



# Identifying and assessing the risks from silica dust in the workplace



Businesses must manage the health and safety risks from silica dust at work.

## Primary exposure

may occur in workers carrying out activities that produce silica dust

## Secondary exposure

may occur in workers and others in or near areas where these activities are done.

If activities at your workplace produce silica dust, you must do a risk assessment to determine the level of risk of exposure to silica dust. **You must consider the following in your risk assessment:**

the type of material you are using and the amount of crystalline silica it contains

the activity you are doing that produces silica dust, including how often and for how long workers might be exposed to silica dust

how much silica dust is likely to be in the air at your workplace and whether this amount is likely to be unsafe for your workers and others at the workplace, and

any relevant air and health monitoring results for your workplace and any previous incidents, illnesses or diseases related to exposure to silica dust at your workplace.

**Be silica  
smart**



Everyone in the workplace has health and safety duties.



**CLEAN AIR. CLEAR LUNGS.**

Not all workplace hazards are visible.