# Model Written Silica Exposure Control Plan for General Industry

This document contains information that requires font color attributes to be turned on in screen reader settings.

*This is a fillable template that the employer must complete. Instructions in red font enclosed in brackets indicate where you must enter your worksite-specific information.*

Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations (T8CCR), section 5204 (“Occupational Exposures to Respirable Crystalline Silica”) applies to all occupational exposures to respirable crystalline silica in general industry except:

* Construction work covered by section 1532.3.
* Agricultural operations covered under section 3436.
* Exposures that result from the processing of sorptive clays.
* Where employee exposure will remain below 25 micrograms per cubic meter of air (25 μg/m3) as an 8-Hour time-weighted average (TWA) under any foreseeable conditions.

Cal/OSHA developed this model plan to assist employers with creating their own silica exposure control plan. Employers are not required to use this model plan, but if they do, the person(s) with the authority and responsibility for implementing the workplace silica exposure control plan must:

* Carefully review all of the elements of section 5204.
* Adapt this program to the specific type of workplace and the silica hazards encountered.

Employers have the option of using this or any other silica exposure control plan template, or modifying this template so that it effectively addresses the required elements as outlined in section 5204. Using this model plan will not guarantee that it will meet regulatory requirements. However, it should save some development time.

## **Online Resources:**

* [California Code of Regulations, Title 8 (T8CCR), Table of Contents](http://www.dir.ca.gov/samples/search/query.htm), [www.dir.ca.gov/Title8Index/t8index.asp](http://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8Index/t8index.asp)
  + - T8CCR, [section 5204](http://www.dir.ca.gov/Title8/5204.html)
* [Respirable Crystalline Silica Standards - Important Update](https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/respiratory-silica-FAQ.html), [www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/respiratory-silica-FAQ.html](http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/respiratory-silica-FAQ.html)

Logo of State of California Department of Industrial Relations


December 2019

## **Silica Exposure Control Plan for** [Name of Company]

Date: [Type the date of last review]

This exposure control plan addresses all materials, tasks, and conditions that are relevant to the work performed by our employees, as follows:

Location: [Identify your operation(s) in terms that best reflect your workplace – e.g., locations areas, processes, and where regulated areas exist.]

### Task(s) Involving Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica

Task 1: [Describe the task to be done. Include the (1) specific tools/equipment (other than controls) to be used; (2) silica-containing material to be worked on/with; and (3) conditions (e.g., inside or outside; enclosed or open area; weather such as wet/humid vs. dry, winds).]

Task 2: [For example, consider local exhaust, vacuum filter replacement and maintenance, etc., as a separate task.]

Task 3: [Describe the task to be done.]

Task 4: [Describe the task to be done.]

### Exposure Controls

Task 1: [Corresponding with Task 1. Provide details on: (1) the engineering controls (type of local exhaust system with the recommended airflow rates, method of water application and pressure/volume, etc.); (2) work practices (e.g., how employees’ proper use of controls — via training — will be ensured, routine exhaust filter or air flow checks, positioning of the exhaust ventilation inlet over the work or the work in relation to the exhaust, maintenance check schedules); and (3) respiratory protection used (the type of NIOSH-approved filter, protection factor, etc., and when it must be used) to limit employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica (as well as any other airborne contaminants of concern) for the identified task(s).]

Task 2: [Corresponding with Task 2. Outline how employee exposures will be controlled when exhaust and/or vacuum filter replacement/cleaning is performed. Include how water build up on surfaces will be removed/cleaned before it dries.]

Task 3: [Describe the exposure controls to be used.]

Task 4: [Describe the exposure controls to be used.]

### Housekeeping

Task 1: [Corresponding with Task 1. Outline the acceptable and prohibited cleanup measures (For example, dry sweeping and use of compressed air are prohibited. Water/sweeping compound or HEPA vacuum must be used, etc.). Include how wet surfaces will be cleaned before they dry.]

Task 2: [Describe housekeeping measures to be used.]

Task 3: [Describe housekeeping measures to be used.]

Task 4: [Describe housekeeping measures to be used.]

### Exposure Control Plan Review and Availability

The effectiveness of the written exposure control plan will be evaluated at least annually and updated as necessary by [describe how this will be accomplished]

It will be made readily available for examination and copying upon request to each affected employee (or their designated representative) by [describe how this will be accomplished]