not applicable.

**Acute toxicity, by inhalation:** Not applicable.

**Skin corrosion/irritation:** Not irritant for the skin.

**Serious eye damage/irritation:** May cause mechanical irritation for the eyes.

**Respiratory tract irritation:** Inhalation of dust may cause irritation to the respiratory tract.

**Sensitisation to the respiratory tract or skin:** Data unavailable

**Germ cell mutagenicity:** Data unavailable.

**Carcinogenicity:** Data unavailable.

**Reproductive and developmental toxicity:** Data unavailable.

**Specific target organ toxicity – single exposure:** Data unavailable.

**Specific target organ toxicity – repeated exposure:** Data unavailable.

**Other information:** In 1997, the IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) concluded that crystalline silica inhaled from occupational sources may cause lung cancer in human beings. However it stressed that not all industrial situations and not all types of crystalline silica were incriminated. (IARC Monographs on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risks of chemical to humans, Silica, silicates dust and organic fibres, 1997, Vol. 68, IARC, Lyon, France and IARC MONOGRAPH 100 OF 2009).

In June 2003, SCOEL (the European "Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits") concluded that the main effect on humans through inhalation of breathable crystalline silica dust is silicosis. "There is sufficient information to conclude that the related risk of lung cancer is higher in people with silicosis (and, apparently, not in workers not affected by silicosis who are exposed to silica in quarries and in ceramics industries). So preventing the occurrence of silicosis also reduces the risk of cancer..." (SCOEL SUM Doc 94-final, June 2003)

There is evidence to support the theory that the increase in the risk of cancer would be limited to people already suffering from silicosis. The protection of workers against silicosis should be guaranteed by compliance with prevailing regulations on the Limit of Occupational Exposure and when necessary, in the presence of additional risks, implemented by directives (see Section 16).

## 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

### 12.1 Toxicity

NOT TOXIC article.

Use the product according to good working practices, avoiding dispersion in the environment.

### 12.2 Persistence and degradability

NOT BIODEGRADABLE article.

### 12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

Not considered significantly bioaccumulative.

### 12.4 Mobility in soil



The mixture is not significantly soluble.

#### **12.5 Result of PBT and vPvB assessment**

There are no risks of persistence, bioaccumulation and toxicity in the substance, and therefore it is not considered PBT or vPvB.

#### **12.6 Other adverse effects**

No data available.

### **13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

#### **13.1 Waste treatment methods**

##### **Disposal methods:**

The product is deemed to be inert waste.

Disposal must be carried out in compliance with the instructions laid down by Italian Legislative Decree 152/2006 and subsequent modifications and integrations and with the instructions laid down by regional authorities.

The waste producer is responsible for determining the toxicity and the physical properties of the material generated to identify the appropriate classification of the waste and the disposal methods in compliance with prevailing regulations.

The waste must be disposed of in compliance with prevailing laws, using an authorised waste disposal facility, The competence of the disposal facility must be verified in advance.

For handling and measures in the case of accidental dispersion of the waste, the instructions given in Sections 6 and 7 generally apply.

Do not disperse in the environment, in wells or water courses.

**Disposal of packing material:** Any paper and plastic packing materials are recyclable.

Disposal of packing materials must be carried out after they have been completely emptied.

Do not pollute the soil, water or the environment with the container for waste.

### **14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION**

NOT HAZARDOUS mixture according to transport regulations.

#### **Transport by road/rail (ADR/RID):**

NOT HAZARDOUS mixture according to road and rail transport regulations.

#### **Transport by sea (IMDG code):**

NOT HAZARDOUS mixture according to sea transport regulations.

#### **Transport by air (ICAO/IATA):**

NOT HAZARDOUS mixture according to air transport regulations.

### **15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

#### **15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture.**

Classification, packaging and labelling of hazardous substances (Italian Legislative Decree 52/1997 and subsequent modifications).

Classification, packaging and labelling of hazardous mixtures (Italian Legislative Decree 65/2003).

Safeguarding of health and safety in the workplace (Italian Legislative Decree 81/2008 and subsequent modifications).

#### **15.2 Chemical safety assessment**

No chemical safety assessment has been conducted.



## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

**Liability:** The information shown in this basic safety sheet has been drawn up to the best of current knowledge and on the basis of information sources currently available.

The user must comply with prevailing regulations and be satisfied as to the updating, suitability and completeness of the information contained here, as it relates to the specific use made of the substance in their own production cycle.

The information constitutes a description of the product in relation to safety and draws the attention of users to possible risks connected with an improper use of the product.

**R- Phrases:** None.

**CLP Hazard statements:** None.

### Uses identified according to the system describing use

**Recommended restrictions relating to use (advised against):** This product must not be used in applications different from those recommended in Section 1, without prior advice from the supplier.

**Additional information:** This document contains important information regarding safety in storage, handling and use of the product.

The information shown in this document must be brought to the attention of the person in your organisation who is responsible for hygiene and safety in the work environments.

**Distribution of SDS:** The information contained in this document must be made available to all those who handle the product.

### Further information:

**Training:** Workers must be informed about the presence of crystalline silica and trained in the proper use and handling of this product as required by prevailing regulations.

Breathable crystalline silica – Social dialogue agreement; a multi-sector social dialogue on “Workers Health Protection through the Good Handling and Use of Crystalline Silica and Products containing it” was signed on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

This autonomous agreement, which receives financial support from the European Commission, is based on a Good Practice Guide.

The agreement is operational from 25th October 2006. The agreement was published in the Official Journal of the European Union) 2006/C 279/02.

The text of the agreement and its annexes, including the Good Practice Guide, are available at <http://www.nepsi.eu> which also supplies useful information and a guide for handling products containing breathable crystalline silica.