

# Silica by the Numbers

## OSHA's Crystalline Silica Rule for Construction

Check out our Silica Solutions page at <https://specrents.com/silica-solutions/> or contact Liz Graves at 512.633.5437 or [lizg@specrents.com](mailto:lizg@specrents.com)

1926.1153

OSHA's Respirable Crystalline Silica standard for construction.

9.23.17

Date OSHA starts to enforce



250

The previous PEL was 250  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , averaged over an eight-hour day.

50

The new PEL (permissible exposure limit) is 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , averaged over an eight-hour day.

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**Table 1** is a new concept for OSHA. They've matched common construction tasks with dust control methods. If employers follow Table 1's control methods correctly, they will be in compliance.

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If an employee wears or you anticipate them

- wearing a respirator (even for just a minute)
- for 30 days a year, they must have a medical
- examination

\$

12,675

Fine per OSHA's "Serious" Violation as of January 1, 2017

Employers must offer medical examinations every 3 years from the date of the employee's last examination (if they are required to wear a respirator for more than 30 days a year), or more frequently if recommended by the physician or other licensed health care professional.

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Within 30 days of each medical examination performed, the employer must ensure that the PLHCP explains the results of the medical examination to the employee and gives the employee a written medical report.



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Within 30 days of the medical examination, the employer must get a written medical opinion from the PLHCP that must only contain the following information:

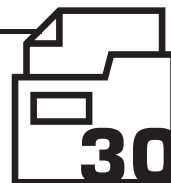
- The date of the examination;
- A statement that the examination has met the requirements of the silica standard; and
- Any recommended limitations on the employee's use of respirators.



**APF10 - AKA N-95**

or "two-strap dust mask." Employees must be fit tested if required to wear these

Employers are required to maintain exposure and medical records for at least 30 years, (including air monitoring and objective data) according to 29 CFR 1910.1020 (Access to Employee Exposure and Medical Records).



25 CFM per 5 inches of **grinder wheel**

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29 CFR 1910.134  
OSHA's Respiratory standard must still be followed

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Employers must notify each affected employee of results of any exposure assessment within 5 working days of completing it. The 5-day period for notification starts when:

- An employer following the performance option finishes the exposure assessment; or
- An employer following the scheduled monitoring approach receives the laboratory results.