





Managing the risk of airborne crystalline silica


The ACT Government has introduced a Code of Practice to better protect people working with crystalline silica material

 follow the new **Managing the risks of airborne crystalline silica (silica dust) in the workplace Code of Practice** to understand and comply with your work health and safety duties

 **eliminate or minimise**, as far as is reasonably practicable, **risks** of silica dust in your workplace with **control** measures

 **review control measures** to make sure they are still working

 prepare a **Safe Work Method Statement** for activities that involve the cutting of crystalline silica material

 **consult** workers about risks and control measures


WHS laws require PCBU's to manage the risks of airborne silica dust

- > **Managing the risks of airborne crystalline silica (silica dust) in the workplace Code of Practice** comes into effect on 15 November 2023
- > **Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011**


Exposure to silica dust causes silicosis, a serious incurable lung disease that can lead to death


- > **respirable crystalline silica (silica dust) is generated when using powered tools or other mechanical processes such as:** cutting • grinding • polishing • sanding • crushing • trimming • drilling
- > **silica dust must be controlled with a combination of measures including:** water suppression • wet dust suppression • on tool vacuum systems • local exhaust ventilation • respiratory protective equipment
- > **ensure your workers are trained through the accredited crystalline silica awareness course**


More information

 [Managing the risks of airborne crystalline silica \(silica dust\) in the workplace Code of Practice](#)

 [New silica dust safety regulations fact sheet](#) ACT Government

 [Work Safety Group](#) ACT Government

 [WorkSafe ACT](#) (ACT work safety regulator)

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