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Ceramic Ball Storage Instructions

Revised 2015

As durable ceramic products, Ceramic Ball Bed Support media have an indefinite shelf life, insofar as the packaging remains intact and undamaged. The following cautions describe storage recommendations helpful to preserve package integrity.

Ceramic Ball Bed Support media packaged in steel drums need only be kept in an environment which will not degrade the steel drums, such as prolonged standing water in the lids, or in standing water. As long as the drum remains sealed, with lids intact, and no punctures or corrosion perforation, no other storage precautions are necessary. It is always advisable to cover the drums with sheeting to shed rain, snow, and dew.

Ceramic Ball Bed Support media packaged in bulk sacks (also known as Flexible Intermediate Bulk Containers, or FIBC), one cubic foot or one-half cubic foot bags, or one cubic foot boxes should be kept in an environment which will keep the packages free from moisture and sunlight exposure.

Exposure to sunlight, however brief, will cause degradation of the bulk sacks, one cubic foot, or one-half cubic foot bags, due to attack of the polymeric fabric, strapping, and threads by ultraviolet light (UV). This will eventually occur, even though the polymer is treated with a UV stabilizer. The UV stabilizer is not permanently effective. **Significant and permanent damage to polymeric bulk sacks or bags is possible in as little as 10-14 days of exposure to sunlight.**

Packages which have been kept in storage must be inspected for physical integrity prior to lifting or movement, to ensure that the bulk sack, bag or box has not deteriorated, creating personnel safety hazards or the possibility of equipment damage.

General Storage Suggestions:

- Inside, dry storage is greatly preferred for all packages. All packages should remain on pallets in any storage environment.
 - Lean-to, shed, or pole-barn storage or any open-sided tent or building is a second-best option, so far as sunlight does not impinge on polymeric bags.
 - Outside storage, if necessary, requires extra precautions:
 1. The storage site should be free of standing water, preferably a pavement pad, or well-draining gravel or shell.
 2. Unimproved lay-down yards, or areas of dirt or grass, should be avoided. The loaded pallets weigh over one ton each and will sink into soft ground.
 3. Polymeric bulk sacks or bags, or cardboard boxes, must be covered at all times, with opaque tarps or sheeting, completely to the ground, to prevent UV damage and to shed rain or heavy dew. Failure to do so is at the user's risk.
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