

Heavy Equipment with Enclosed Cabs

What You Need to Know

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) require employers to limit their employees' exposure to dust containing silica when working in an enclosed cab.

Workers are at risk when silica dust gets in the air they breathe inside of the cab. Silica dust can cause permanent and disabling lung diseases, such as silicosis, lung cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Your customers who use heavy equipment and utility vehicles to engage in work that will generate silica dust, such as hoe-ramming, rock ripping, demolition, grading, and excavation, must keep their employees' exposures to silica dust to the low level(s) required by the standard(s) they are working under when performing this work.



Regulations:

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) silica standards for construction (1926.1153) and general industry (1910.1053) are in effect and being enforced. The construction standard includes specific information on tasks that involve heavy equipment with enclosed cabs. OSHA limits workers' silica exposure to 50 micrograms per cubic meter (50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ - the permissible exposure limit or PEL.)¹
- The Mine Safety and Health Administration

