

COSHH ASSESSMENT

Task	Working with dusts containing high levels of Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS)		
Area / Location	Fraser House	ASSESSMENT No	COSHH G 020
Assessed by:	John Russell & Jordan Beasley	Date	12 th July 2022
Title	Health & Safety Advisor	Review date	As required
Signal Word		Danger	
The Substance – Hazard Identification Please denote the properties of the substances used in the task			
 Acute toxicity, very toxic (fatal), toxic etc. Specific target organ toxicity – repeated exposure (Category 1)			
First Aid Requirements Details to be found on the Material Safety Data Sheet			
Exposure Via	First Aid Treatment		
Inhalation	Remove victim to fresh air.		
Ingestion	Rinse mouth thoroughly with water		
Skin Contact	Wash gently and thoroughly with water and nonabrasive soap.		
Eye Contact	Rinse with water. Ensure to remove contact lens before rinsing.		
General advice			
The effects of the substance on the body. Take into account any changes in the substances state, during the task			
Substance(s) Used In Task (List below)	Nature of Hazard(s) Associated with Substance Detail the effect of the substance on the body throughout the duration of its use and changing states.		
Dusts containing RCS	May cause damage to lung through prolonged or repeated exposure by inhalation		
Dusts containing RCS	May cause cancer by inhalation		
Dusts containing RCS	Toxic by inhalation		
Dusts containing RCS	Long term respiratory exposure to airborne respirable crystalline silica may result in silicosis which is a disabling respiratory disease and decreased pulmonary function.		
Source, Duration and Risk of Exposure Identify at what stage of the task the exposure will happen and how. E.g. Inhalation of Rock wool fibres whilst opening bag.			
Substance(s)	Source(s) of Exposure (include route of entry)	Duration of Exposure (Min / Hrs)	Risk from Exposure (High, Med, Low)
Dusts containing RCS	Inhaling airborne particulates whilst carrying out grinding and chiselling of stone.	Up to 6 Hrs (approx)	high
Dusts containing RCS	Inhaling airborne particulates whilst brushing up a heavily contaminated work area.	Up to 2 Hrs (approx)	high
Dusts containing RCS	Inhaling airborne particulates whilst using circular saws.	Up to 6 Hrs (approx)	med
Dusts containing RCS	Inhaling airborne particulates whilst using Frame saw.	Up to 8 Hrs (approx)	Med

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Dusts containing RCS	Inhaling airborne particulates that are transferred by re-circulation from contaminated clothing.	Up to 8 Hrs (approx)	med	
Dusts containing RCS	Irritation to the skin and eyes from contact with airborne particulates from all of the above.	Up to 8 Hrs (approx)	med	
Emergency and Disposal				
Detail the requirements to deal with accidental release and disposal of the substance.				
Accidental release	Wet swab spilled material; scrape up into sealable container and label. Recommended handling in ventilated cupboard with the extracted air filtered through high efficiency particulate filters (HEPA).			6.1
Disposal	Dispose in containers.			13
Fire Fighting	N/A.			5.1
Control Measures				
Identify actions to eliminate the hazard, substitute the hazardous for the less harmful, engineering control, competency or specific PPE required.				
Use water suppression equipment where possible when grinding sawing and cutting.				
The work area is to be well ventilated; this may require the use of ventilation equipment. Note consideration must be taken of the effects of the ventilated dust on others.				
The extraction booths must be operating and fully functional				
Vacuum off or swill off the stone debris rather than blowing it off				
Practice good personal hygiene procedures. Wash hands and arms thoroughly before eating or taking drinks.				
Eating, drinking and smoking are prohibited in the work area, operatives must ensure that they wash prior to breaks and at the end of shift.				
Ensure hot running water and cleaning materials are always available for people likely to be exposed to high dust levels.				
Operatives are to avoid wearing cotton or woollen clothing				
Air flow to the masks is to be checked on a regular basis, masks are to be maintained in a clean condition and stored in clean containers away from the work area				
Operatives to only cut out for a maximum continuous duration of 1 hour. Work that requires a longer duration will require breaks every hour where the operative is to leave the work area as per the procedures listed below to remove the mask and check the filters.				
Eye wash stations should be located in close proximity to the work area.				
Operatives are to be trained in the correct use of all PPE and dust suppression/extraction equipment.				
Operatives likely to encounter stone dusts containing RSC should be placed under health surveillance.				
Operatives are to wear PPE identified including FFP3 dust masks and should be face fit tested to ensure effectiveness				
PPE Requirements				
				8.2
- Protective eyewear - Coveralls - Overalls that can be removed at the end of the working day should be supplied to persons likely to be exposed to levels of dust. - Disposable/Half face Respirator with FFP3 dust filters				
Authorised by The Responsible Manager	Name:	Signed:	Dated:	