

# QUARTZ

Material Safety Data Sheet





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# 1. PRODUCT IDENTIFICATION

#### a) Product identifier

Commercial name: Levantina Quartz (Quartz surfaces)

EC or CAS numbers: N/A Register number: N/A

#### b) Other means of identification (commercial name)

N/A

#### c) Recommended Use

**Identified uses:** LEVANTINA QUARTZ is a building material typically used as a surface covering or decorative elements.

**Contraindicated uses:** When LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, ground, polished or removed, it is advisable to use measures to reduce exposure to the dust produced, this dust might contain free silica particles (SiO<sub>2</sub>).

Do not fabricate the product by using dry processes which generate dust. In case of this use, please read carefully this safety data sheet (SDS); this document has been prepared in accordance with the Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 (REACH) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals, updated according to Regulation (EU) 2015/830 of 28 May 2015, which modifies Regulation EC) no 1906/2006 and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures.

## d) Supplier's name\*

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Website and information: www.levantina.com

Note\*: Should you desire additional information, please direct your inquiry to the address above.

### e) Emergency phone number:

Emergency telephone number: Toxicology and medical hotline Spain: +34 915620420. Product composition is included in point 3.



## **HAZARD(S) IDENTIFICATION**

#### a) Classification of the chemical

LEVANTINA QUARTZ is a compact format, the product is not classified as hazardous or dangerous to human health or the environment.

LEVANTINA QUARTZ are mixtures of quartz and additives / pigments and resin. The product contains more than 88% crystalline silica in its compact composition. The product is odourless, stable, non-flammable, and in solid format it is not hazardous to health.

Only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is being cut, polished, installed, or removed (fabrication or installation process\*); dust may be generated. This dust might contain free silica particles  $(SiO_2)$ . It is only in this state when silica forms part of the respirable fraction, and when it is a risk to human health. Regarding this dust, preventive exposure to airborne particulates of dust must be taken.

Note\*: "Fabrication or Installation Process/es" or "Fabricating" or "Fabrication" also means cutting, grinding, chipping, sanding, drilling, polishing, etc. manufacturing processes.

#### b) Symbols and precautionary statements:

Free silica  $(SiO_2)$  particles can be produced, only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is cut, ground, polished or removed, with the following hazards (Regulation (EC) n°1272/2008 (CLP) / GHS see. 7):

GHS Label, Hazards and Precautionary Statements:

GHS Pictogram:



- Signal word: Danger
- Hazard statement:
  - o H350i: May cause cancer by inhalation.
  - o H335: May Cause respiratory irritation
  - o H372: Causes damage to organs (lung) through prolonged or repeated exposure (via inhalation).

Precautionary statement:

## **CRYSTALLINE SILICA DUST P201:** Obtain special instructions before use. **P202:** Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood. **P260:** Do not breathe dust generated in the cutting, grinding and polishing processes. P264: Wash face and hands thoroughly after handling. P270: Do not eat, drink or smoke when dust is being produced. **P280:** Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/ eye protection/face protection. **P284:** Wear respiratory protection for particles (N95) when dust is being produced. P314: Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell

### c) Other hazards

It is only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is being cut, polished, ground or removed, the following risks should be considered due to the potential presence of free silica (SiO<sub>2</sub>) particles:

**P501:** Dispose of contents in accordance with local

- 1. Risk to eyes: The dust and particles may cause irritation and damage.
- 2. Risk to skin: The dust created may cause irritation to the skin.

regulations

- 3. Risk if inhaled: The dust created may irritate the respiratory system, nose, throat and lungs.
- 4. Risk if ingested: Not considered a potential health risk if there is ingestion. The dust may cause gastro-intestinal irritation if the particles are ingested.
- 5. Risk due to chronic exposure: Adverse health effects due to prolonged exposure to silica dust may cause chronic and irreversible effects (silicosis, pneumoconiosis, emphysema, bronchitis, cancer).

#### INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

This product is sold in a solid format as compact slabs of different sizes and thicknesses. LEVANTINA QUARTZ is produced into various shapes, sizes, and colors. These products do not contain asbestos. Under normal conditions these products do not release hazardous materials after installation and are not considered hazardous waste should disposal be necessary.

LEVANTINA QUARTZ is a mixture of quartz (>88% crystalline silica), additives, pigments and polyester resin (0-12% no N° CAS registered).

IUPAC NAME	CAS AND CE NUMBER	ESTIMATED % by Wt.
Crystalline silica (SiO <sub>2</sub> ): Quartz	CAS No: 14808-60-7 CE No: 238-878-4	>88 %

# **4.** \_\_\_\_\_\_ FIRST AID MEASURES

### a) Description of first aid

For the finished material, no special measures are required, but there are some requirements for processing and preparation, as indicated below:

The edges of slabs may cause cuts to the skin, so protective gloves should be worn when handling.

It is only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is being cut, polished, ground or removed, the following recommendations must be followed:

**General advice:** Contact with silica dust does not require urgent medical support. **Eyes:** Immediately flush eyes with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes if dust gets in eyes. Get medical attention if irritation persists.

**Skin:** Wash thoroughly after working with GRANITE. Remove all clothing exposed to the dust, making sure that the clothing does not come into contact with eyes. If adverse effects are observed, seek medical support.

**Inhaled:** Take the person affected to a well ventilated area where there is fresh air. Apply assisted breathing techniques if the injured person has a serious reaction. If adverse effects are observed, seek medical support.

**Ingestion:** If the dust is ingested, seek medical support.

#### b) Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs do not cause known secondary effects or symptoms. It is only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is being cut, polished, ground or removed; prolonged exposure to high levels of the dust produced, may cause irreversible health effects, including pneumoconiosis such as silicosis or the worsening of other lung diseases.

# c) Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment required

In case of LEVANTINA QUARTZ's dust ingestion, seek medical support.

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## FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

LEVANTINA QUARTZ tiles and slabs are a NON-FLAMMABLE product:

Flash Point (Method Used):	Not applicable
Auto ignition Temperature:	Not applicable
Flammable Limits (% by Volume in Air):	LEL - not applicable UEL - not applicable

### a) Extinguishing media

None required Non-flammable. Use the appropriate media in accordance with environment (Water, Dry Chemical,  ${\rm CO_2}$  and Foam).

## b) Extinguishing media NOT to be used

There aren't incompatible extinguishing media.

## c) Special hazards

No special hazards.

### d) Special protection equipment

Special Fire Fighting Procedures: Keep personnel away and upwind of fire, Use self-contained breathing apparatus with full face masked. Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazards: Decomposition products resulting from the polymer and pigments degrading at elevated temperatures include various hydrocarbons, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and water. Fumes of metal oxides and mica particles could also be released.

#### **ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES**

This point 6 it's not applicable. The finished material poses no spillage risks, except when LEVANTINA QUARTZ is being cut, polished, ground or removed; in this case loose pieces of material or dust may be released.

Only in this specific case the following recommendations must be followed:

It is very important that mechanical processing of the material during processing and installation is carried out using wet methods with water. Dry mechanical processing must be avoided.

#### a) Personal precautions

Use safety shoes, protective gloves and eyewear and respiratory protection equipment when the dust waste is being removed. Use always methods with water or vacuum systems. (Personal protective equipment: Section 8).

If there are contact with the dust, wash hands with soap before eating, drinking or smoking.

#### b) Environmental precautions

It is specifically recommended the use of water tools to cut, grind or polish. It's not recommended work with dry methods. For dry cuts select an appropriately ventilated location or clean up the dust with a vacuum system with a high-efficiency particulate (HEPA) air filter vacuum or damp sweeping. This will prevent dusty environments.

