



# SAFE USE INSTRUCTIONS SHEET

For Continuous Filament Glass Fiber Products

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## 0. Introduction

The European Regulation (ER) on Chemicals No. 1907/2006 (REACH) enforced on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 does only require Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for hazardous substances and preparations. Our continuous filaments glass fibre products (CFGF) are articles under REACH and therefore, no SDS is legally required.

**Owens Corning** decides to provide our customers with the appropriate information for assuring the safe handling and use of Continuous Filaments Glass Fibre products through a **Safe Use Instructions Sheet**.

## 1. PRODUCT and COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

<b>Generic Product Name</b>	Continuous Filaments Glass Fiber products in <b>AR glass</b>
<b>Common names</b>	Dry-Use Chopped Strand, Single-End Roving, Multi-End Continuous Roving, Chopped Strand Mat
<b>Commercial names</b>	<b>ARcotex<sup>®</sup>, Cem-FIL<sup>®</sup>, Anti-Crak<sup>®</sup>, Slurry-FIL<sup>™</sup></b>
<b>Recommended uses</b>	Reinforcement of cement, concrete and others mineral matrix Reinforcement of resins in corrosive medium
<b>Supplier contact</b>	European Owens Corning Fiberglas SPRL Chaussée de la Hulpe 166 1170 Brussels Belgium + 32 26 74 82 11
<b>Health contact</b>	(8am-5pm CET): European R&D: + 33 479 75 53 00 <a href="mailto:productcompliance@owenscorning.com">productcompliance@owenscorning.com</a>

## 2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

This product is not classified hazardous according to European Regulation n°1272/2008.

**This section identifies the potential hazards related to the article i.e. its shape, its dimensions and other physical characteristics.**

- May cause temporary skin and mucous membranes itching due to the mechanical abrasion effect of fibers.
- Exposure to airborne dusts and fibers (inhalation)

For detailed explanation see section 11.

## 3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

**Continuous filament glass fiber (CFGF) products are articles in the meaning of REACH (1907/2006/ER).**

CFGF products are made of glass which is given a specific shape (filament) and dimension (filament diameter). A surface treatment (sizing) is applied to the filaments which are gathered to form a strand. The strand is further processed into a specific product design according to the downstream use of the article. The sizing is a mixture of chemicals, i.e. coupling agent, film former and polymeric resin/emulsion. The sizing content is usually below 3%.

For CSM and CFM products, a binder is applied in a secondary step to form the mat. The binder (mixture of polymeric resin and surfactant) content is usually below 10% of the product weight.

#### 4. FIRST AID MEASURES

- Eye contact**
- Rinse immediately with plenty of water, also under the eyelids, for at least 15 minutes
  - Do not rub or scratch eyes
  - If eye irritation persists, consult a specialist
- Skin contact**
- Wash off immediately with soap and cold water.
  - DO NOT use warm water because this will open up the pores of the skin, which will cause further penetration of the fibers.
  - DO NOT rub or scratch affected areas.
  - Remove contaminated clothing.
  - If skin irritation persists, call a physician
- Inhalation**
- Move to fresh air
  - If symptoms persist, call a physician

#### 5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

**CFGF products are not flammable, are incombustible and do not support combustion.**

Only the sizing and/or binder are combustible and could release small quantities of hazardous gas in case of major and prolonged heat or fire.

- Suitable extinguishing media**
- water
  - dry chemical
  - foam
  - carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)
- Protective Equipment and Precautions for Firefighters**
- Wear self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and full fire fighting protective gear.

#### 6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

- Personal precautions**
- Methods for Clean-up**
- Avoid contact with the skin and the eyes.
- Pick up and transfer to properly labeled containers
  - Avoid dry sweeping
  - Shovel the major part of spilled material into a container
  - Use an industrial vacuum cleaner with a high efficiency filter to clean up dust and residual spilled material
  - After vacuum cleaning, flush away with water

#### 7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

- Handling**
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment in case of direct contact with the product. (See section 8)
  - Prevent and/or minimize dust formation
- Storage**
- Keep product in its packaging until use to minimize potential dust generation.

#### 8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Continuous filament glass fibers are not respirable however certain mechanical processes might generate airborne dust or fibre (See section 11). The occupational exposure limits below mentioned are applicable to airborne fibre exposure and/or to dust exposure.

**Exposure limit(s)**

**NOTE:** The user of CFGF products has to comply with the national regulation in term of health worker protection. You will find below some occupational exposure limit values for some of European countries.

	Respirable Dust	Total Dust	Respirable Fibre
AGCIH	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Austria	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0,5 fibre/ml
Belgium	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Denmark	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0,1 fibre/ml
Finland	-	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
France	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Germany	1,25 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	-
Ireland	4 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Italy	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Netherlands	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0,5 fibre/ml
Norway	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Portugal	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Spain	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Sweden	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	1 fibre/ml
Switzerland	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0,5 fibre/ml
United Kingdom	4 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	10 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	2 fibres/ml

**Occupational exposure controls****Engineering Controls**

Provide local exhaust and/or general ventilation system to maintain low exposure levels. Dust collection systems must be used in transferring operations, cutting or machining or other dust generating processes. Vacuum or wet clean-up methods should be used.

