OSHA Update

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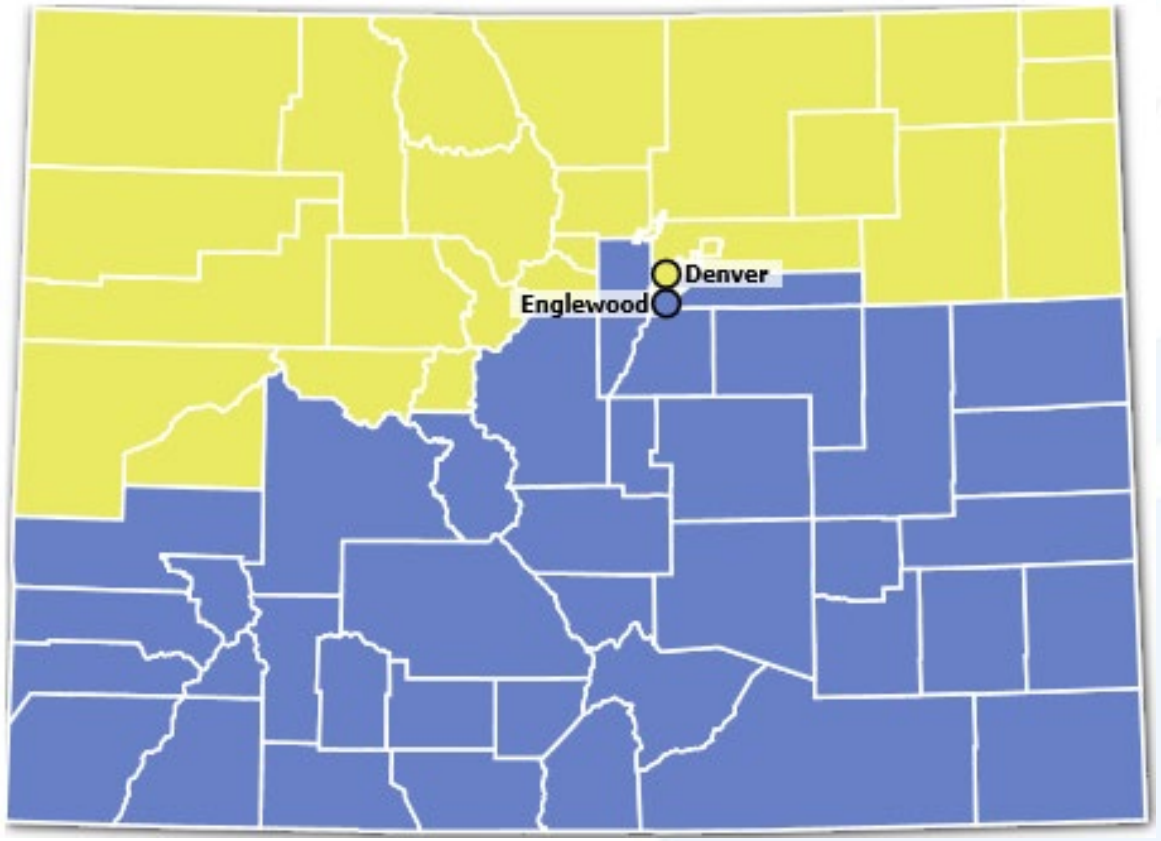


Englewood AO
303-843-4500

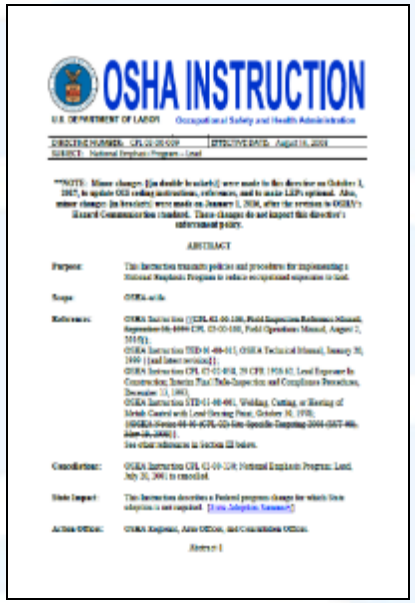
What Can We Expect?

- Emphasis Program Overview
- New Silica Standard and Emphasis Program
- Select Chemical Hazard Emphasis Programs
- COVID-19/Respirator Protection
- Questions

National and Regional Emphasis Programs

FY 20 NEPs

- Amputations in Manufacturing (Extended)
- Lead Exposures (GI and Construction)
- Federal Agency Targeting Inspection Program
- Hexavalent Chromium Exposures
- Process Safety Management
- Combustible Dust
- Trenching and Excavation (Updated)
- Primary Metals Industries (Foundries)
- Shipbreaking
- Respirable Crystalline Silica (NEW)
- Site Specific Targeting (SST) 2016
  - https://www.osha.gov/dep/neps/nep-programs.html


OSHA INSTRUCTION

OSHA

FY 20 Regional and Local EPs (Region VIII)

