

SILICA DUST EXPOSURE PREVENTION

Building Material that Silica can be found in include:

- Concrete
- Mortar
- Sand
- Rock
- Masonry



Use control measures during these activities to prevent silica dust exposure:

- Abrasive or Sand Blast
- Crush or Demolish
- Jackhammer
- Grind
- Drill
- Cut or Saw
- Sweeping

How should we control silica dust exposure?

Refer to the table 1 chart for control measures on specific tasks located in the job trailer

- Use vacuum or water attachments to reduce or eliminate the dust before it becomes airborne. When these controls are not enough, use respiratory protection
- Do not brush or blow the dust from your clothes. Vacuum the dust from your clothes, wear disposable covers or change into clean clothes before leaving the jobsite.
- When outside of the dusty areas, wash your hands and face before eating



Long-term or heavy short-term exposures to airborne silica dust can cause a disabling disease called silicosis. Crystalline silica dust (e.g., quartz dust) is also a carcinogen.

Discussion Questions

- Which tasks we perform here are most likely to generate silica dust?
- Why is silica dust more dangerous than regular dust?
- What challenges do you face when trying to control dust on site?
- What can we improve about how we manage silica exposure on this job?