NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Date of Issue:
06 June 2025

SAFETY DATA SHEET

1. SUBSTANCE AND SOURCE IDENTIFICATION

Product Identifier

SRM Number: 1888b
SRM Name: Portland Cement
Other Means of Identification: Not applicable.

Recommended Use of This Material and Restrictions of Use

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is intended primarily for the evaluation or calibration of methods for analysis of cements and materials of similar matrix. A unit of SRM 1888b consists of four sealed vials, each containing approximately 5 g of portland cement ground to pass through a 75 µm (No. 200) sieve.

Company Information

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Standard Reference Materials Program
100 Bureau Drive, Stop 2300
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20899-2300

Telephone: 301-975-2200
E-mail: SRMMSDS@nist.gov
Website: http://www.nist.gov/srm

Emergency Telephone ChemTrec:
1-800-424-9300 (North America)
+1-703-527-3887 (International)

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

Note: The Certificate of Analysis reports the concentrations of the individual constituents as oxides. The oxides are not freely available in the material as sold. The health and safety information provided in this SDS are for portland cement, not for its individual constituents, with the exception of free crystalline silica, quartz (<0.1 %) which has additional health hazards addressed below.

Classification

Physical Hazard:	Not classified.	
Health Hazard:	Skin Corrosion/Irritant	Category 2
	Eye Damage/Irritation	Category 1
	STOT, Single Exposure	Category 3

Label Elements

Symbol



Signal Word

DANGER

Hazard Statement(s)

H315	Causes skin irritation.
H318	Causes serious eye damage.
H335	May cause respiratory irritation.

Precautionary Statement(s)

P261	Avoid breathing dust.
P264	Wash hands thoroughly after handling.
P271	Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated room.
P280	Wear protective gloves and eye protection.

P302+P352	If on skin: Wash with plenty of water.
P332+P313	If skin irritation occurs: Get medical attention.
P305+P351+P338	If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.
P310	Immediately call a doctor.
P304	If inhaled: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable breathing.
P312	Call a doctor if you feel unwell.
P362+P364	Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.
P403+P233	Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.
P405	Store locked up.
P501	Dispose of contents and container according to local regulations.

Hazards Not Otherwise Classified: None.

Ingredients(s) with Unknown Acute Toxicity: None.

3. Composition and Information on Hazardous Ingredients

Substance: Portland Cement

Other Designations: Hydraulic cement; cement (portland); silicate, portland cement; portland cement silicate.

Components are listed in compliance with OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.1200. Cement may also contain trace amounts of oxides and other chemicals due to the starting materials and manufacturing process, including chromium compounds. This SDS is for portland cement with <0.1 % of quartz. Values for constituents are listed in the NIST Certificate of Analysis.

Hazardous Component(s)	CAS Number	EC Number (EINECS)	Nominal Mass Concentration (%)
Portland Cement	65997-15-1	266-043-4	100
Silica, crystalline quartz	14808-60-7	238-878-4	<0.1

4. First Aid Measures

Description of First Aid Measures

Inhalation: If adverse effects occur, remove to well-ventilated (uncontaminated) area. If breathing is difficult, qualified personnel may administer oxygen. If not breathing, qualified personnel should give artificial respiration. Seek immediate medical attention.

Skin Contact: Rinse affected skin with water for at least 15 minutes, and then wash thoroughly with soap or mild detergent and water. If skin irritation persists, seek medical aid and bring the container or label.

Eye Contact: Immediately flush eyes, including under the eyelids, with copious amounts of water for at least 15 minutes. Seek immediate medical attention.

Ingestion: If a large amount is swallowed, seek medical attention.

Most Important Symptoms/Effects, Acute and Delayed: Inhalation of dust particles may cause irritation. Prolonged exposure to respirable silica particles can cause lung damage (silicosis) and cancer.

Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed, if necessary: If any of the above symptoms are present, seek immediate medical attention.

5. Fire Fighting Measures

Fire and Explosion Hazards: Negligible fire hazard. See Section 9, "Physical and Chemical Properties" for flammability properties.

Extinguishing Media

Suitable: Use extinguishing agents appropriate to surrounding fire.

Unsuitable: None listed.

Specific Hazards Arising from the Chemical: Not applicable.

Special Protective Equipment and Precautions for Fire-Fighters: Move container from fire area if it can be done without personal risk. Avoid inhalation of material or combustion by-products. Wear full protective clothing and NIOSH-approved self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

Personal Precautions, Protective Equipment and Emergency Procedures: Use suitable protective equipment; see Section 8, "Exposure Controls and Personal Protection".