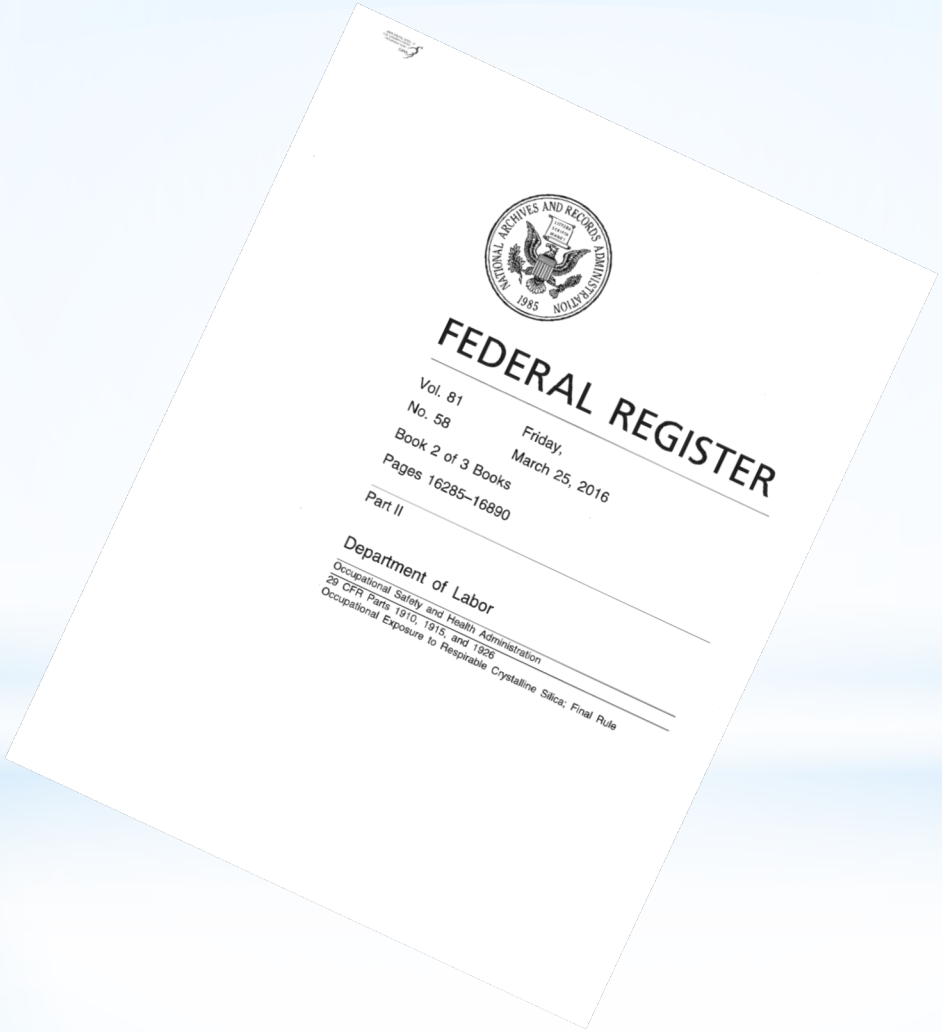
- Regional Emphasis Programs
  - Fall Hazards in Construction
  - Roadway Work Zone Activities
  - Oil and Gas Industry
  - Grain Handling Facilities
  - Workplace Violence in Residential Intellectual and Developmental Disability Facilities
  - Beverage Manufacturing
  - Hazards in Automotive Services

- Local Emphasis Programs
  - Asbestos Abatement (Englewood)
  - Scrap & Recycling (Englewood)
  - Wood Manufacturing and Processing (Billings)
  - Aircraft Support and Maintenance Facilities (Englewood)

OSHA's Respirable Crystalline Silica Rule

OSHA® Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Final Rule Published on March 25, 2016



Reasons for the Rule

- Prior permissible exposure limits (PELs) are formulas that many find hard to understand
- Prior general industry formula PEL was about equal to 100 µg/m^3; construction/shipyard formulas were about 250 µg/m^3
- Previous PELs do not adequately protect workers
- Extensive epidemiologic evidence that lung cancer and silicosis occur at exposure levels below 100 µg/m^3

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Exposure and Health Risks

Exposure to respirable crystalline silica has been linked to:

- Silicosis;
- Lung cancer;
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease;
- Kidney disease

Healthy Lung

Silicotic Lung

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Health Benefits

OSHA estimates that once the effects of the rule are fully realized, it will prevent:

- More than 600 deaths per year
  - Lung cancer: 124
  - Silicosis and other non-cancer lung diseases: 325
  - End-stage kidney disease: 193
- More than 900 new silicosis cases per year

Scope of Coverage

- Three forms of silica: quartz, cristobalite and tridymite
- Exposures from chipping, cutting, sawing, drilling, grinding, sanding, and crushing of concrete, brick, block, rock, and stone products (such as in construction operations)
- Exposures from using sand products (such as glass manufacturing, foundries, and sand blasting)

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Industries and Operations with Exposures

- Construction
- Glass manufacturing
- Pottery products
- Structural clay products
- Concrete products
- Foundries
- Dental laboratories
- Paintings and coatings
- Jewelry production
- Refractory products
- Asphalt products
- Landscaping
- Ready-mix concrete
- Cut stone and stone products
- Abrasive blasting in:
  - Maritime work
  - Construction
  - General industry
- Refractory furnace installation and repair
- Railroads
- Hydraulic fracturing for gas and oil

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Workers and Industries Affected

- 2.3 million workers:
  - Construction: 2 million
  - GI/Maritime: 300,000
- 676,000 establishments
  - Construction: 600,000
  - GI/Maritime: 76,000

Construction

(a) Scope
(b) Definitions
(c) Specified exposure control methods

OR

(d) Alternative exposure control methods

- PEL
- Exposure Assessment
- Methods of Compliance

(e) Respiratory protection
(f) Housekeeping
(g) Written exposure control plan
(h) Medical surveillance
(i) Communication of silica hazards
(j) Recordkeeping
(k) Dates

Example of Table 1 Entry

Equipment / Task	Engineering and Work Practice Control Methods	Required Respiratory Protection and Minimum APF	
		≤ 4 hr/shift	> 4 hr/shift
Handheld power saws (any blade diameter)	Use saw equipped with integrated water delivery system that continuously feeds water to the blade. Operate and maintain tool in accordance with manufacturers' instruction to minimize dust - When used outdoors - When used indoors or in an enclosed area	None APF 10	APF 10 APF 10

National Emphasis Program for Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

- **NEP for Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS-NEP)**
  - Published on February 5, 2020
  - To enforce the 2016 Silica standards
  - And target industries with the greatest number of exposed workers
- **Goals**
  - Reduce or eliminate worker exposures to respirable crystalline silica (RCS) in general industry, construction, and maritime
  - Annually do 2% of federal inspections (600 - 700)

National Emphasis Program for Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)

- **NEP for RCS:**
  - Inspections to start May 5, 2020
  - 90 day outreach period – contact John Olaechea (olaechea.john@dol.gov) for more information

