

COSHH ASSESSMENT — CEMENT AND WET CONCRETE

COSHH — SUBSTANCE ASSESSMENT

Mixing, placing and finishing concrete, mortar, render and screed

KD-COSHH-CC-004 Rev A0

COSHH 2002 reg 6: exposure is assessed BEFORE the work starts; reg 7: it is prevented, or adequately controlled, working down the hierarchy — eliminate, substitute, engineer, then RPE last. This assessment covers the substance family below; it is completed against the actual products (their safety data sheets alongside) and the actual task, and briefed to the people exposed. The current workplace exposure limit, where one applies, comes from EH40 and the SDS on the day — write it in below.

1 ASSESSMENT DETAILS

SITE / PROJECT

TASK ASSESSED

PRODUCTS IN USE (SDS TO HAND)

ASSESSED BY

DATE

2 THE SUBSTANCE — WHAT IT IS AND WHAT IT DOES

WHERE IT IS MET: Handling bagged cement, mixing mortar and render, placing and finishing concrete and screed — and kneeling in it. The exposure is skin contact with the wet material and dust from the dry powder.

THE HARM: Wet cement is alkaline enough to burn: cement burns destroy skin painlessly over an hour or two, and kneeling in fresh screed has cost people skin grafts. Repeated contact causes irritant and allergic dermatitis — chromate sensitisation is for life. The dry dust irritates eyes and lungs.

3 EXPOSURE — ROUTES, PEOPLE, LIMIT

Inhalation — dust, fume, vapour or mist

Ingestion — hand to mouth

Skin and eye contact

Others affected — adjacent trades, occupiers, public

WHO IS EXPOSED, HOW LONG, HOW OFTEN

WEL / LIMIT (FROM EH40 AND THE SDS TODAY)

4 CONTROLS — IN THE REG 7 HIERARCHY, ALL IN PLACE BEFORE WORK STARTS

Waterproof gloves (nitrile under gauntlets for prolonged work) and sleeves — cement dermatitis starts where the cuff ends

Waterproof knee protection or boards — never kneel directly in wet screed, mortar or concrete

Mix downwind and at arm's length; empty bags without shaking the cloud out of them

Immediate washing of any splashed skin; eye wash at the mixing point for splashes

Change out of cement-soaked clothing and boots — material held against skin keeps burning

SITE-SPECIFIC CONTROLS FOR THIS TASK

RPE WORN (TYPE, AND FACE-FIT WHERE TIGHT-FITTING)

OTHER PPE FOR THIS SUBSTANCE

5 HEALTH SURVEILLANCE, HYGIENE AND FIRST AID

Skin checks for regular users — dermatitis caught early is recoverable; sensitisation is not. Cement burns get medical attention the same day, not a plaster.

6 STORAGE, SPILLAGE AND DISPOSAL

Bags dry, off the ground, rotated (chromate reducer in cement times out — use within the stated shelf life). Washout contained: cement washwater must not reach drains or watercourses.

WHERE IT IS STORED ON THIS SITE

SPILL RESPONSE AT THE WORK

7 SIGN-OFF AND BRIEFING

The assessment is complete when the people exposed have been briefed on it. Reassess when the product, task, quantity or location changes — not on an anniversary.

ASSESSOR — PRINTED NAME

SIGNATURE

DATE

WORKFORCE BRIEFED (DATE / RECORD REF)

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-08-31	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
D1	2026-08-31	material	Actions the internal H&S director review. Lead reframed under CLAW 2002 and ACOP L132 with the COSHH reg 5 disapplication stated and limits prompted from CLAW; the silica harm line corrected to the defensible after-asbestos formulation; titles shortened so the header band prints in full.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-08-31	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.