



# Silica-5 Industry Exposure Tasks

In 2016, OSHA introduced a new standard for Respirable Crystalline Silica and general industry enforcement began in June 2018. Many industries may be exposed to silica dust. Below are a list of five common tasks associated with silica exposure; however, this is not a comprehensive list of all possible activities.

## #1 Manufacturing paints, soaps, and glass

Many manufacturing industries use products that contain silica, some that may not be as obvious as others. Checking Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) can help identify if products you are working with contain crystalline silica. Also keep in mind that amorphous, fumed or fused silica and silica gel is not the same as crystalline silica. Silica sand is used to make glass, but once its produced, its no longer a crystalline form.

## #2 Asphalt Manufacturing

Asphalt manufacturing consists of crushing rocks, which could contain crystalline silica. The crushing process could produce respirable crystalline silica.



## #3 Brick and Cement Manufacturing

Many raw materials used in the brick and cement manufacturing processes contain respirable crystalline silica

## #4 Metal Industries

Maintenance, repair, and replacement of refractory brick furnace linings in foundries, steel mills and smelting operations can exposure workers to respirable crystalline silica.



## #5 Abrasive Blasting

Abrasive blasting is typically done to clean and smooth molds, foundry castings, tombstones, etch or frosted glass, to remove dirt/rust from objects.