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NAICS Code	Industry
213112	Support Activities for Oil and Gas Operations[1]
221100	Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution[1] *221111 Hydroelectric Power Generation* *221112 Fossil Fuel Electric Power Generation* *221113 Nuclear Electric Power Generation* *221114 Solar Electric Power Generation* *221115 Wind Electric Power Generation* *221116 Geothermal Electric Power Generation* *221117 Biomass Electric Power Generation* *221118 Other Electric Power Generation* *221121 Electric Bulk Power Transmission and Control* *221122 Electric Power Distribution*
324122	Asphalt Shingle and Coating Materials Manufacturing
325510	Paint and Coating Manufacturing
327110	Pottery, Ceramics, and Plumbing Fixture Manufacturing
327120	Clay Building Material and Refractories Manufacturing
327212	Other Pressed and Blown Glass and Glassware Manufacturing
327213	Glass Container Manufacturing
327320	Ready-Mix Concrete Manufacturing
327331	Concrete Block and Brick Manufacturing
327332	Concrete Pipe Manufacturing
327390	Other Concrete Product Manufacturing
327991	Cut Stone and Stone Product Manufacturing
327992	Ground or Treated Mineral and Earth Manufacturing
327993	Mineral Wool Manufacturing
327999	All Other Miscellaneous Nonmetallic Mineral Product Manufacturing
331511	Iron Foundries
331512	Steel Investment Foundries
331513	Steel Foundries (except Investment)
331524	Aluminum Foundries (except Die-Casting)
331529	Other Nonferrous Metal Foundries (except Die-Casting)
332710	Machine Shops
332812	Metal Coating, Engraving (except Jewelry and Silverware), and Allied Services to Manufacturers
336611	Ship Building and Repairing[1]
336612	Boat Building[1]
339114	Dental Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing
339910	Jewelry and Silverware Manufacturing
339950	Sign Manufacturing
423840	Industrial Supplies Merchant Wholesalers
482110	Rail transportation *482111 Line-Haul Railroads* *482112 Short Line Railroads*
561730	Landscaping Services[1]
999200	State governments[1,2]
999300	Local governments[1,2]

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Table 2. Targeted Industries in Construction by 2017 NAICS

NAICS Code	Industry
236100	Residential Building Construction *236115 New Single-Family Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)* *236116 New Multifamily Housing Construction (except For-Sale Builders)* *236117 New Housing For-Sale Builders* *236118 Residential Remodelers*
236200	Nonresidential Building Construction *236210 Industrial Building Construction* *236220 Commercial and Institutional Building Construction*
237100	Utility System Construction *237110 Water and Sewer Line and Related Structures Construction* *237120 Oil and Gas Pipeline and Related Structures Construction* *237130 Power and Communication Line and Related Structures Construction*
237200	Land Subdivision *237210 Land Subdivision*
237300	Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction *237310 Highway, Street, and Bridge Construction*
237900	Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction *237990 Other Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction*
238100	Foundation, Structure, and Building Exterior Contractors *238110 Poured Concrete Foundation and Structure Contractors* *238120 Structural Steel and Precast Concrete Contractors* *238130 Framing Contractors* *238140 Masonry Contractors* *238150 Glass and Glazing Contractors* *238160 Roofing Contractors* *238170 Siding Contractors* *238190 Other Foundation, Structure, and Building Exterior Contractors*
238200	Building Equipment Contractors *238210 Electrical Contractors and Other Wiring Installation Contractors* *238220 Plumbing, Heating, and Air-Conditioning Contractors* *238290 Other Building Equipment Contractors*
238300	Building Finishing Contractors *238310 Drywall and Insulation Contractors* *238320 Painting and Wall Covering Contractors* *238330 Flooring Contractors* *238340 Tile and Terrazzo Contractors* *238350 Finish Carpentry Contractors* *238390 Other Building Finishing Contractors*
238900	Other Specialty Trade Contractors *238910 Site Preparation Contractors* *238990 All Other Specialty Trade Contractors*

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Silica Directive Summary

- ✓ Identify tasks where anticipated exposures can exceed AL
- ✓ Conduct employee exposure assessments
  or follow Table 1 (for Construction)
- ✓ Establish written exposure control plan
  and designate competent person (Construction)
- ✓ Implement feasible dust controls to reduce exposures
- ✓ Require use of respiratory protection if exposures exceed PEL
- ✓ Prohibit use of compressed air and dry sweeping for cleaning
- ✓ Offer medical surveillance as required to employees that wear respiratory protection
- ✓ Train employees on hazards and control methods
- ✓ Maintain records

