

MATERIAL SAFETY INFORMATION.

MASONLITE COATED TUBING AND ELECTRODES.

COSHH is applicable to materials but not objects. However, both coated tubing and electrodes have hazards associated with them which should be taken into account. The following notes should assist you in your risk assessment.

COATED TUBING.

Pre-coated tubing for use in neon signage and cold cathode lighting is made with two components of separate and very different characteristics.

The physical hazards of the glass tubing (breakage, cuts etc.) do not come under COSHH, but under Risk Assessment. For COSHH we publish MSDS's on the phosphors coated on the inside of the above glass tubing. It should be noted that, although the dust hazard is highlighted in the MSDSs, the phosphors are strongly bonded to the glass surface. Good housekeeping will ensure the amount of dust entering the workplace atmosphere is minimal. Normal working practices in the neon and cold cathode lighting industries should not generate a dust hazard from these products. However, care should be taken during disposal of waste tubing or lamps.

ELECTRODES.

Again an electrode is an object and does not have an MSDS. However, a hazardous material (emitter) is coated on the inside of the electrode shell. We would comment as follows:-

- 1) The emitter is present as a strongly adhered coating on the inside surface of the metal shell of the electrodes, and is therefore very difficult to dislodge or access.
- 2) The amount of emitter present is closely controlled and would never exceed 50 mg per electrode.
- 3) The smaller electrodes contain lower amounts of emitter than larger electrodes.

M. Hall. Apr 2005.

