
GOVERNMENT NOTICE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

No. 66

5 February 2010

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1993 (ACT NO. 85 OF 1993)

Occupational Exposure Limit for Silica in Table I of the Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations

Occupational Exposure Control Limit for Airborne Respirable Silica - $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$

On the 27th June 2008, Mr Membathisi Mphumzi Shepherd Mdladlana, Minister of Labour, published a Government Notice No. R. 683, amending the Occupational Exposure Control Limit for Silica in Table I of the Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations from $0,4\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ to $0,1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$.

All industries handling, manufacturing and producing products that may cause exposure to silica dust are required to submit bi-annual reports indicating the following:

- Number of samples taken and analyzed
- Composition of dust
- Concentration of the constituents; and
- Whether companies are complying with the current Occupational Exposure Limit for silica, if not, what steps are implemented to comply with the exposure limit?

The Department of Labour is hereby publishing the silica dust data collection guiding document and the silica exposure compliance tool to be used by industries in reporting the required information.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR



Private Bag X117, PRETORIA, 0001. Laboria House, 215 Schoeman Street, PRETORIA
Tel (012) 309 4000, Fax: (012) 320 5129, www.labour.gov.za

SILICA DUST DATA COLLECTION GUIDING DOCUMENT

1. PURPOSE

The Department of Labour has reduced the occupational exposure limit of silica crystalline respirable dust from $0.4\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ to $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$. There is presently no system in place for the industry to report to the Department of Labour whether industries comply with the new occupational exposure limit. The purpose of collecting silica exposure compliance information will enable the DOL to collect the following information:

- a) National Profile of all the industries that have the potential to expose the employees to respirable silica dust.
- b) To determine the level of exposure to respirable silica dust.
- c) Number of employees exposed.
- d) The AIA performing the monitoring and evaluation

2. REPORTING MECHANISM

The data must be sent directly to Head Office via e-mail to:
Jabu.Mhlophe@labour.gov.za.

3. SAMPLING

Sampling must be done according to the national and international recognized standards.

4. FREQUENCY OR REPORTING

Data must be sent on the 31 July and 31 January of every year.

5. CONFIDENTIALITY

All information received will be confidential and it will not be shared with any other person or entity, except with the written consent from the company concerned.

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SILICA EXPOSURE COMPLIANCE TOOL

COMPANY	
Company registered name	
Company registration number	
Company VAT number	
"Trading as" name	
Name of CEO	
National Identity number of CEO	
Name of Managing Director	
National Identity number of Managing Director	
Company postal address	
.....	
.....	
Company physical address	
.....	
.....	
HYGIENIST	
Name of responsible occupational hygienist	
National Identity number of responsible occupational hygienist	
Qualifications of responsible Occupational Hygienist	
Level of registration with SAIOH	
SAIOH registration number of responsible Occupational Hygienist	
Does the company make use of an AIA? If the answer is yes then complete the following:	
Name of company	
AIA registration number	
Date of registration as an AIA	
Company postal address	
.....	
.....	
Company physical address	
.....	
.....	

Silica exposure monitoring	
Does the company handle, manufacture or produce any silica or silica containing substances? If yes, describe	
What are the main activities related to the handling or manufacturing of materials (tasks)	
Describe the area in the production process where the samples were taken	
Sampling methods used?	
Has a silica exposure baseline assessment been conducted?	
How many samples were taken in the process of the baseline assessment?	
Does the company have a formal silica exposure management program?	(If the answer is yes, please attach a copy)
Is silica exposure monitoring conducted on an annual basis as prescribed by HCS Regulations?	
Total number of employees exposed to silica dust.	
What is the maximum exposure level?	
Number of employees exposed to levels <10% of OEL	
Number of employees exposed to levels <50% of OEL	
Number of employees exposed to levels >100% of OEL	
Has a copy of the most recent silica exposure assessment report signed by the accredited occupational hygienist been attached?	
Does the company have in its possession MSDS for all silica containing substances?	
Does the company comply with the new OEL of 0,1 mg/ms?	