



Chicagoland Laborers' District Council Training & Apprenticeship Fund

CLTAF Training Course & Curriculum Updates

Silica

What is Silica?

Silica is found in many materials common on construction sites, including soil, sand, concrete, masonry, rock, granite, and landscaping materials. The dust created by cutting, grinding, drilling or otherwise disturbing these materials can contain crystalline silica particles. This respirable silica dust causes lung disease and lung cancer. Silica exposure remains a serious threat to nearly 2 million U.S. workers, including our members of LiUNA. Crystalline silica has been classified as a human lung carcinogen. Additionally, breathing crystalline silica dust can cause silicosis, which in severe cases can be disabling, or even fatal.

The Types of Operations:

The most severe exposures to crystalline silica result from a majority of work that our LiUNA members do on a daily basis throughout their career. The following are some examples of work operations that can produce excessive exposure levels, such as:

- Broom or shovel
- Pavement breaking/ jackhammer / chipping gun
- Hand-held masonry saw
- Working around backhoe, excavator, bulldozer
- Walk-behind concrete saw
- Mixing concrete, grout, etc.
- Skidsteer (i.e. Bobcat)

CLTAF is offering this course as part of our continued education to Journeyworkers and will be 1 - day (8 Hours) which will comply with OSHA's Final Rule. OSHA has amended their previous exposure limits due to significant risk to workers' health and our signatory contractors must comply with OSHA's Final Rule by September 23rd of 2017.

For further information about this 1 – day course, please feel free to contact the Training Center at (630) 653 – 0006.