Respirable Silica Exposure Control Plan

This policy applies to all occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica in construction work, except where employee exposure will remain below 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air (25 pg/m³) as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) under any foreseeable conditions.

Company Name __________________________ (“The Company”) shall require that all employees have completed training in the 2017 silica standard as promulgated by federal OSHA, under 29 CFR 1926.1153.

Silica Exposure Assessment. The following activities have been identified as potential risk for respirable silica exposure:

- Drilling Concrete (vii)
- Cutting of gypsum products & Cutting Fiber Cementitious Products (iii)
- Cutting of Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Wall Panels (ii)
- Exposure from other trades

Specified exposure control methods.

For each employee engaged in a task identified on Table 1, the Company shall fully and properly implement the engineering controls, work practices, and respiratory protection specified for the task on Table 1, unless the limits the Employee’s exposure to respirable crystalline silica is in accordance with paragraph (d) of 29 CFR 1926.1153.1926.1153(c)(1). When implementing control measures, specified in Table 1, each employee shall follow the guidelines specified below: 1926.1153(c)(2).
## Task: Drilling of Concrete

### TABLE 1: SPECIFIED EXPOSURE CONTROL METHODS WHEN WORKING WITH MATERIALS CONTAINING CRYSSTALLINE SILICA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment / Task</th>
<th>Engineering and Work Practice Control Methods</th>
<th>Required Respiratory Protection and Minimum Assigned Protection Factor (APF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>vii) Handheld and stand-mounted drills (including impact and rotary hammer drills)</td>
<td>Use drill equipped with commercially available shroud or cowling with dust collection system.</td>
<td>≤ 4 hours/shift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Operate and maintain tool in accordance with manufacturer's instructions to minimize dust emissions.</td>
<td>&gt; 4 hours/shift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dust collector must provide the air flow recommended by the tool manufacturer, or greater, and have a filter with 99% or greater efficiency and a filter-cleaning mechanism.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Use a HEPA-filtered vacuum when cleaning holes.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: If exposure time to employees will be more than 4 hours, it is recommended to rotate employees such that exposure is not greater than 4 hours.
### Task: Cutting of Gypsum Products & Cutting Fiber Cementitious Products

#### Table 1: Specified Exposure Control Methods When Working With Materials Containing Crystalline Silica

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equipment / Task</th>
<th>Engineering and Work Practice Control Methods</th>
<th>Required Respiratory Protection and Minimum Assigned Protection Factor (APF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| (iii) Handheld power saws for cutting fiber-cement board & gypsum products (with blade diameter of 8 inches or less) | For tasks performed outdoors only:  
Use saw equipped with commercially available dust collection system.  
Operate and maintain tool in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions to minimize dust emissions.  
Dust collector must provide the air flow recommended by the tool manufacturer, or greater, and have a filter with 99% or greater efficiency. | 
|                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | ≤ 4 hours/shift | > 4 hours/shift |
|                                                                                 | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | None | None |

Note: If exposure time to employees will be more than 4 hours, it is recommended to rotate employees such that exposure is not greater than 4 hours.
Task: Cutting of Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC) Wall Panels

**TABLE 1: SPECIFIED EXPOSURE CONTROL METHODS WHEN WORKING WITH MATERIALS CONTAINING CRYSSTALLINE SILICA**

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<th>Equipment / Task</th>
<th>Engineering and Work Practice Control Methods</th>
<th>Required Respiratory Protection and Minimum Assigned Protection Factor (APF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Handheld power saws (any blade diameter)</td>
<td>Use saw equipped with integrated water delivery system that continuously feeds water to the blade. Operate and maintain tool in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions to minimize dust emissions.</td>
<td>≤ 4 hours /shift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- When used outdoors.</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- When used indoors or in an enclosed area.</td>
<td>APF 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: If exposure time to employees will be more than 4 hours, it is recommended to rotate employees such that exposure is not greater than 4 hours.
Exposure from Other Trades

When Employees are exposed to respirable silica from the work activities of other trades:

- Stay out of that trade’s work activity location.
- Notify your supervisor.
- Supervisor should notify controlling contractor.

