



## READY OR NOT - OSHA'S NEW SILICA STANDARD IS SCHEDULED TO GO INTO FULL ENFORCEMENT SEPTEMBER 23, 2017

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On September 23, 2017, OSHA is scheduled to begin full enforcement of OSHA's New Silica Standard for Construction. The Builders Association can assist employers covered by the standard comply by utilizing the following premier Silica Services:

- **Development and implementation of a written Silica Exposure Control Plan**
- **Silica Competent Person Training**
- **Silica Awareness Training**
- **Industrial Hygiene Services – Onsite respirable crystalline silica air sampling**
- **The Builders Association Silica Sampling and Objective Data Program**

OSHA's New Silica Standard requires employers to follow OSHA's Table 1, Conduct Respirable Silica Air Sampling or utilize Objective Data. OSHA's Table 1 matches common construction tasks with dust control methods, so employers know exactly what they need to do to limit worker exposures to silica. The dust control measures listed in Table 1 include methods known to be effective, like using water to keep dust from getting into the air or using ventilation to capture dust. In some operations, respirators may also be needed. Employers who follow Table 1 correctly are not required to measure workers' exposure to silica and are not subject to the permissible exposure limit (PEL). However, if Table 1 does not cover the task, contractors must determine their employees' exposure to respirable silica dust by either:

- **Conducting Respirable Crystalline Silica Air Sampling** – Very Expensive
- **Utilizing Objective Data** – Means information, such as air monitoring data from industry-wide surveys or calculations based on the composition of a substance, demonstrating employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica associated with a particular product or material or a specific process, task, or activity. The data must reflect workplace conditions closely resembling or with a higher exposure potential than the processes, types of material, control methods, work practices, and environmental conditions in the employer's current operations.

The Builders' Association in partnership with the Construction Employers Association (CEA), is pleased to offer members an opportunity to participate in The Builders' Association Silica Sampling & Objective Sampling Data Program. This unique partnership provides participating members an opportunity to possibly save thousands on respiratory silica sampling, while simultaneously building a searchable sampling database for the construction industry. Participating members can also rely on the database in the future when managing employee safety and multiple-contractor activities where job tasks produce respirable silica emissions.

The annual subscription fee for The Builders' Association Silica Sampling & Objective Sampling Data Program is **\$150.00** per member (*plus agree to submit sampling data in order to access the searchable sampling database.*) The regular cost for this program through the Construction Employers Association (CEA) for non-members is **\$500.00** annually. Members get to take advantage of The Builders' Association's Special Group Pricing from the CEA. For more information about any of The Builders' Association's Silica Services contact one of the following professionals:

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