



Need to Know- Silica



SILICA

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PA OSHA CONSULTATION

Remember....

- Silica is often found in:
 - Foundries that use sand in mold and core-making processes
 - Steel and other metal processing – used in some refractories
 - Coal mining
 - Quarries and cement mills
 - Oil and gas well fracking operations
 - Construction – concrete cutting, demolition, removing old pointing
- Employers must:
 - Know that there is silica in the workplace
 - Know what the silica exposure levels are
 - Provide training to employees
 - Control or eliminate silica exposures through engineering controls
 - Provide PPE
- Employers can minimize exposure by:
 - Understanding where silica may be present in the workplace
 - Adopting work practices that minimize exposure
 - Wearing designated PPE
 - Using local exhaust ventilation
 - Using wet methods - Use tools with water to reduce airborne silica
 - Using tools with dust-collecting systems