

March 1, 2021

Guidance on the safe handling and use of Gurit Core materials

Gurit produces several core materials for use in composites structures including PET core, SAN foam and balsa core. No specific hazards are classifiable to the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) of hazard classification of Gurit core products. Processors of such products should initiate a full hazard assessment appropriate to the place of work, products and processes used and appropriate measures must be taken to control the dust exposure within the specific environment. Gurit provides a Safety Datasheet for these materials in order to facilitate customers own risk assessment process.

During manufacture of PET and SAN core products several chemical processes are carried out that may result in the presence of some residual processing substances within the product. Details of these substances are presented in section 3 of the product SDS. During cutting and machining of the product, trace amounts of these substances may be released, recognisable as a slight odour. Although levels are below those classifiable under current regulations it is recommended to avoid inhalation of such materials. In addition, any dust generated may be combustible under certain conditions. For this reason, control of dust release and avoidance of sources of ignition are recommended.

Carrying out machining operations in a well-ventilated area or the use of local exhaust ventilation (LEV) can provide suitable protection against exposure to the trace levels of residual substances as well as minimising dust cloud formation. The filtration system used must be specific to the type of dust you are producing and can be recommended by the manufacturer. Similarly, the use of a dust mask must be appropriate for the nature of particles created. The use of general PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) is advised; goggles, coveralls, gloves and good industrial hygiene practices contribute to reduced exposure.

No specific exposure limits for the materials are available. The occupational exposure limits mentioned below serve as good guidance relating to airbourne dust exposure for working practices.

	Respirable Dust	Total Dust
ACGIH*	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Austria	5 mg/m ³	5 mg/m ³
Belgium	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Canada (Quebec)	-	10 mg/m ³
Denmark	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Finland	-	10 mg/m ³
France	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Germany	1.25 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Ireland	4 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Italy	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Netherlands	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Norway	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Portugal	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Spain	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Sweden	5 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
Switzerland	3 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
United Kingdom	4 mg/m ³	10 mg/m ³
USA	-	15 mg/m ³

*ACGIH (Association Advancing Occupational and environmental Health)

Any queries on the information contained within this document can be sent to regulatory@gurit.com

The above information is correct to the best of our knowledge as at the date shown.