Methods and Materials for Containment and Clean up: Avoid generating dust. Collect in appropriate container for disposal.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

Safe Handling Precautions: Use suitable personal protection equipment (PPE). See Section 8, "Exposure Controls and Personal Protection".

Storage and Incompatible Materials: Store in a well-ventilated area. Samples should be used immediately after opening the Mylar bag and vial.

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS AND PERSONAL PROTECTION

Exposure Limits			
Components	**OSHA (PEL)**	**ACGIH (TLV)**	**NIOSH (REL)**
Portland Cement	TWA: 15 mg/m^3 (total dust) TWA: 5 mg/m^3 (respirable fraction) TWA: 50 mppcf (<1 % crystalline silica)	TWA: 1 mg/m^3 (respirable fraction, particulate matter containing no asbestos and <1 % crystalline silica)	TWA: 10 mg/m^3 (total dust) TWA: 5 mg/m^3 (respirable dust) IDLH: 5000 mg/m^3
Silica, crystalline quartz	TWA: 30/(SiO_2 + 2) mg/m^3 (total dust) TWA: 10/(SiO_2 +2) mg/m^3 (respirable fraction) TWA: 250/(SiO_2 + 5) mppcf (respirable fraction)	TWA: 0.025 mg/m^3 (respirable fraction)	TWA: 0.05 mg/m^3 (respirable dust) IDLH: 50 mg/m^3 (respirable dust)

Engineering Controls: Provide local exhaust or process enclosure ventilation system. Ensure compliance with applicable exposure limits.

Personal Protection Measures: In accordance with OSHA 29 CFR 1910.132, subpart I, wear appropriate PPE to minimize exposure to this material.

Respiratory Protection: If workplace conditions warrant a respirator, a respiratory protection program that meets OSHA 29CFR 1910.134 must be followed. Refer to NIOSH 42 CFR 84 for applicable certified respirators.

Eye Protection: Splash resistant safety goggles and emergency eyewash are recommended.

Skin and Body Protection: Chemical resistant clothing and gloves are recommended.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Descriptive Properties	**Portland Cement**
Molar Mass (g/mol)	not applicable
Molecular Formula	not applicable
Appearance (physical state, color, etc.)	grey, white powder
Odor	no distinct odor
Odor threshold	not available
pH	12 to 13 (wet cement)
Evaporation rate	not applicable
Melting point/freezing point	not applicable
Relative Density as Specific Gravity (water = 1)	2.80 to 3.00

Descriptive Properties	Portland Cement
Vapor Pressure	not applicable
Vapor Density (air = 1)	not applicable
Viscosity	not applicable
Solubilities	not available
Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water)	not applicable
Particle Size:	<75 μm
Thermal Stability Properties	
Autoignition Temperature	not applicable
Thermal Decomposition	not applicable
Initial boiling point and boiling range	not applicable
Explosive Limits, LEL (Volume %)	not applicable
Explosive Limits, UEL (Volume %)	not applicable
Flash Point	not applicable
Flammability (solid, gas)	not applicable

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Reactivity: Stable at normal temperatures and pressure.

Stability: X Stable _____ Unstable

Possible Hazardous Reactions: Not applicable.

Conditions to Avoid: Avoid generating dust.

Incompatible Materials: No data available.

Hazardous Decomposition: Miscellaneous decomposition products.

Hazardous Polymerization: _____ Will Occur X Will Not Occur

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Route of Exposure: X Inhalation X Skin X Ingestion

Symptoms Related to the Physical, Chemical and Toxicological Characteristics: Eye damage, skin irritation, and skin sensitization. May damage mucous membranes. May aggravate respiratory disorders.

Potential Health Effects (Acute, Chronic, and Delayed)

Inhalation: Irritation, cough phlegm. Prolonged or repeated exposure to mixed cement dusts may cause cough, expectoration, dyspnea, wheezing, pharyngitis, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, cement pneumoconiosis, and silicosis.

Skin Contact: Irritation (possibly severe) and dermatitis. Direct content with wet cement, combined with prolonged contact time and pressure may cause ulcerations and possibly burns. Sensitivity to constituents of cement may induce allergic skin reactions (chromium compounds).

Eye Contact: Irritation, visual disturbances, eye damage. In addition, wet cement may cause a burning sensation, corneal edema indicated by seeing halos around lights, and injury to the conjunctiva.

Ingestion: Irritation (long-term) and possible gastroduodenal ulcers.

Numerical Measures of Toxicity

Acute Toxicity: Not classified.

Portland cement: No data available.

