

## GOVERNMENT NOTICE

### DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR

No. 66

5 February 2010

#### OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT, 1993 (ACT NO. 85 OF 1993)

##### Occupational Exposure Limit for Silica in Table I of the Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations

##### Occupational Exposure Control Limit for Airborne Respirable Silica - 0,1mg/m<sup>3</sup>

On the 27<sup>th</sup> June 2008, Mr Membathisi Mphumzi Shepherd Mdladlana, Minister of Labour, published a Government Notice No. R. 683, amending the Occupational Exposure Control Limit for Silica in Table I of the Hazardous Chemical Substances Regulations from 0,4mg/m<sup>3</sup> to 0,1mg/m<sup>3</sup>.

All industries handling, manufacturing and producing products that may cause exposure to silica dust are required to submit bi-annual reports indicating the following:

- Number of samples taken and analyzed
- Composition of dust
- Concentration of the constituents; and
- Whether companies are complying with the current Occupational Exposure Limit for silica, if not, what steps are implemented to comply with the exposure limit?

The Department of Labour is hereby publishing the silica dust data collection guiding document and the silica exposure compliance tool to be used by industries in reporting the required information.

# DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR



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## **SILICA DUST DATA COLLECTION GUIDING DOCUMENT**

### **1. PURPOSE**

The Department of Labour has reduced the occupational exposure limit of silica crystalline respirable dust from  $0.4\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  to  $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ . There is presently no system in place for the industry to report to the Department of Labour whether industries comply with the new occupational exposure limit. The purpose of collecting silica exposure compliance information will enable the DOL to collect the following information:

- a) National Profile of all the industries that have the potential to expose the employees to respirable silica dust.
- b) To determine the level of exposure to respirable silica dust.
- c) Number of employees exposed.
- d) The AIA performing the monitoring and evaluation

### **2. REPORTING MECHANISM**

The data must be sent directly to Head Office via e-mail to:  
[Jabu.Mhlophe@labour.gov.za](mailto:Jabu.Mhlophe@labour.gov.za).

### **3. SAMPLING**

Sampling must be done according to the national and international recognized standards.

### **4. FREQUENCY OR REPORTING**

Data must be sent on the 31 July and 31 January of every year.

### **5. CONFIDENTIALITY**

All information received will be confidential and it will not be shared with any other person or entity, except with the written consent from the company concerned.