

SILICA

- 1.0.1 The purpose of this program is to assure that all Foushée employees who work with or around Silica are provided with safe, effective and efficient protective methods and procedures.

2.0 SCOPE

- 2.0.1 This procedure applies to all Foushée employees.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

- 3.0.1 Competent Person: Person capable of identifying existing and predictable silica hazards in and around the work area and who has the authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.
- 3.0.2 Feasible: Shall be determined by the Safety Department.
- 3.0.3 High Efficiency Particulate Accumulator (HEPA): A HEPA filter is rated at 99.97% efficient for particulate matter to 0.3 microns in size.
- 3.0.4 Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL): Legal employee exposure level set by OSHA. The PEL for Silica is 50 ug/m³.
- 3.0.5 Silica: Silica is a general term for silicon dioxide (SiO₂). Silica is the second most common mineral in the earth's crust. Silica is commonly referred to as silica sand, free-silica, quartz, cristobalite and tripoli. Silica exposure could result from abrasive blasting with silica and/or sandblasting, cutting, drilling, grinding and chipping a concrete and/or masonry surfaces.

4.0 EXPOSURE ASSESSMENT

- 4.0.1 All work shall be performed as indicated in Table 1 of WAC 296-840.
When using Table 1 for identified tasks, exposure monitoring is not required.
- 4.0.2 Based on identified work tasks and work done in compliance to Table 1, workers should not be exposed to silica above the PEL or AL.
- 4.0.3 If new tasks not identified in Table 1 become identified, exposure monitoring may be required. In this event, Foushée will treat the employee as if he/she is exposed above the PEL until engineering controls can be implemented to eliminate the exposure.
- 4.0.4 If Foushée chooses to deviate from Table 1 data, exposure monitoring shall be done to determine employee exposures to silica

5.0 ENGINEERING AND WORK PRACTICE CONTROLS

- 5.0.1 All work shall be done in strict compliance with Table 1

6.0 RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

6.0.1 Respirators shall be used according to Table 1.

7.0 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

7.0.1 Silica dust shall not be removed from protective clothing or equipment by blowing, shaking, or any other methods which disperses silica into the air. Cleaning shall be done with HEPA vacuum.

8.0 HOUSEKEEPING

- 8.0.1 All surfaces shall be maintained as free as practicable from silica dust accumulation.
- 8.0.2 Methods of clean up shall be those which minimize the amount of silica dust becoming airborne. No sweeping or compressed air shall be used to clean surfaces.
- 8.0.3 Vacuums shall be equipped with HEPA filters. Once used, they shall be emptied in a manner which minimizes the re-entry of silica into the work place.

9.0 SIGNS AND BARRICADES

9.0.1 Foushée shall assure that signs are posted and barricades, such as tape or rope are used to restrict people from entering the work area where concrete cutting is done.

10.0 HYGIENE FACILITIES

- 10.0.1 Food, beverages and tobacco products shall not be present or consumed within the barricaded areas or in areas.
- 10.0.2 Employees shall be instructed to wash their face and hands before eating, drinking, smoking or applying cosmetics.

11.0 MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE

11.0.1 Medical surveillance shall be provided at no cost to employees who are, or might be, exposed to silica above the PEL, including those potentially exposed where airborne concentrations are unknown. This must be done prior to job start up and at job completion. As a result of Foushée complying strictly with Table 1, no medical surveillance shall be needed.

12.0 RECORDKEEPING

- 12.0.1 Medical records shall be made available upon request of an employee, former employees, their designated representatives and DOSH.
- 12.0.2 All employees' medical and exposure records are to be maintained for the duration of employment plus thirty (30) years.

13.0 TRAINING

- 13.0.1 All Foushée employees shall be trained prior to job start up. Training shall consist of the following:
1. Instruct each employee in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions concerning silica.
 2. Notify employees of all the facts concerning potential physical and health hazards and potential adverse health effects caused by silica exposure.
 3. Discuss guidelines regarding personal hygiene, personal protective measures, and the equipment required.
 4. Explain and discuss the Hazard Communication Program and Silica Protection Program. Include information about proper labeling and material safety data sheets.
 5. Instruct on the Personal Protective Equipment Program and Respiratory Protection Program, including selection, inspection, use and maintenance of respirators.
- 13.0.2 Training shall be documented and kept on record at the jobsite. Forward training records to the main office once the job is complete.