Silica, crystalline quartz: Rat, Oral LD50: 500 mg/kg

Skin Corrosion/Irritation: Category 2

Exposure may cause irritation (rash, scaling, and cracking) and dermatitis. May cause burns in the presence of moisture.

Serious Eye Damage/Eye Irritation: Category 1

Exposure to portland cement dust may cause severe eye damage and burns in the presence of moisture.

Respiratory sensitization: Classification not possible; no data available.

Portland cement may contain trace amounts of hexavalent chromium compounds which may cause respiratory effects.

Skin Sensitization: Classification not possible; no data available.
Portland cement may contain trace amounts of hexavalent chromium compounds which may cause allergic skin reactions.

Germ Cell Mutagenicity: No data available.

Carcinogenicity: Not classified.

Listed as a Carcinogen/Potential Carcinogen _____ **Yes** __X__ **No**

Portland cement is not listed by OSHA, IARC, or NTP as a carcinogen or potential carcinogen.

Silica, crystalline quartz (less than 0.1 % of this SRM) is listed as Group 1, *carcinogenic to humans* by IARC, *known human carcinogen* (respirable size) by NTP, and is not listed by OSHA as a designated carcinogen.
Tumorigenic data: Rat, Inhalation, TCLo: 50 mg/m^3 (6 h)
Mutagenic data: Human, 120 mg/L (24 h)

Reproductive Toxicity: No data available.

Specific Target Organ Toxicity, Single Exposure: Category 3, Respiratory tract irritation.
May cause respiratory irritation.

Specific Target Organ Toxicity, Repeated Exposure: Not classified.

Aspiration hazard: Not applicable.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Ecotoxicity Data: No data available.

Persistence and Degradability: No data available.

Bioaccumulative Potential: No data available.

Mobility in Soil: No data available.

Other Adverse effects: No data available.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

Waste Disposal: Dispose in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations.

14. TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

U.S. DOT and IATA: Not regulated by DOT and IATA.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

U.S. Regulations

CERCLA Sections 102a/103 (40 CFR 302.4): Not regulated.

SARA Title III Section 302 (40 CFR 355.30): Not regulated.

SARA Title III Section 304 (40 CFR 355.40): Not regulated.

SARA Title III Section 313 (40 CFR 372.65): Not regulated.

OSHA Process Safety (29 CFR 1910.119): Not regulated.

SARA Title III Sections 311/312 Hazardous Categories (40 CFR 370.21)

ACUTE HEALTH:	Yes
CHRONIC HEALTH:	Yes
FIRE:	No
REACTIVE:	No
PRESSURE:	No

State Regulations

California Proposition 65: Warning! This product contains a chemical (quartz) known to the state of California to cause cancer.

U.S. TSCA Inventory: Portland cement and silica, crystalline quartz are listed.

TSCA 12(b), Export Notification: Not listed.

Canadian Regulations: WHMIS Information is not provided for this material.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Issue Date: 06 June 2025

Sources: ChemADVISOR, Inc., MSDS *Portland Cement*, 09 December 2015.

United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration, *Preventing Skin Problems from Working with Portland Cement*, available at https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA-3351-portland-cement.pdf (accessed June 2025).

Key of Acronyms:

ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	NTP	National Toxicology Program
CAS	Chemical Abstracts Service	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	PEL	Permissible Exposure Limit
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
DOT	Department of Transportation	REL	Recommended Exposure Limit
EINECS	European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances	RQ	Reportable Quantity
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act	RTECS	Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances
IARC	International Agency for Research on Cancer	SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act
IATA	International Air Transportation Agency	SCBA	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
IDLH	Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health	SRM	Standard Reference Material
LC50	Lethal Concentration	STOT	Specific Target Organ Toxicity
LD50	Median Lethal Dose or Lethal Dose, 50 %	STEL	Short Term Exposure Limit
LEL	Lower Explosive Limit	TLV	Threshold Limit Value
MSDS	Material Safety Data Sheet	TPQ	Threshold Planning Quantity
NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health	TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology	TWA	Time Weighted Average
n.o.s.	Not Otherwise Specified	UEL	Upper Explosive Limit
		WHMIS	Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

Disclaimer: The NIST SDS information is specific to the NIST product and is believed to be correct, based upon our current knowledge. The SDS may not necessarily be all inclusive and should be used only as a guide. NIST does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of this information. The only official source for specific values and uncertainties is the certificate or report.

Users of this SRM should ensure that the SDS in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program: telephone (301) 975-2200; e-mail srmmsds@nist.gov; or via the Internet at https://www.nist.gov/srm.