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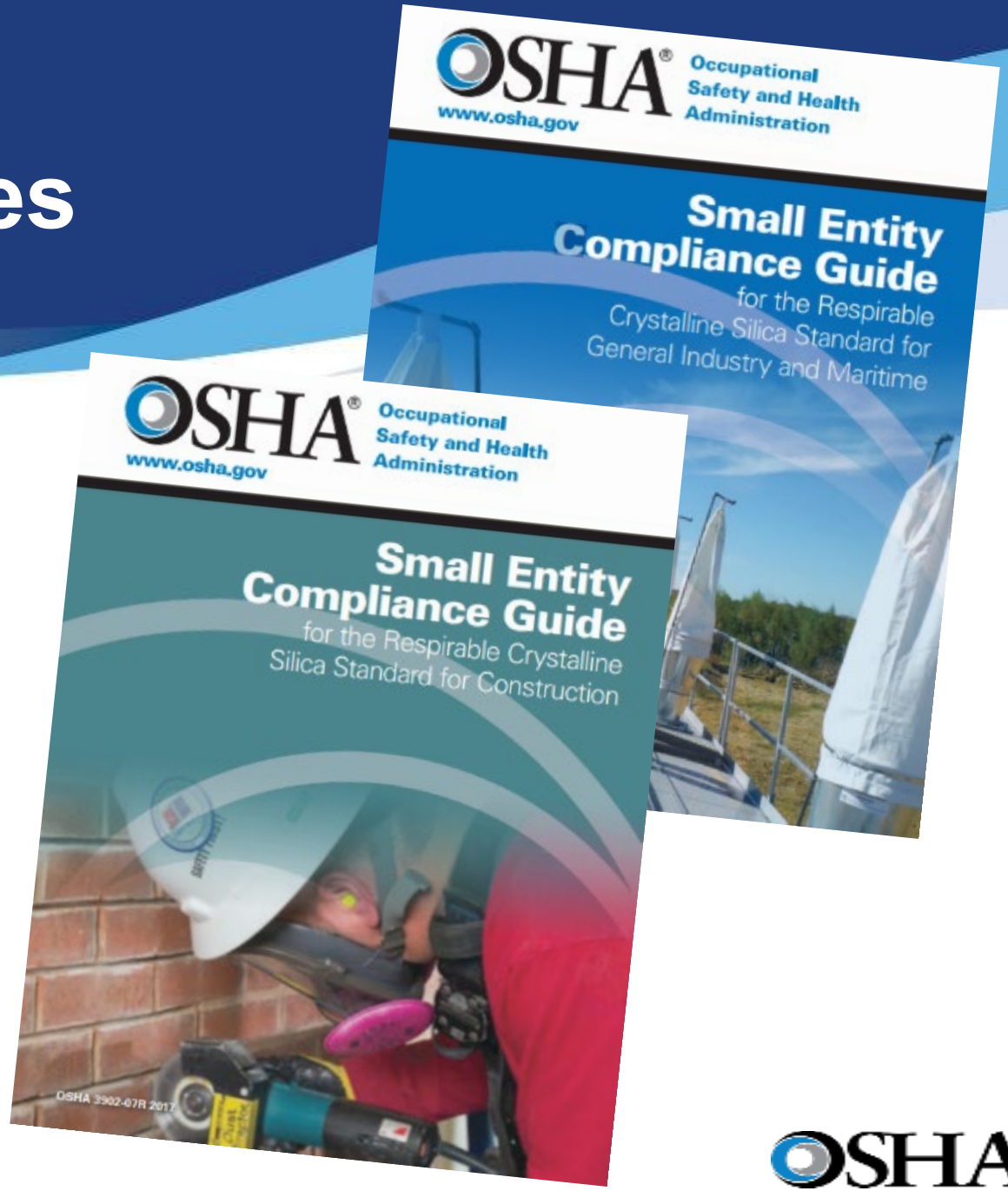
Silica:
Table 1 Request for Information

- RFI published in the Federal Register on August 15, 2019
- Agency requested information and comment on:
  - Additional controls for tasks currently on Table 1
  - Additional tasks to add
  - Allowing employers covered by GI standard to follow construction standard in additional circumstances

Small Entity Compliance Guides

- Available for both construction
  www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3902.pdf
  and
  general industry/ maritime
  www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3911.pdf

- Explain the provisions of the standards



OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Outreach and Guidance Materials
OSHA Safety and Health Topics Page

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Find it in OSHA

A TO Z INDEX

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

English | Spanish

ABOUT OSHA | WORKERS | EMPLOYERS | REGULATIONS | ENFORCEMENT | TOPICS | NEWS & PUBLICATIONS | DATA | TRAINING

Safety and Health Topics / Silica

Silica

- Health Effects
- Construction
- General Industry and Maritime
- Sampling and Analysis
- FAQs

Overview

Crystalline silica is a common mineral found in the earth's crust. Materials like sand, stone, concrete, and mortar contain crystalline silica. It is also used to make products such as glass, pottery, ceramics, bricks, and artificial stone.

Respirable crystalline silica – very small particles at least 100 times smaller than ordinary sand you might find on beaches and playgrounds – is created when cutting, sawing, grinding, drilling, and crushing stone, rock, concrete, brick, block, and mortar. Activities such as abrasive blasting with sand; sawing brick or concrete; sanding or drilling into concrete walls; grinding mortar; manufacturing brick, concrete blocks, stone countertops, or ceramic products; and cutting or crushing stone result in worker exposures to respirable crystalline silica dust. Industrial sand used in certain operations, such as foundry work and hydraulic fracturing (fracking), is also a source of respirable crystalline silica exposure. About 2.3 million people in the U.S. are exposed to silica at work.

Workers who inhale these very small crystalline silica particles are at increased risk of developing serious silica-related diseases, including:

Highlights

- Small Entity Compliance Guides
  - Construction
  - General Industry and Maritime
- Table 1 Task Fact Sheets for Construction
- Interim Enforcement for the Respirable Crystalline Silica in Construction Standard
- FAQs
- Silica Rule Updates
- Submit a question

