



Department of Labor OSHA News Release on Silica

New Frequently Asked Questions on Controlling Silica in General Industry

January 23rd, 2019 U.S. Department of Labor news release

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) released new frequently asked questions (FAQs) on the agency's standard for respirable crystalline silica in general industry.

OSHA developed the FAQs to guide employers and employees on the standard's requirements, such as exposure assessments, regulated areas, methods of compliance, and communicating silica hazards to employees. The questions and answers are organized by topic.

Some of the frequently asked questions posted on the OSHA website currently include:

- How to apply the objective data to demonstrate if an employee exposure to silica will remain below the 8-hour TWA?
- Does the standard cover employees that perform silica-generated tasks for only 15 minutes or less a day?
- What if an employee refuses to wear a personal sampler?

The answers to the above FAQs and others can be found using the link provided below.

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

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