



# SILICA COMPLIANCE REGULATION

FOR SIGN, GRAPHICS AND VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

## STEPS TO ESTABLISH A WRITTEN EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

### Mandatory Actions For Compliance

- ▶ **A. Establish a written exposure control plan**
- B.** Designate a competent person
- C.** Offer medical surveillance
- D.** Train workers
- E.** Keep records
- F.** Restrict housekeeping

Find more details on these 6 actions at [www.signs.org/silica](http://www.signs.org/silica)

### Prohibited Actions (unless infeasible)

- A.** Dry sweeping
- B.** Compressed air for cleaning
- C.** Dry brushing

Are workers exposed to airborne silica dust?

YES

Are you following OSHA's "Table 1"?

NO

YES

**CHOOSE AN EXPOSURE MONITORING METHOD**

**You are in compliance.**  
Incorporate procedures from Table 1 into your written exposure control plan

**Sampling on a Fixed Schedule**  
If your initial monitoring is ...

**Sampling on Performance Basis**  
If your objective data\* and/or sampling is ...

**PEL = Permissible exposure limit**  
50 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 8-hour timeweighted average (TWA)

**AL = Action level**  
25 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, 8-hour timeweighted average (TWA)

Below the AL

Between the AL and the PEL

Above the PEL

Above the PEL

Above the AL and below the PEL

Below the PEL

**You are in compliance.**  
Reassess if anything changes

**You are in compliance.**  
Incorporate procedures from Table 1 into your written exposure control plan

**You are NOT in compliance**

**You are NOT in compliance**

**You are in compliance.**  
Incorporate procedures from Table 1 into your written exposure control plan

**You are in compliance.**  
Reassess if anything changes

Repeat sampling every 6 months to remain in compliance

Repeat sampling every 3 months to remain in compliance

Use engineering and work practice controls, to the extent feasible, to limit employee exposures to the PEL and supplement the controls with respiratory protection as a last resort. Incorporate procedures into written exposure control plan

If 2 consecutive measurements are below the AL, discontinue monitoring for those employees

For more information visit [www.signs.org/silica](http://www.signs.org/silica)

\*Objective data: Information from industry-wide surveys demonstrating employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica associated with a process, task or activity. The data must reflect workplace conditions resembling work practices and environmental conditions in the employer's current operations.