

Company Logo	COMPANY	Issue Date:	
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SILICA PROGRAM			

1. Purpose:

This Respirable Crystalline Silica Program was developed to prevent employee exposure to hazardous levels of Respirable Crystalline Silica that could result through construction activities or nearby construction activities occurring on worksites. Respirable Crystalline Silica exposure at hazardous levels can lead to lung cancer, silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and kidney disease. It is intended to meet the requirements of the Respirable Crystalline Silica Construction Standard (29 CFR 1926.1153) established by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

All work involving chipping, cutting, drilling, grinding, or similar activities on materials containing Crystalline Silica can lead to the release of respirable-sized particles of Crystalline Silica (i.e. Respirable Crystalline Silica). Crystalline Silica is a basic component of soil, sand, granite and many other minerals. Quartz is the most common form of Crystalline Silica. Many materials found on constructions sites include Crystalline Silica; including but not limited to – cement, concrete, asphalt, pre-formed structures (inlets, pipe, etc.) and others. Consequently, this program has been developed to address and control these potential exposures to prevent our employees from experiencing the effects of occupational illnesses related to Respirable Crystalline Silica exposure.

2. Scope:

This Respirable Crystalline Silica Program applies to all employees who have the potential to be exposed to Respirable Crystalline Silica when covered by the OSHA Standard. The OSHA Respirable Crystalline Silica Construction Standard applies to all occupational exposures to Respirable Crystalline Silica in construction work, except where employee exposure will remain below 25 micrograms of Respirable Crystalline Silica per cubic meter of air (25 µg/m³) as an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) under any foreseeable conditions.

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3. Responsibilities

COMPANY firmly believes protecting the health and safety of our employees is everyone's responsibility. This responsibility begins with upper management providing the necessary support to properly implement this program. However, all levels of the organization assume some level of responsibility for this program including the following positions.

a. Management:

- i. Conduct job site assessments for Silica containing materials and perform employee Respirable Crystalline Silica hazard assessments in order to determine if an employee's exposure will be above 25 µg/m³ as an 8-hour TWA under any foreseeable conditions
- ii. Select and implement into the project's ECP the appropriate control measures in accordance with the Construction Tasks identified in OSHA's Construction Standard Table 1; and potentially including (but not limited to) - a written Exposure Control Plan (ECP), exposure monitoring, Hazard Communication training, medical surveillance, housekeeping and others.
NOTE: OSHA's Construction Standard Table 1 is a list of 18 common construction tasks along with acceptable exposure control methods and work practices that limit exposure for those tasks.
- iii. Ensure that the materials, tools, equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), and other resources (such as worker training) required to fully implement and maintain this Respirable Crystalline Silica Program are in place and readily available if needed.

Sample document only, not the complete program.