https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/index.html

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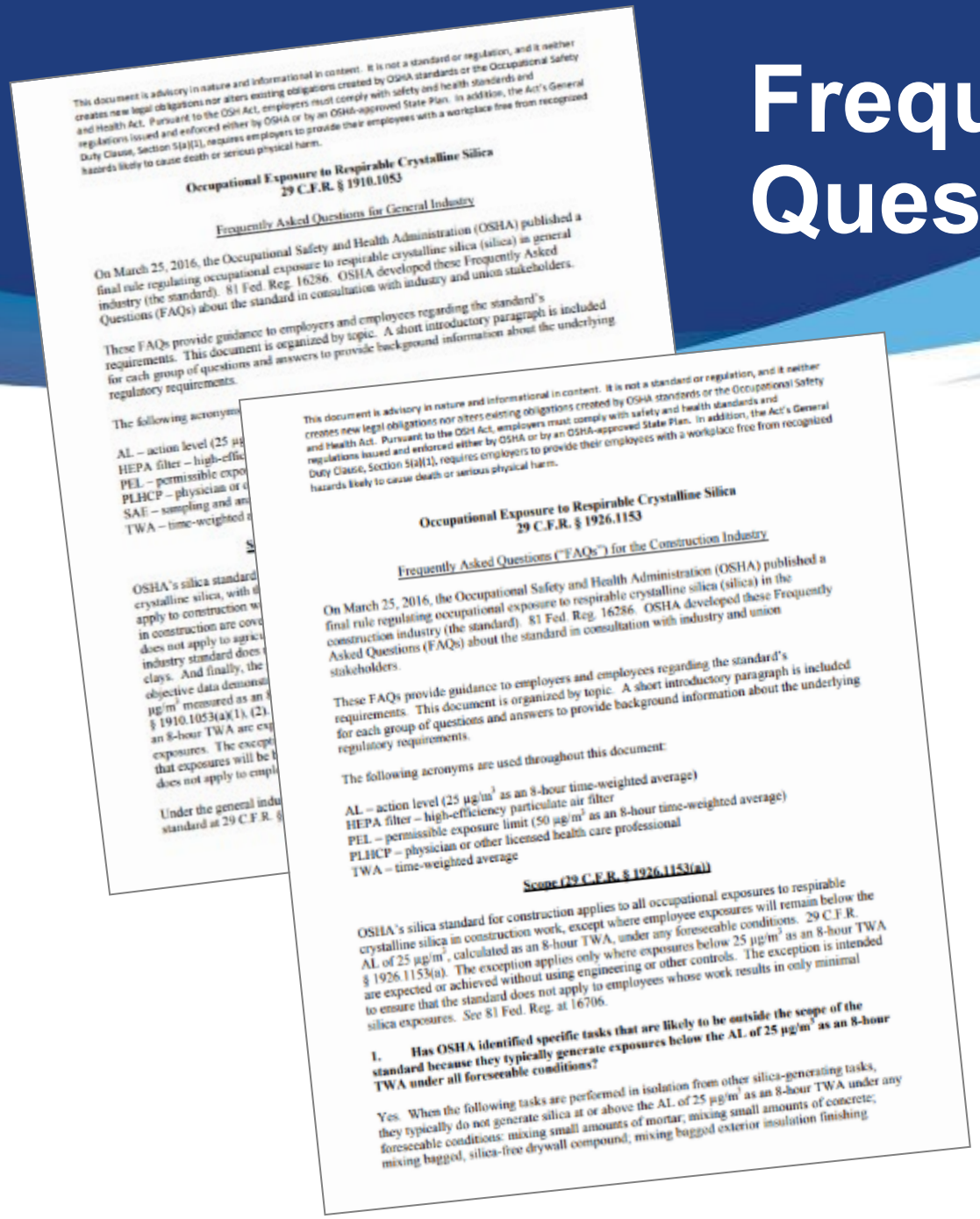

This document is advisory in nature and informational in content. It is not a standard or regulation, and it neither creates new legal obligations nor alters existing obligations created by OSHA standards or the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Pursuant to the OSH Act, employers must comply with safety and health standards and regulations issued and enforced either by OSHA or by an OSHA-approved State Plan. In addition, the Act's General Duty Clause, Section 5(a)(1), requires employers to provide their employees with a workplace free from recognized hazards likely to cause death or serious physical harm.

Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica
29 C.F.R. § 1910.1053

Frequently Asked Questions for General Industry

On March 25, 2016, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published a final rule regulating occupational exposure to respirable crystalline silica (silica) in general industry (the standard). 81 Fed. Reg. 16286. OSHA developed these Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the standard in consultation with industry and union stakeholders.

These FAQs provide guidance to employers and employees regarding the standard's requirements. This document is organized by topic. A short introductory paragraph is included for each group of questions and answers to provide background information about the underlying regulatory requirements.

The following acronyms

AL – action level (25 µg
HEPA filter – high-effic
PEL – permissible expo
PLHCP – physician or
SAE – sampling and an
TWA – time-weighted

OSHA's silica standard
crystalline silica, with t
apply to construction w
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§ 1910.1053(a)(1), (2).
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Under the general indu
standard at 29 C.F.R. §

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Occupational Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica
29 C.F.R. § 1926.1153

Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") for the Construction Industry

On March 25, 2016, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published a final rule regulating occupational exposure to respirable crystalline silica (silica) in the construction industry (the standard). 81 Fed. Reg. 16286. OSHA developed these Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the standard in consultation with industry and union stakeholders.

These FAQs provide guidance to employers and employees regarding the standard's requirements. This document is organized by topic. A short introductory paragraph is included for each group of questions and answers to provide background information about the underlying regulatory requirements.

The following acronyms are used throughout this document:

AL – action level (25 µg/m³ as an 8-hour time-weighted average)
HEPA filter – high-efficiency particulate air filter
PEL – permissible exposure limit (50 µg/m³ as an 8-hour time-weighted average)
PLHCP – physician or other licensed health care professional
TWA – time-weighted average

Scope (29 C.F.R. § 1926.1153(a))

OSHA's silica standard for construction applies to all occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica in construction work, except where employee exposures will remain below the AL of 25 µg/m³, calculated as an 8-hour TWA, under any foreseeable conditions. 29 C.F.R. § 1926.1153(a). The exception applies only where exposures below 25 µg/m³ as an 8-hour TWA are expected or achieved without using engineering or other controls. The exception is intended to ensure that the standard does not apply to employees whose work results in only minimal silica exposures. *See* 81 Fed. Reg. at 16706.

1. Has OSHA identified specific tasks that are likely to be outside the scope of the standard because they typically generate exposures below the AL of 25 µg/m³ as an 8-hour TWA under all foreseeable conditions?

Yes. When the following tasks are performed in isolation from other silica-generating tasks, they typically do not generate silica at or above the AL of 25 µg/m³ as an 8-hour TWA under any foreseeable conditions: mixing small amounts of mortar; mixing small amounts of concrete; mixing bagged, silica-free drywall compound; mixing bagged exterior insulation finishing

Frequently Asked Questions

- Available for both construction and general industry/ maritime
- Provide responses to some of the most common stakeholder questions

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- Videos

- Fact Sheets

- Training PowerPoint Template

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Other Guidance Materials

- NIOSH Silica Safety and Health Topics
  - https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/silica/
- CPWR Silica Safe Website
  - http://www.silica-safe.org/
- Tool Manufacturers
  - Instructional Videos
  - Operator Manual

OSHA Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Guidance and Outreach

- Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR)
  - E-tool to:
    - Assess silica hazards
    - Select controls
    - Create a plan

PSM Covered Chemical Facilities NEP

- Released 2017
- Updated to include refineries
  - Refinery inspections distributed based on total number per region
- Four targeting categories
  - Ammonia refrigeration – 25 percent
  - Refineries – based on total per region
  - Chemical facilities (NAICS 325) – 45 percent
  - Other – 30 percent

What is covered by PSM?