### c) Methods and material for containment and cleaning up

In accordance with the relevant laws and regulations, waste pieces of tiles/slabs and the dust produced may be disposed of in containers for inert waste. (Waste treatment: Section 13).

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## HANDLING AND STORAGE

## a) Precautions for safe handling

To move LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs is recommended the use of mechanical devices to avoid the risk of back injuries for overstrain. The user should take responsibility for carrying out a risk evaluation in accordance with workplace risk prevention regulations. Use steel-toed footwear and wear industrial gloves when handling material. Wash hands before eating and drinking. Wash thoroughly after work using soap and water. Good hygiene practices should be followed when handling this material.

#### b) Conditions for safe storage

It is recommended store tiles or slabs in a suitably closed and covered place:

- Not to place more than 20 slabs on rack or A-frame.
- Not to place more than 20 prefabricated countertops on rack or A-frame.
- No outdoor storage. No exposure to sun and rain.
- Avoid strong impacts that can cause the breakage of the material.

#### c) Specific end uses

There are no specific recommendations for end uses.

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## **EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION**

For the finished material, LEVANTINA QUARTZ doesn't have exposure controls or the need of personal protection.

It is only when LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed, dust with free silica particles (SiO<sub>2</sub>) might be produced.

# a) Permissible exposure limits to dust generated when LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed:

European Directive 2004/37/EC has been modified by European Directive 2017/2398 dated 27/12/2017 to include a limit value for occupational exposure to the respirable fraction of crystalline silica of 0,1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

SUBSTANCE*	QUARTZ (RESPIRABLE)	CRISTOBALITE (RESPIRABLE)	INERT DUST (RESPIRABLE)
CAS No	14808-60-7	14464-46-1	-
UK	0.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.1 mg/m³	4 mg/m³
SPAIN	0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.05 mg/m³	3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
PORTUGAL	0,025 mg/m³	0,025 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
FRANCE	0.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	0.05 mg/m³	5 mg/m <sup>3</sup>

Note \*: To obtain up-to-date specific limits or limits for countries not listed here, please consult a competent health and safety professional or the local regulatory authority of the country in question. IMA-Europe. Date: May 2010 (https://www.ima-europe.eu/content/respirable-dust-oels-may-2010).

# b) Appropriate engineering controls against dust generated when LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed:

The exposure to LEVANTINA QUARTZ's dust generated when LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed; must be controlled and minimized using mechanical and individual protection measures. The employers of professionals who process the material should have a risk assessment done to describe and implement the relevant occupational health and safety measures for limiting worker exposure to respirable crystalline silica and ensuring that the workplace complies with applicable local regulations on this subject.

Following, the exposure controls suggested to implement when the material is in the fabrication or installation process:

- **1. Machines and tools:** It's very important that mechanical processing of the material during processing and installation is carried out using wet methods with water. Dry mechanical processing must be avoided.
- **2. Ventilation systems:** Use adequate ventilation (vacuum systems) to keep exposure to dust below of recommended exposure levels. Avoid inhalation of dust. The highest probability of silica exposure occurs using dry cutting methods or during removal of installed LEVANTINA QUARTZ. Wet cutting methods are always recommended.
- **3. Cleaning and maintenance:** Wet methods to clean are recommended against the use of compressed air; compressed air or dry clean systems can cause a dusty environment. Preventive installation maintenance programs can reduce the dust in working environment.

In general, consult a competent health and safety professional to monitor exposure to dust containing crystalline silica.

# c) Individual hygiene measures against dust generated when LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed:

#### PPE Equipment:

- **Respiratory Protection:** Use of a properly fitted UNE approved particulate respirator is recommended in the fabrication or installation process.
- **Eye Protection:** Use dust-proof goggles or safety glasses with side shields. Contact lenses may absorb irritants. Do not wear contact lenses in work areas.
- **Skin Protection:** Cotton or leather work gloves should be worn when cutting this product to minimize skin exposure to dust and/or cuts. Wash hands prior to eating, drinking, or smoking, and at the end of the work shift, after cutting operations are conducted.

