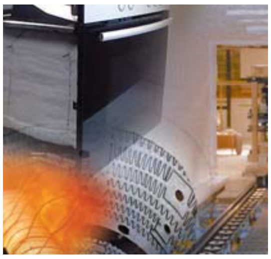
Superwool™ 607™ HT may be disposed in non-hazardous waste landfill

Fact sheet 2



Key Points Summary

- Disposal of waste materials in EU member States is controlled by implementation of a number of Directives.
- Wastes containing more than 0.1wt% of **Refractory Ceramic Fibre (RCF)** are classified hazardous under Directive 91/689/EC. RCF wastes from manufacture and use are required to be handled and disposed by a licensed waste contractor in an appropriately licensed landfill. Directive 1999/31/EC enables such wastes to be disposed in a non-hazardous waste landfill provided that leaching tests have shown there is no risk of soil or ground water contamination.
- As responsibility for the implementation for EU waste Directives lies with the individual member states, local regulations are not harmonized and waste disposal restrictions do vary widely from country to country.
- In practice, many RCF users have experienced significantly increased costs because local waste disposal sites are not licensed to or prepared to accept hazardous wastes.
- Waste containing **Superwool fibre** products may be disposed in a non-hazardous waste landfill provided that leaching tests have shown there is no risk of soil or ground water contamination.
- Superwool products that do not contain an organic binder may be considered as waste glass-based fibrous materials (European Waste Code 10 11 03).

In practice, Superwool users should experience no difficulty or increased costs disposing of waste fibre. This is a clear benefit for Superwool users compared with RCF users.

Superwool® 607HT®

Some examples in different countries

1. Superwool waste is considered inert waste in **Germany** and can be disposed of in a landfill designated as for non-hazardous waste according to the landfill ordinance (DepV) §6 and 7 and under the §3 of the waste storage ordinance (AbfAblV).

2. In the **UK**, the Environmental Agency considers that the irritant classification criteria shall not apply when classifying wastes. The Agency clearly suggests that Superwool products are considered as waste glass-based fibrous materials as long as they do not contain any organic binder or are not contaminated by other hazardous material.

3. In **France** Directive 1999/31/EC[1] has not yet been implemented. However an "Arrêté" from 30th December 2004 indicates that inert wastes can be stored in industrial inert waste landfill as long as they meet the leaching testing limits referred to in its appendix 2.

Guidelines for handling and disposing of Superwool product waste

- Handle the waste with care so that it does not spread. Wetting (dampening only) the waste helps to minimise dust emission.
- Do not allow the waste to accumulate around the workplace.
- In the workplace, dispose of the waste in a suitable closed container or plastic bag as soon as it is produced.
- When full, seal containers or plastic bags before removing for disposal.
- Leaching tests may be required to show that waste will not pollute groundwater or soil. Superwool product wastes may contain organic materials and/or other contaminants.
- Do not mix Superwool waste with hazardous waste.
- The responsibility for waste disposal or treatment remains with the waste producer. In most jurisdictions, records must be maintained and provided by the waste contractor/ transporter to the landfill to verify disposal.
- Ensure written confirmation is received from the disposal company verifying the waste has been disposed properly.
- Superwool waste may have been contaminated by hazardous substances during its normal use. In such cases expert guidance should be sought.

[1] As adapted to technical progress by Decision 2003/33/EC

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