- Processes including:
  - 10,000 pounds of flammable liquids or gasses
  - Threshold quantity (TQ)of a highly hazardous chemical (HHC)
    - 130+ chemicals listed in Appendix A
    - Toxic and/or reactive chemicals

CHEMICAL NAME	CAS*	TQ**
Acetaldehyde	75-07-0	2500
Acrolein (2-Popenal)	107-02-8	150
Acrylyl Chlorde	814-68-6	250
Allyl Chlorid	107-05-1	1000
Allylamine	107-11-9	1000
Alkylaluminum	Varies	5000
Ammonia, Anhydrous	7664-41-7	10000
Ammonia solutions (greater than 44% ammonia by weight)	7664-41-7	15000
Ammonium Perchlorate	7790-98-9	7500
Ammonium Permanganate	7787-36-2	7500

ChemNEP Citations by PSM Element

Element	Description	% of PSM Citations	Cum %
j	Mechanical Integrity	26.9	26.9
d	Process Safety Information	19.6	49.2
e	Process Hazard Analysis	15.3	64.5
f	Operating Procedures	10.5	74.9
l	Management of Change	5.2	80.1
h	Contractors	4.7	84.9
o	Compliance Audits	3.6	88.5
n	Emergency Response and Planning	3.4	91.9
g	Training	3.2	95.1
c	Employee Participation	2.1	97.2
m	Incident Investigation	1.3	98.5
i	Pre-startup Review	1.1	99.6
k	Hot Work	0.4	100

Combustible Dust NEP

- Hazards created when:
  - Dust is combustible
  - Dust is dispersed in air and concentration is above MEC (min explosible conc)
  - Ignition source exists
  - Confinement

Combustible Dust NEP

- Combustible dusts include:
  - Metal, wood, coal/carbon, plastics, organic dusts

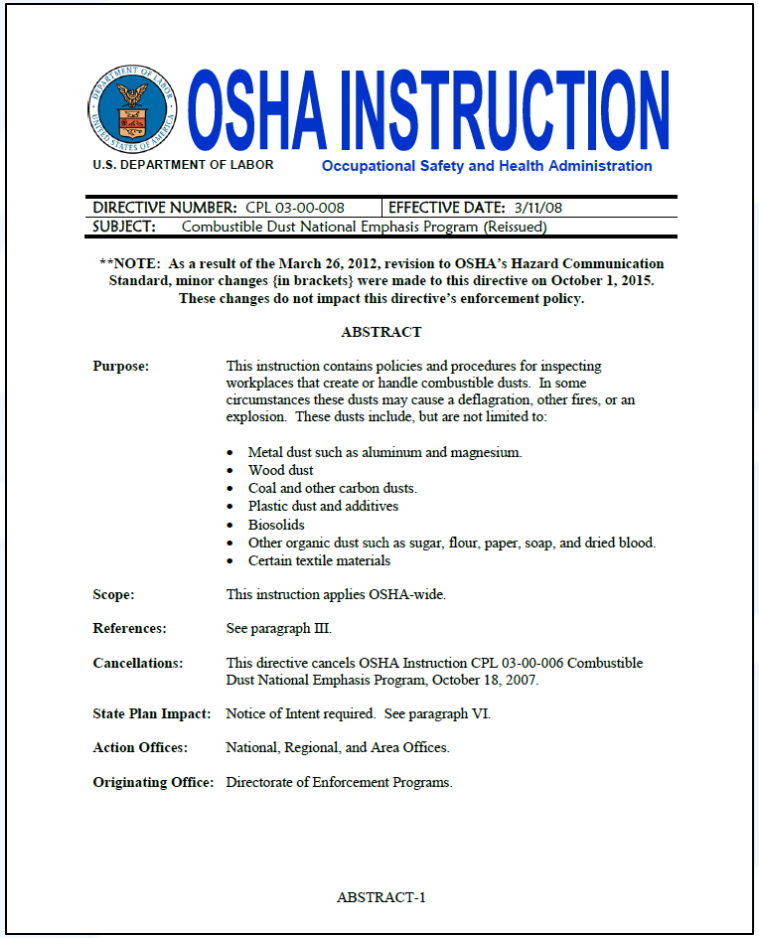
- Industries include:
  - Agriculture, food, chemicals, textiles, metals, tires, pharmaceuticals, paper, recycling, coal

Combustible Dust NEP

- National Emphasis Program

- Citable under:
  - 1910.176 (housekeeping)
  - 1910.94 (ventilation)
  - General Duty Clause (Section 5a1)

- General Duty Clause:
  - NFPA 654 (prevention of fire)
  - NFPA 484 (combustible metals)
  - Operator's manual
  - Industry practices
  - Other consensus standards



OSHA INSTRUCTION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR — Occupational Safety and Health Administration

DIRECTIVE NUMBER: CPL 03-00-008	EFFECTIVE DATE: 3/11/08
SUBJECT: Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program (Reissued)	

**NOTE: As a result of the March 26, 2012, revision to OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard, minor changes {in brackets} were made to this directive on October 1, 2015. These changes do not impact this directive's enforcement policy.

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This instruction contains policies and procedures for inspecting workplaces that create or handle combustible dusts. In some circumstances these dusts may cause a deflagration, other fires, or an explosion. These dusts include, but are not limited to:

- Metal dust such as aluminum and magnesium.
- Wood dust
- Coal and other carbon dusts.
- Plastic dust and additives
- Biosolids
- Other organic dust such as sugar, flour, paper, soap, and dried blood.
- Certain textile materials

Scope: This instruction applies OSHA-wide.

References: See paragraph III.

Cancellations: This directive cancels OSHA Instruction CPL 03-00-006 Combustible Dust National Emphasis Program, October 18, 2007.

State Plan Impact: Notice of Intent required. See paragraph VI.

Action Offices: National, Regional, and Area Offices.

Originating Office: Directorate of Enforcement Programs.