NOTE: Personal protection information in Section 8 is based on general information for normal uses and conditions. Where special or unusual uses or conditions exist, it is suggested that the assistance of an industrial hygienist or other qualified professional be obtained.

# PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

## a) General information:

Appearance	Multi-colored engineered stone (quartz)
Odour	Odorless
Stal	oility
Density	2.3 – 2.4 g/cm
Water Solubility	Insoluble
Melting Point	NA
Freezing Point	NA
Boiling Point	NA
Vapor Pressure	NA
Percent Volatile by Volume	NA
Evaporation Rate	NA
Viscosity	ND
Flash Point	450 oC
Explosion Limits	Lower: ND Upper: ND
Autoignition Temp	At temperatures >450 °C, this
	product will auto ignite.
Steam pressure at 20 °C	Not volatile
Specific weight at 20 °C	(2030-2500) kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Solubility in water, 20 °C	Insoluble
	ability
Mohs Hardness Scale	Quartz = 7, Diamond = 10 (highest)
Impact Resistance	No fracture
High Temperature Resistance	No effect
Cigarette Test	Pass
Stre	nght
Flexural Strength	Dry Condition: 41.8 Mpa Wet Condition: 53.4 Mpa
Compressive Strength	Dry Condition: 285 Mpa
	sistance
Stain Resistance	Stain Resistance
Wear and Cleanability	Wear and Cleanability
Resistance to Fungi and Bacteria	Resistance to Fungi and Bacteria
	Resistance
Resistance to Household Chemical	Pass
Tresistance to frousenota offermeat	1, 455

Resistance to Chemical Substances	Not affected
Safety and Health	
Surface Burning	Class A rated
Volatile Organic Compound (VOCs)	7.01 mg/kg
Benzene Toluene Ethylbenzene Xylene (BTEX)	Benzene and Xylene = Not detected Toluene = 5.45 mg/kg Ethylbenzene = 1.20mg/kg
Styrene	Not detected

## STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

Stability	Stable in current form.
Conditions to avoid	Avoid contact with surfaces with temperature over 150 °C Avoid strong impacts that can cause the breakage of the material Avoid its use outdoors, sun and rain
Incompatibility Materials to avoid	Avoid contact with acetones and painting remover. It affects to the structure and bounds of the polyester resin.  Avoid contact with strong basic products (PH>7), such as caustic soda (NaOH) or potassium hydroxide (KOH). This causes a series of substitution reactions in the polymer molecule and the breakage of bounds that affects negatively to the structure of the polyester resin. Hydrofluoric acid (HF). The reaction with hydrofluoric acid produces the decomposition of SiO <sub>2</sub> (silica and quartz) in silicon tetrafluoride (that is a corrosive gas) and water, deteriorating the surfaces of the material.
Hazardous decomposition products	Thermal decomposition can release various hydrocarbons, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide and water. Fumes of metal oxides and mica particles could also be released.
Hazardous Polymerization	Will not occur
Products of the decomposition	None known.

The product could release in a fabrication process dust with crystalline silica substance, this constitute a health or environmental hazard under Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008.

### TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

#### a) Information on the likely routes of exposure

No inhalation, ingestion, skin or eye contact exposure for intact LEVANTINA QUARTZ products are known. Inhalation and potential exposure to eyes, hands, or other body parts if contact is made with broken slab, and/or during procedures involving the cutting of products, and/or for operations involving the removal of installed products.

#### b) Acute Effects

No acute effects from exposure to intact LEVANTINA QUARTZ products are known. The dust and powder generated as a result of fabricating quartz surfacing contains silica  $(SiO_3)$ . This could affect:

- 1) Respiratory disease (Section 11.c)
- 2) Respiratory irritation- single exposure: The dust generated by the mechanical processing of this material can cause respiratory irritation if appropriate protective measures are not taken.