Scheduled Monitoring Option (If used)

For each Employee exposed to a silica-containing product, the Company shall perform initial monitoring to assess the 8-hour TWA exposure for each Employee on the basis of one or more personal breathing zone air samples that reflect the exposures of Employees on each shift, for each job classification, in each work area.

Objective Data

The Company shall make and maintain onsite and at their office an accurate record of all objective data relied upon to comply with the requirements of the standard, including:

- The crystalline silica-containing material in question
- The source of the objective data
- The testing protocol and results of testing
- A description of the process task or activity on which the objective data is based
- Other data relevant to the process, task, activity, material or exposures on which the objective data is based
Monitoring

8hr, TWA Breathing Zone Sample for Each Work Task

Above PEL

Follow Guidelines in Table 1, or submit to Controlling Contractor an Alternative Exposure Control Plan

Re-Evaluate and Repeat Monitoring Every Three Months

Below PEL

Discontinue Monitoring Proceed with Safe Work Practices

Re-Evaluate and Repeat Monitoring within Six Months

After Two Consecutive Monitoring Results are Evaluated (Seven or More Days Apart) and the tests are still Below the PEL Testing May Stop
**Housekeeping**

The Company shall not allow dry sweeping or dry brushing where such activity could contribute to a worker’s exposure to respirable crystalline silica. Wet sweeping, or the use of a sweeping compound is allowed.

The Company shall not allow compressed air to be used to clean clothing or surfaces where such activity could contribute to any worker’s exposure to respirable crystalline silica.

**Employee Information and Training**

The Company shall ensure that each employee covered by this section can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following:

- The health hazards associated with exposure to respirable crystalline silica, which include cancer, lung effects, immune system effects and kidney effects.
- Specific tasks in the workplace that could result in exposure to respirable crystalline silica.
- Specific measures the employer has implemented to protect employees from exposure to respirable silica, including engineering controls, work practices and the use of a respirator.
- The identity of the competent person designated by the employer.
- The company’s hazard communication program, which should include training on and access to the safety data sheets and labels for crystalline silica-containing products.

The employer shall make a copy of this section readily available without cost to each employee covered by this section.

**Respiratory Protection Program**

Where respiratory protection is required by this section, the employer must provide each employee an appropriate respirator that complies with the requirements of this paragraph and 29 CFR 1910.134.

Respiratory Protection is required:

- When specified by Table 1.
- For tasks not listed in Table 1, where respirator use is required by this section, the employer shall institute a respirator protection program.

**Medical Testing**

Per engineering and administrative controls in this program, medical testing will not be necessary.

**Program Evaluation**

This program shall be reviewed and evaluated on an annual basis by the Company unless changes to the operation on the OSHA Respirable Crystalline Silica standard changes.
Exposure Assessment Diagram

Identified in the Silica Work Process:

- Yes: Notify Controlling Contractor Material and Choose Work Option
- No: Perform Safe Work Practice

Monitoring:

Table 1 Use:

- Complete and Submit Controlling Contractor Silica Work Plan
- Assess the 8 hour TWA Exposure for Each Employee (Combination of Monitoring or Objective Data)

Performance:

Above PEL:

- Follow Guidelines in Table 1, or Submit to Controlling Contractor an Alternative Exposure Control Plan

Below PEL:

- Follow Guidelines in Table 1, or proceed with Safe Work Practices
- Re-Evaluate and Repeat Monitoring Every Three Months

Above PEL:

- Follow Guidelines in Table 1, or proceed with Safe Work Practices

Below PEL:

- Discontinue Monitoring, Proceed with Safe Work Practices
- Re-Evaluate and repeat monitoring within Six Months
- After Two Consecutive Monitoring Results are Evaluated (Seven or More Days Apart) and the Test are Still Below the PEL Testing May Stop