

## **Risk Assessment – Porta Plinth**

- **Hazards Identified:**

- No Critical hazards for man and environment in case of normal storing, handling and usage.

- **First Aid Measures:**

- In case of combustion gases inhalation, leave the area immediately and seek medical attention.
- In case of molten material coming into contact with the skin, rinse thoroughly with cold water and seek medical attention. Do not attempt to remove the molten material without medical assistance.

- **Extinguishing Methods:**

- Media include:
  - Water.
  - Foam.
  - Dry Chemicals.
  - CO2.
- Both self contained breathing equipment and protective clothing should be worn to prevent contact with the skin and eyes, as well as to reduce the risk of inhaling any toxic gases.

- **Exposure Control / Personal Protection:**

- No engineering measures to minimize workers exposure required with regards to the materials properties.
- Gloves, hard topped boots, and helmet should be worn during installation of the product.

- **Physical and Chemical Properties:**

- Melting Point / Melting Range 262 Degrees Celsius
- Self Igniting Temperature >530 Degrees Celsius
- Thermal Decomposition >320 Degrees Celsius

- **Stability and Reactivity:**

- Under normal circumstances the plastic is stable.
- Temperatures above the melting point / melting range should be avoided.
- Products forms in the case of overheating or combustion are :
  - H<sub>2</sub>O
  - CO<sub>2</sub>
  - Mainly CO is released dependent on the availability of oxygen in the surrounding area.
  - NO<sub>x</sub> (Nitrogen Oxides)
  - HCN (Hydrogen Cyanide) a flammable and toxic substance. When installed in the open the gas will not be a factor but it does have an impact should the product be used underground.

## Guidelines for Installation

1. Level soil to ensure that the entire base of the product is making contact with the ground, remove all sharp objects (i.e. stones) from the ground that may come in contact with the base of the product.
2. It is recommended that the product be spaced in accordance with the products carrying capacity of two tons and no less than 2 units per length of pipe, these units should be installed within approximately 1.5m of each flange to allow for each length of pipe to be independent of those it is connected to. Spacing of the unit will be affected by the diameter and length of the installed pipe and the expected carrying capacity. Please note that pipes installed on products with excessive distances between them may suffer from sagging in the middle resulting in uneven weight distribution and product failure may occur.
3. Lower the pipe slowly (do not drop the pipe) on the product and ensure that the pipe is installed in the centre of the product. Never exceed the products carrying capacity of two tons.
4. When a pipe is installed on a product in an area where the soil is soft, it may be necessary to fill the product with the readily available surrounding soil. This will stabilize the product and reduce any potential settling that may occur.
5. While the product has high heat resistance and self extinguishing properties it is still recommended that regular maintenance be undertaken to reduce any possible risk that dry foliage may have on the risk of fire.

## **Recommended Installation Guideline on Site**

1. Determine where the Porta Plinth must be placed under the pipe.
  - No less than 2 units per length of pipe
  - Not to exceed 2 tons per unit
  - Units to be placed approximately 1.5m of each flange
  - Units must not be spaced more than 6m apart
2. Level the soil before installing the Porta Plinth.
  - The entire base of the product must make contact with the ground
  - Remove all sharp objects that may come in contact with the base (i.e. sharp stones)
  - Fill the product with soil if placed on soft ground
3. Lower the pipe onto the Porta Plinth.
  - Do not drop the pipe onto the unit
  - Lower the pipe onto the preplaced units and connect the flange
4. Follow the steps above for the next pipe to be installed.