#### c) Chronic Effects

No chronic effects from exposure to intact LEVANTINA QUARTZ products are known. When LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed; long-term, continual exposure to respirable crystalline silica at or above established permissible occupational exposure limits may cause severe damage to health including pulmonary fibrosis and silicosis as well as the deterioration of other lung diseases such as bronchitis and emphysema. Silicosis may increase the risk of lung cancer.

#### d) Potential Adverse Interactions

No potential adverse interactions from exposure to intact LEVANTINA QUARTZ products are known.

## <u>e) Carcinogen Status</u>

Intact LEVANTINA QUARTZ products are not Carcinogen. When LEVANTINA QUARTZ slabs are being cut, polished, ground or removed; dust produced can have silica, the part of Respirable crystalline silica is classified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IRAC) as a Group I Carcinogen (carcinogenic to humans).

MATERIAL CLASSIFICATION	CRYSTALLINE SILICA (QUARTZ)
CLP	Carcinogenic. Category 1A.
IARC	Group 1. Carcinogenic to humans

# 12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

No detrimental environmental impact known. Toxicity expected to be low based on insolubility in water.

# 13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

LEVANTINA QUARTZ and packing waste should be disposed of in a landfill certified to accept such materials in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations.

# **14.**TRANSPORT INFORMATION

Transport of product is not regulated.

# 15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

#### Important warning:

Levantina Quartz Finished product is not classified as hazardous or dangerous to human health or the environment.

The information in this data sheet provides information related to the potential hazards associated with dust which may be produced during installation and/or removal process.

This document has been prepared in accordance with the Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 (REACH) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals, updated according to Regulation (EU) 2015/830 of 28 May 2015, which modifies Regulation EC) no 1906/2006 and Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures.

#### International legislation:

• Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) (Latest 2017 edition) – UN

#### Applicable European legislation:

- Regulation (EC) 1907/2006 (REACH) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 18 December 2006, concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals, updated according to Regulation (EU) 2015/830 of 28 May 2015, which modifies Regulation EC) no 1906/2006.
- European Directive 2004/37/EC, modified by European Directive 2017/2398 dated 27/12/2017
- Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006 REACH, Annex XIV List of substances subject to authorisation, with its later modifications: Not present, or not present in regulated quantities.
- Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006, Annex XVII, Substances subject to restrictions on manufacture, placing on the market and use: Not present, or not present in regulated quantities.
- Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 (CLP) OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures.
- REGULATION (EU) 2016/918 OF THE COMMISSION of 19 May 2016 amending, for the purposes of its adaptation to technical and scientific progress, Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures.
- European Directive (EU) 2017/2398 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2017 amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work.

# 16. OTHER INFORMATION

All information and recommendations in this document are up-to-date and accurate to the best of our knowledge. Nothing expressed herein can be interpreted or construed as a guarantee of specific properties.

We do not make any warranties, expressed or implied, regarding the accuracy of this data or the results to be obtained from the use thereof.

We recommend contacting with LEVANTINA GROUP before using or supplying the product for any type of application other than those mentioned above.

It is the responsibility of the recipient of our product to observe the relevant regulations and standards. Users are responsible for carrying out a risk assessment of the product, in accordance with risk prevention regulations to fulfil the European Directives.

#### Further information:

- International Labour Organization (http://www.ilo.org)
- European Network for Silica (http://nepsi.eu/good-practice-guide.aspx)
- Levantina Quartz Safety Material Data Sheet (www.levantina.com)
- Website on Crystalline Silica and Health created by the Industrial Mineral Association of Europe (IMA-Europe) (https://www.crystallinesilica.eu/)

• Technical Prevention Sheet 890 of the Spanish National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety: (http://www.insht.es/InshtWeb/Contenidos/Documentacion/FichasTecnicas/NTP/Ficheros/821a921/890w.pdf)

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