

## Silica Awareness

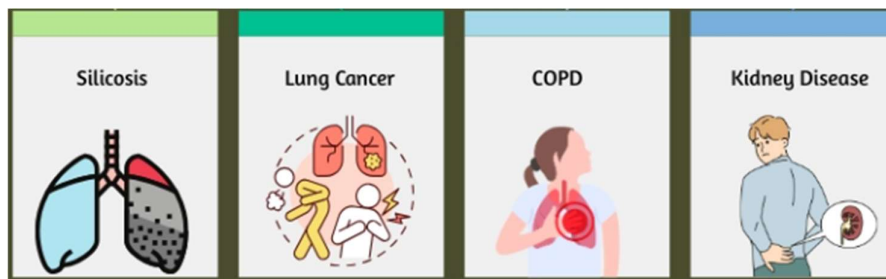
Guidance for Bay Building/LINX teams, estimators, and Supervisor for Silica Awareness

### IF CONTROL MEASURES ARE NOT IN PLACE OR ARE COMPROMISED, STOP WORKS

#### Issue

Crystalline silica is a naturally occurring mineral found in most rocks, sand, clay, and in all manufactured products such as bricks, concrete, tile and engineered stone. Exposure of Crystalline Silica can cause following health risks

- Silicosis
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)
- Lung Cancer
- Kidney Cancer



#### Presence of Crystalline Silica

Crystalline silica is a very common mineral used in manufacturing building products and construction materials. In its stable solid form, crystalline silica is not harmful. Very fine particles of crystalline silica dust present a hazard when inhaled into the lungs. Airborne dust is most likely to occur when materials or products containing silica are

- Cut
- Sanded
- Drilled
- Any other action (task) that creates fine dust.

#### Action Required

Following are the actions required as per roles.

#### Estimator

Estimation is the first and the most important stage to correctly identify the work that may cause generation of crystalline silica dust and how to manage exposure.

When providing an estimation or obtaining a quote from a qualified contractor, please make sure the following are included in the pricing.

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### *Temporary Accommodation*

Considering the size and location of the work, main hall, kitchen, hallways, please consider moving OI to temporary accommodation. This will keep the OI away from a high-risk activity and the site setup controls will remain in place and compliant.

### *Required Controls*

#### *Site Setup*

Installation of containment at the entrance of the workplace.

All room and cabinet doors are contained or properly taped.



All fittings and fixtures are properly covered including GPOs and Light Points.

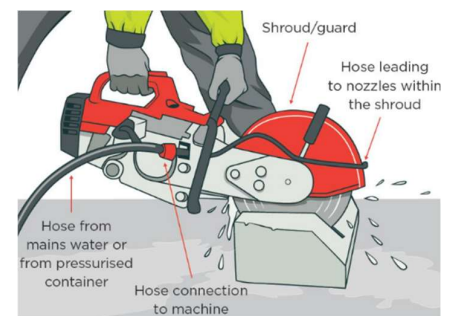


### *Required Tools*

#### *Integrated water delivery system or on-tool water suppression*

This is the most effective ways to reduce exposure to crystalline silica dust. Water is used at the point of dust generation to dampen down or suppress dust before it is released into the air. An integrated water delivery system must:

- Deliver a continuous supply of water to the point of contact with the stone while the power tool or mechanical plant is in use.



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### *On-tool dust extraction*

On-tool dust extraction removes the dust from the source as it is being produced. It is fitted directly onto the tool, with extraction attached to a high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filtered Dust Class H vacuum cleaner.

An on-tool dust extraction system must:

- be commercially available, and
- be connected to a Dust Class H vacuum or another system that captures any dust generated by the power tool.



### *Personal Protective Equipment*

Trades wearing required PPEs.



### Supervisor

This is the eyes on site. Supervisors are required to visit these jobsites on important stages (start of works, during and completion) to check that all trades are working in compliance.

During these visits, supervisors need to make sure the following

- Site Specific Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) are in place. The SWMS should mention the site address, specific task (eg. floor gridding), list of PPEs, control measures (containment, extraction tool etc). SWMS must be signed by every trade work onsite.
- All containments are in place and properly sealed. No holes in the containment or peeled off tapes. Tools are attached with Silica Dust Management extraction system.
- Bay Building Site sign in place with Silica mentioned in the “Additional Site-Specific Hazard” section.

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### Project Coordinator / Repair Coordinator

Considering the high-risk activity, PCs/RCs are required to make sure the following is including in the Purchase Order for the trades.

- Installation of containment at the required places, if not already organized by any other trades.
- Seal the cabinet and room doors using tape or containment, if not already organized by any other trades.
- Use of required tools for Silica Dust Management.
- Review the progress reports to make sure that the containments are in place and sealed. Trades are using the required tool with dust suppression system attached.

### Trades / Linx Technicians

Trades must ensure the following.

- SWMS are reviewed and signed by every trade onsite.
- All tools are in working condition.
- All control measures are in place prior to commencement of the works.
- Trades are wearing PPEs and must be in good condition.