**Personal protective equipment****Respiratory protection**

- In situation where concentrations are above exposure limits, appropriate dust masks must be worn (FFP1 or FFP2 depending on the actual airborne concentration)

**Eye/face Protection**

- Safety glasses with side-shields

**Skin Protection**

- protective gloves

- Long sleeved shirt and long pants

**General Hygiene Considerations**

- Wash hands before breaks and immediately after handling the product

- Avoid contact with skin, eyes and clothing

- Avoid getting dust into boots and gloves through wrist bands and pant tucks

- Remove and wash contaminated clothing before re-use

## 9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

**Appearance**

White or off-white

**Physical State**

Solid

**Softening point**

&gt;800°C

**Melting point**

non applicable

**Decomposition temperature**

size and mat binders start to decompose at 200°C

**Density (molten glass)**

2.6 (water = 1)

**Water solubility**

insoluble

## 10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

**Chemical Stability**

Stable under normal conditions

**Hazardous decomposition products**

See Section 5 of SUI for hazardous decomposition products during a fire

**Possibility of Hazardous Reactions**

Hazardous reaction does not occur

**11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION****Acute toxicity:** not relevant**Local effects:**

Dust and fibers may cause temporary skin and mucous membranes itching due to the mechanical abrasion effect of fibers. The symptoms disappear when the exposure ceases. Mechanical abrasion is not considered as a health hazard in the meaning of Regulation (EC) 1272/2008. Continuous filament glass fibers are not classified as irritant under the regulation (EC) 1272/2008.

Inhalation may cause coughing and sneezing. High exposures may cause difficult breathing, congestion and chest tightness.

**Long term health effects**

Continuous filament glass fibers are not respirable according to the World Health Organization (WHO) definition. Respirable fibers have a diameter (d) smaller than 3µm, a length (l) larger than 5µm and a l/d-ratio larger than or equal to 3. Fibres with diameters greater than 3 microns, which is the case for continuous filament glass fibre, do not reach the lower respiratory tract and, therefore have no possibility of causing serious pulmonary disease.

Continuous filament glass fibres do not possess cleavage planes which would allow them to split length-wise into fibres with smaller diameters, rather they break across the fibre, resulting in fibres which are of the same diameter as the original fibre with a shorter length and a small amount of dust.

Microscopic examination of dust from highly chopped and pulverised glass demonstrated the presence of small amounts of respirable dust particles. Among these respirable particles, some were fibre-like in terms of l/d ratio (so-called "shards"). It can be clearly observed however that they are not regular shaped fibres but irregular shaped particles with fibre-like dimensions. To the best of our knowledge, the exposure levels of these fibre-like dust particles measured at our manufacturing plants are of the order of magnitude between 50 to 1000 below existing applicable limits.

Continuous filament glass fibers are not carcinogenic. (See section 15).

**12. ECOTOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION**

No specific data are available for this product. This material is not expected to cause harm to animals, plants or fish.

**13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS**

Continuous filament glass fiber waste is a non hazardous waste. European Waste Code number is 101103.

**14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION****IMDG/IM – RID – ADR – ICAO – IATA – DOT - TDG - MEX**

not regulated

**15. REGULATORY INFORMATION**

**This product is not hazardous according to European Regulation 1272/2008.**

**Information on non carcinogenicity**

Continuous filament glass fibers are not classified as carcinogenic by regulation (EC) 1272/2008 since they are not "fibres with random orientation."

The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in June, 1987, and in October, 2001, categorized continuous filament fiber glass as not classifiable with respect to human carcinogenicity (Group 3). The evidence from human, as well as, animal studies was evaluated by IARC as insufficient to classify continuous filament fiber glass as a confirmed, probable or even possible cancer causing material.

### National chemicals inventories

Continuous filament glass fiber products are articles under the chemicals inventories listed below and consequently are exempt from listing on these inventories:

- The European Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances: EINECS/ELINCS,
- The US EPA Toxic Substance Control Act: TSCA,
- The Canadian Chemical Registration Regulations: NDSL/DSL,
- The Japanese Chemical Substances Control Law under METI: CSCL,
- The Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances: AICS,
- The Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances: PICCS,
- The Korean Existing Chemicals List: (K)ECL and
- The Inventory of Existing Chemical Substance in China (IECSC)

However, based on the rules enforced with regards to the marketing and use of chemicals in countries where our CFGF products are manufactured, each chemical ingredient of these finished products has to be listed on the National Chemicals Inventory of the specific country where produced.

## 16. OTHER INFORMATION

AR Glass contains traces of naturally-occurring radioactive materials. The total content of Uranium and Thorium is less than 500 ppm with a total specific activity below 20Bq/g.

This document has been issued to align with REACH Regulation.

#### Disclaimer

Reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this information, but the manufacturer makes no warranty of merchantability or any other warranty, expressed or implied, with respect to this information. The manufacturer makes no representations and assumes no liability for any direct, incidental or consequential damages resulting from its use

**End of Safe Use Instructions Sheet**