INDUSTRIAL DUST COLLECTORS AND THE BENEFITS OF AIR QUALITY CONTROL



It may seem like an afterthought—dust collectors are a cleaning solution that you know you should have in place, but perhaps you consider them on the low end of the priority scale. Or, maybe you think the least expensive option that gets the bare minimum job done will suffice.

But air quality control goes beyond just having a clean workspace, although that's always a good goal to have. Industrial dust collectors not only clear the air, but also improve employee efficiency, increase employee retention, help ensure a safe working environment and lessen equipment maintenance costs. This means keeping your facility dust-free can be good for your employees and your bottom line.

SAFETY IS #1

Make no mistake, the first purpose of a dust collection system is safety. Even something as simple as reduced visibility due to contaminated air can lead to unsafe environments and accidents.

Furthermore, dust collection systems can help reduce the risk of fire and explosions in facilities. For the most effective risk mitigation, identify explosion and fire hazards, then find the right industrial dust collector to eliminate or control the hazards and properly install and maintain the equipment.

EMPLOYEE MEDICAL HEALTH

Another safety factor that can be addressed with proper dust collection is employee health. The air each person is breathing at a manufacturing facility should be clean and in accord with local regulations and laws. A dust collection system can remove particles from the air, keeping everyone safer.

COST SAVINGS

There are a number of cost savings that go along with implementing a dust collection system. Perhaps the most obvious ones include the risk mitigations associated with employee health and safety.

Having dust collection systems in place helps to keep you in compliance with regulations and standards.

Equipment / facility repairs and replacement stemming from issues linked to inadequate dust collection are costly. A good industrial dust collector coupled with proper dust collector maintenance can reduce excessive downtime for cleaning and repairing clogged or damaged equipment.

When dirt, dust and debris collect on the surface of your equipment, it can make its way inside, interfering with the mechanics. This can slow down your machines, or even break them, leading to frequent repairs and downtime. Dust collectors can reduce downtime, allowing your machinery to work at top performance and keeping your facility running at optimal output levels.

Some types of collected dust can also be recycled. For example, dust created during the Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) steel production method can be recycled using Waelz kiln technology. The metals can then be resold or reused, creating extra cash flow or cost savings for a company.



STRENGTHENS THE TEAM

Keeping the air quality in your facility up to local standards and regulations will help strengthen your team and help to increase efficiencies. By providing suitable industrial dust collection systems, employees are happy and employee turnover is often reduced. This often translates to increases in production and company growth. All of these factors contribute to how air quality control can benefit your business.

Do You Need a Dust Collection System?

Sometimes the need for a dust collector in a facility is more obvious than others. But, there are a few red flags that indicate when there is a need for a dust collection system.

- Can you see smog or a cloud of dust in the work area? A quick test: Observe the air in the facility—does it appear to be hazy?
- 2. Is there a need to "air out" the work area? A quick test: Are employees coughing, sneezing or rubbing their eyes excessively, or opening doors and windows often to air out the facility?
- 3. Are the HVAC air vents and filters continually clogged with dust? A quick test: Are the filters changed on the heater and air conditioners more often than they should be?
- 4. Are pieces of equipment in the warehouse or work area covered with a thick layer of dust? A quick test: Clean a flat surface in the warehouse. Check the surface after one to two days. Is there major dust build-up?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, you likely need a dust collection system. It's important to check for all of these indicators; some particulate is so small that it cannot be seen by the naked eye.

At A.C.T. Dust Collectors, we offer solutions for all dust collection needs. Our team will assist in choosing the perfect system for you, whether it's your first dust collector or an upgrade to a current system. Contact us today to request a site visit at your facility so we can put together a customer tailored dust collection system proposal for you.





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