

Silica dust control plan template



This template will help you to document the control measures used to manage the risks of exposure to respirable crystalline silica (silica dust) during the fabrication or processing of engineered stone products.

You will need to add details regarding the safe systems of work and practices specific to your workplace. The plan should be developed in consultation with workers responsible for carrying out the tasks and the relevant Health and Safety Representative of the work group and be readily available. It should also be provided to the registered medical practitioner carrying out or supervising health monitoring.

This silica dust control plan was prepared on _____ and will be reviewed on _____.

Business Name _____ Address _____

Person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) _____ Contact details of PCBU _____

Details of engineered stone product being used

Product name	Product supplier	Silica content (sourced from SDS or product information)	SDS or product information reference details

Controlling the risk of exposure to silica dust

Location	Task	Control measures	Work practices	Respiratory protection	How controls are integrated into daily activities
Example only Fabrication workshop – cutting bench	Example only Cutting engineered stone with a bridge saw	Example only Wet suppression system using built in blade water feed nozzle Water spray/mist guards	Ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• cutting area is clearly marked on workshop floor• water supply to the saw is turned on and operational before starting the saw• water is flowing to the cutting area prior to blade making contact with the product• spray guards are in place before commencing work, and;• regular cleaning of saw table and surrounding areas	Full face powered air purifying respirators (PAPR) with a P2 class filter	Tool box talks, pre-start checks and daily cleaning of work areas. For example, daily checks of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• water supply & flow• safety and spray guards are in place• equipment (including guards) have no visible damage or build-up of residue, no blockages• work area is kept clean & slurry managed to prevent drying out• PAPR (tight fitting) fit checked each time the respirator is worn• PAPR filter check/replace• PAPR performance check

Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) maintenance program

The PCBU must ensure that RPE is maintained, repaired or replaced so that it continues to be effective. A competent person should administer an RPE maintenance program in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions.

Supporting documents: [for example clean-shaven policy, user manuals]

Worker name	Respirator details (make, model, size)	RPE supply date	Fit test conducted (name & date)	Scheduled retest date	Training conducted by (name & date)	Maintenance schedule (as per manufacturer’s instructions)

Air monitoring

The PCBU should undertake air monitoring at least every 12 months if:

- they are uncertain whether the airborne concentration of silica dust exceeds the workplace exposure standard, or
- monitoring is necessary to determine whether there is a risk to the health of workers.

Air monitoring should be conducted by an independent, competent person. For example, a certified occupational hygienist, or a person with recognised equivalent competency under an international certification scheme.

Details	Task details	Actions arising from air monitoring report recommendations
Carried out by: [insert name of independent competent person]		
On: [insert date]		
In response to [insert specific trigger]		

Review of control measures

The PCBU must routinely review the control measures that have been put in place to ensure they are effective and protect the health and safety of workers.

Engineering control	Date of review		Comments
	Scheduled	Completed	
			For example: the review was scheduled, or in response to [insert specific trigger].

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Information on the latest laws can be checked by visiting the NSW legislation website www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

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