ABSTRACT-1

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Combustible Dust

Appendix A
NFPA Publications Relevant to Combustible Dust Hazard Controls

NFPA Number	Title	Current Edition
61	Standard for the Prevention of Fires and Dust Explosions in Agricultural and Food Processing Facilities	2008
68	Guide for Venting of Deflagrations	2007
69	Standard on Explosion Prevention Systems	2008
70	National Electrical Code	2008
77	Recommended Practice on Static Electricity	2007
85	Boiler and Combustion Systems Hazards Code	2007
86	Standard for Ovens and Furnaces	2007
91	Standard for Exhaust Systems for Air Conveying of Vapors, Gases, Mists, and Noncombustible Particulate Solids	2004
484	Standard for Combustible Metals	2006
499	Recommended Practice for the Classification of Combustible Dusts and of Hazardous (Classified) Locations for Electrical Installations in Chemical Process Areas	2008
654	Standard for the Prevention of Fire and Dust Explosions from the Manufacturing, Processing, and Handling of Combustible Particulate Solids	2006
655	Standard for Prevention of Sulfur Fires and Explosions	2007
664	Standard for the Prevention of Fires and Explosions in Wood Processing and Woodworking Facilities	2007

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Protecting the Safety and Health of Workers
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

OSHA enforcement

OSHA:

- **Typically responds to emergencies, including disease outbreaks, in a technical assistance posture.**
- **Provides compliance assistance to employers to help ensure workers are protected.**
- **Provides technical assistance and support to other federal agencies, as well as state/local partners.**
- **Implemented interim enforcement plan for investigating COVID complaints, while ensuring the safety of workers, employers, and inspectors.**

www.osha.gov/coronavirus

OSHA enforcement authority

- **During emergency response operations, even when OSHA is operating in a technical assistance and support mode, OSHA standards remain in effect and OSHA retains its ability to enforce the OSHA standards under the OSH Act.**
- **Enforcement of OSHA standards follows the jurisdiction in place before the emergency, such as in states operating OSHA-approved occupational safety and health programs called State Plans.**

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Existing OSHA standards protect workers from exposure

- **Follow existing OSHA standards to help protect workers from exposure to SARS-CoV-2 and infection with COVID-19.**
- **Employers should also remember that OSHA can use the General Duty Clause, Section 5(a)(1), of the Occupational Safety and Health Act to ensure that workers are protected from recognized safety and health hazards that may cause serious harm.**

Relevant OSHA requirements

- **Personal Protective Equipment (29 CFR 1910 subpart I), including:**
  - **PPE General Requirements (1910.132)**
  - **Eye and Face Protection (1910.133)**
  - **Respiratory Protection (1910.134)**
  - **Hand Protection (29 CFR 1910.138)**
- **Bloodborne Pathogens (29 CFR 1910.1030)**
- **Hazard Communication (29 CFR 1910.1200)**
- **Recordkeeping (29 CFR part 1904)**

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OSHA enforcement discretion

OSHA has provided enforcement discretion for some of its requirements, including:

- **Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134)**
- **Other health standards with respirator requirements**
- **Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illness (29 CFR Part 1904)**

Memorandum	Effective
Healthcare Respiratory Protection Annual Fit-Testing for N95 Filtering Facepieces During the COVID-19 Outbreak	March 14, 2020 - present
Enforcement Guidance for Respiratory Protection and the N95 Shortage Due to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic	April 3, 2020 – present
Enforcement Guidance for Use of Respiratory Protection Equipment Certified Under Standards of Other Countries or Jurisdictions During the COVID-19 Pandemic	April 3, 2020 - present
Expanded Temporary Enforcement Guidance on Respiratory Protection Fit-Testing for N95 Filtering Facepieces in All Industries During the COVID-19 Pandemic	April 8, 2020 - present
Enforcement Guidance for Recording Cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)	April 10, 2020 – present
Enforcement Guidance on Decontamination of Filtering Facepiece Respirators in Healthcare During the COVID-19 Pandemic	April 24, 2020 – present

www.osha.gov/coronavirus

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OSHA Guidance: Recording Work-Related COVID-19 Cases

- **COVID-19 can be a recordable illness, and employers are responsible for recording cases of COVID-19 if all of the following are met:**
  - The case is a confirmed case of COVID-19 (see CDC information on persons under investigation and presumptive positive and laboratory-confirmed cases of COVID-19);
  - The case is work-related, as defined by 29 CFR 1904.5; and
  - The case involves one or more of the general recording criteria set forth in 29 CFR 1904.7 (e.g., medical treatment beyond first aid, days away from work).
- **OSHA is exercising enforcement discretion around recording COVID-19 cases.**

OSHA guidance

- **OSHA has developed a variety of guidance materials for workers and employers on how to stay healthy during the pandemic.**
- **OSHA.gov/coronavirus includes information on implementing the hierarchy of controls when workers have specific exposure risks.**

www.osha.gov/coronavirus

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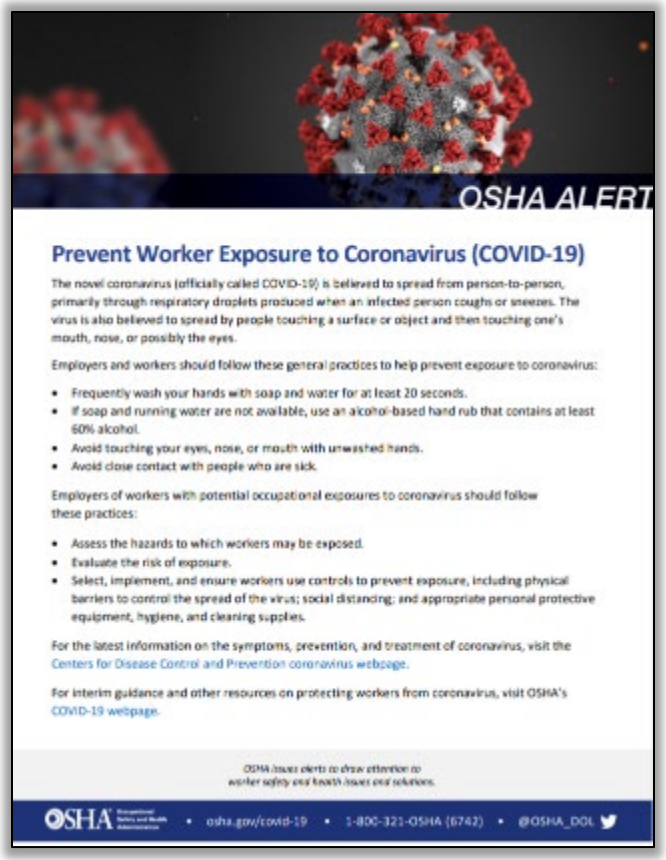
OSHA guidance

