

# RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA IN CONSTRUCTION

## **29CFR1926.1153: EXPOSURE TO RESPIRABLE CRYSTALLINE SILICA IN CONSTRUCTION**

Applicable to all construction occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica, except exposure under the action level (25 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 8-hour time-weighted average). The standard offers two methods of compliance.

### **Specified Exposure Control**

For tasks listed on Table 1, follow the prescribed engineering and work practice controls fully and properly, with any required respiratory protection.

### **Alternative Exposure Control**

If workers are performing tasks not on Table 1 with foreseeable exposure to crystalline silica at or above the AL, or if the engineering and work practices are not implemented fully, the employer must conduct an exposure assessment for each employee. If the assessment shows exposure at or above the PEL, employers must use all feasible controls, including respiratory protection when required, to reduce exposure to or below PEL.

### **SILICA CHECKLIST**

- Train Affected Employees
- Create Silica Exposure Control Plan
  - Designate Competent Person
- Update Safety Programs
  - Hazard Communication Program
  - Respiratory Protection Program
  - Respirable Crystalline Silica Program
- Housekeeping/Recordkeeping
  - Maintain Assessment Data
  - Maintain Employee Medical Records
  - Provide Medical Screenings

### **REDUCED EXPOSURE LIMIT**

**PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE LIMIT (PEL):**  
**50 MG/M<sup>3</sup>**

**ACTION LEVEL (AL): 25 MG/M<sup>3</sup>**

### **ENFORCEMENT DATES**

**CONSTRUCTION: 9/23/2017**

**GENERAL INDUSTRY: 6/23/2018**

**MARITIME: 6/23/2018**

### **DOCUMENTS**

**FULL STANDARD**

**QUICK COMPLIANCE GUIDE**

**TABLE 1**