



Respirable Crystalline Silica Air Sampling Data From Cut Stone Industry in Georgia



86% of ALL samples exceeded the Action Level (AL) of 25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

With Controls: Samples Where Wet Methods, Ventilation, or Both were used averaged 2 times the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and ranged from 9.6 to 370 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Without Controls: Dry Cutting, Polishing, and Fabrication resulted in exposures 34 to 46 times the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and ranged from 1700-2300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

Water and Ventilation Did NOT reduce exposures below the PEL when fabricating Engineered Stone (Quartz) countertops due to the high silica content in this product.

Employees Fabricating Stone that Contains Silica Should:

- Receive Hazard Communication Training for Silica
- Be provided and fitted for respiratory protection
- Be enrolled in a silica exposure medical surveillance program
- Use Tools fitted with Water and Ventilation to reduce dust

Inhalation of Respirable Crystalline Silica is Associated with:

- Lung Cancer and COPD
- Silicosis
- Tuberculosis (TB)
- Auto Immune Disorders
- Kidney Disease



8 Number of Companies Assisted

10 Number of Visits Conducted

46 Number of Full-Shift Samples

227 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ average silica for all samples



Hear Ever's Story about being Diagnosed with Silicosis



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CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION

oshainfo.gatech.edu

404.894.4131

jenny@gatech.edu