OSHA Alerts

- COVID-19 Guidance for the Construction Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for the Manufacturing Industry Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for the Package Delivery Workforce
- COVID-19 Guidance for Retail Workers
- Prevent Worker Exposure to Coronavirus (COVID-19)



www.osha.gov/coronavirus

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OSHA Compliance Assistance

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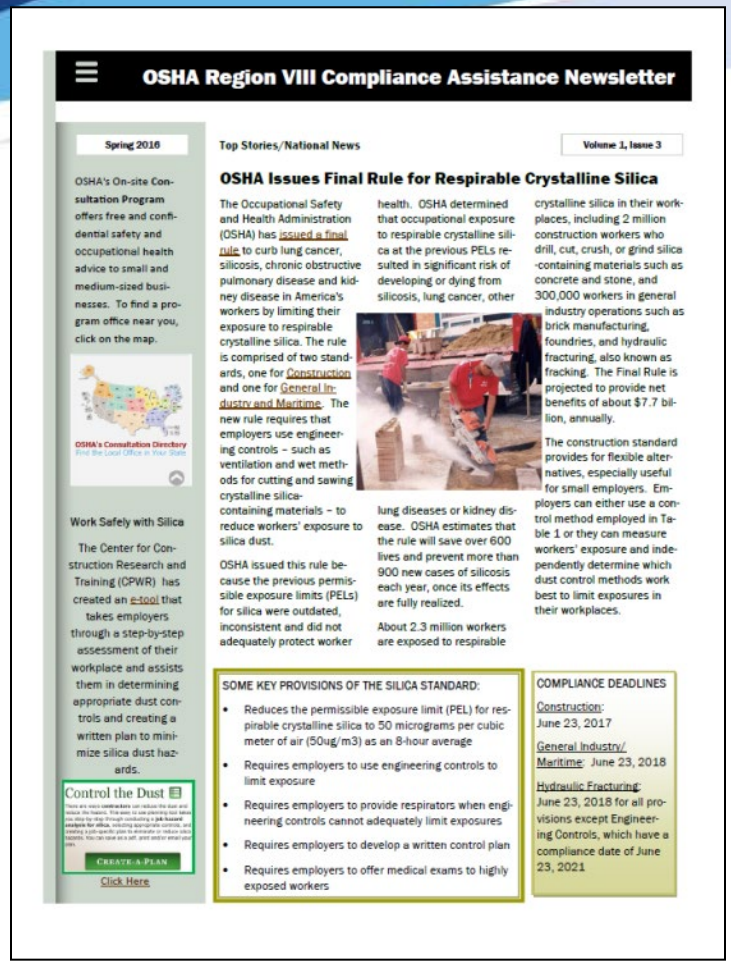

OSHA Region VIII Compliance Assistance Newsletter

Spring 2016

Top Stories/National News

Volume 1, Issue 3

OSHA's On-site Consultation Program offers free and confidential safety and occupational health advice to small and medium-sized businesses. To find a program office near you, click on the map.

OSHA's Consultation Directory

Work Safely with Silica

The Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR) has created an e-tool that takes employers through a step-by-step assessment of their workplace and assists them in determining appropriate dust controls and creating a written plan to minimize silica dust hazards.

Control the Dust

CREATE-A-PLAN

Click Here

OSHA Issues Final Rule for Respirable Crystalline Silica

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a final rule to curb lung cancer, silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and kidney disease in America's workers by limiting their exposure to respirable crystalline silica. The rule is comprised of two standards, one for Construction and one for General Industry and Maritime. The new rule requires that employers use engineering controls – such as ventilation and wet methods for cutting and sawing crystalline silica-containing materials – to reduce workers' exposure to silica dust.

OSHA issued this rule because the previous permissible exposure limits (PELs) for silica were outdated, inconsistent and did not adequately protect worker health. OSHA determined that occupational exposure to respirable crystalline silica at the previous PELs resulted in significant risk of developing or dying from silicosis, lung cancer, other lung diseases or kidney disease. OSHA estimates that the rule will save over 600 lives and prevent more than 900 new cases of silicosis each year, once its effects are fully realized.

About 2.3 million workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica in their workplaces, including 2 million construction workers who drill, cut, crush, or grind silica-containing materials such as concrete and stone, and 300,000 workers in general industry operations such as brick manufacturing, foundries, and hydraulic fracturing, also known as fracking. The Final Rule is projected to provide net benefits of about $7.7 billion, annually.

The construction standard provides for flexible alternatives, especially useful for small employers. Employers can either use a control method employed in Table 1 or they can measure workers' exposure and independently determine which dust control methods work best to limit exposures in their workplaces.

SOME KEY PROVISIONS OF THE SILICA STANDARD:

- Reduces the permissible exposure limit (PEL) for respirable crystalline silica to 50 micrograms per cubic meter of air (50ug/m3) as an 8-hour average
- Requires employers to use engineering controls to limit exposure
- Requires employers to provide respirators when engineering controls cannot adequately limit exposures
- Requires employers to develop a written control plan
- Requires employers to offer medical exams to highly exposed workers

COMPLIANCE DEADLINES

Construction: June 23, 2017

General Industry/ Maritime: June 23, 2018

Hydraulic Fracturing: June 23, 2018 for all provisions except Engineering Controls, which have a compliance date of June 23, 2021

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Questions?

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DISCLAIMER

- This information has been developed by an OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and is intended to assist employers, workers, and others improve workplace health and safety. While we attempt to thoroughly address specific topics, it is not possible to include discussion of everything necessary to ensure a healthy and safe working environment in this presentation. This information is a tool for addressing workplace hazards, and is not an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards. This document does not have the force and effect of law and is not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. It does not create (or diminish) legal obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Finally, OSHA may modify rules and related interpretations in light of new technology, information, or circumstances; to keep apprised of such developments, or to review information on a wide range of occupational safety and health topics, you can visit OSHA's website at www.osha.gov.

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