



October 2022

# Keep compliant with the latest health and safety alerts

Protect your workers from Silica Dust  
Preparing you for HSE inspections

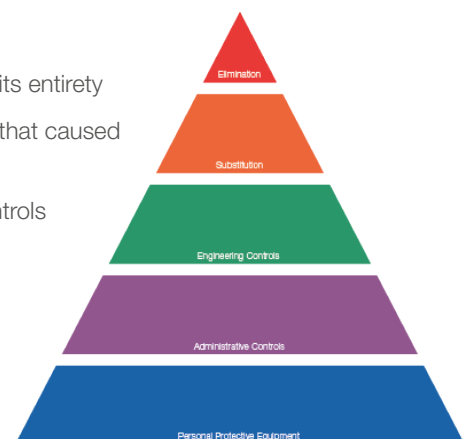
The HSE has refreshed their silica guidance and, from October 2022, will be conducting visits to manufacturing businesses where materials such as stone, rock, sand and clay are used. These businesses include brick and tile manufacturers, foundries and stoneworking within the construction and manufacturing industries.

As experts in safety, we have compiled guidance for you to keep compliant with the latest health and safety alerts and prepare you for HSE inspections. To protect your workers' health, employers have a legal duty to put in place suitable arrangements to manage silica dust in the workplace and comply with the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH).

## Legal Duty

**As an employer, ensure you have:**

- Eliminated the use of harmful substances and / or remove the hazard in its entirety
- Replaced the process or considered substitution to use a safer material that caused the hazard
- Removed hazardous substances at the source by using engineering controls such as LEV or on-tool extraction
- Reviewed the way people work and implemented procedures to ensure workers are not exposed to silica
- Provided adequate and suitable respiratory protective equipment (RPE) after all other practicable measures to control the hazardous substance have been put in place.





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## What to expect from an inspection

### During an inspection, the inspector will:

- look at how you keep your workers, and anyone who may be affected by your work, healthy and safe
- ask about your workers and possible health and safety risks from the work they are doing
- look at any machinery or other equipment
- ask to see records
- take photographs
- talk to your workers or their representatives.

### After an inspection, they may:

- take no further action if you're fully compliant
- discuss possible health and safety improvements with you
- notify you of any laws you're breaching and issue an improvement notice, with changes you must make within a time limit
- issue you with a prohibition notice, to stop work activity immediately if there is a risk of serious injury
- prosecute you for breaking health and safety laws or failing to comply with notices of improvement or prohibition.

## Check you are supplying the correct Assigned Protection Factor (APF) for stoneworkers

The HSE has collated some industry specific direct advice sheets to help businesses comply with COSHH and protect workers' from exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS).

The HSE has identified seven areas that workers in the Stoneworking industry may be tasked with and provided specific advice on each. They advise workers carrying out these tasks to use RPE with at least an APF 20.

Workers carrying out tasks under **ST4 - hand and pneumatic chiselling** however, are to be provided or upgrade their RPE with an assigned protection factor of 40. This guidance means that workers should be using either a full-face mask with a P3 filter or a powered air purifying respirator (PAPR) with a head top that conforms to a TH3 or TM3 standard.

View our range of RPE that has the highest recommended level of protection with an APF 40 to ensure your workers are fully protected against respirable crystalline silica. FFP1 and FFP2 disposable masks and gas and combination filters do not provide suitable protection for stoneworkers.

### Seven Stoneworkers (ST) Tasks:

- ST1** – Primary and secondary sawing
- ST2** – Rotary tools – Automated boring and polishing using rotary tools
- ST3** – Cutting and polishing using hand-held rotary tools
- ST4** – Hand and pneumatic chiselling
- ST5** – Sawing slate
- ST6** – Slate splitting (manual)
- ST7** – Dressing slate (edge bevelling).

### REMEMBER!

All RPE must be selected according to the wearers' requirement, work tasks and environment. Any tight-fitting facepiece requires a face fit test. Tight-fitting facepieces cannot be worn with facial hair.

# Appropriate Respiratory Protective Equipment from Arco

## ➤ Full-Face Masks



Sundström SR 200 PC Full-Face Respirator Mask with Polycarbonate Visor **(164600)**



Sundström SR 200 Full-Face Respirator Mask with Glass Visor **(1B4001)**



3M FF-300 Full-Face Respirator Mask **(17M2500)**



JSP Force 10 Typhoon Full-Face Respirator Mask **(H009288)**

## ➤ P3 Filters



Sundström SR 510 Full Face P3 R Particulate Filter **(1C6600)**



3M PF10 DT-1135E Full Face P3 Particulate Filter **(17M2800)**



Sundström SR 710 PAPR P3 Particulate Filter **(169200)**

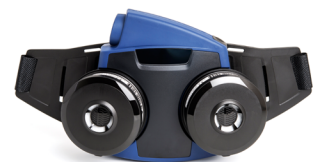
## ➤ Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR)



Sundström SR 500 Powered Respirator **(1C9301)**



Sundström SR 500 EX Intrinsically Safe Powered Respirator **(1C2200)**



Sundström SR 700 Powered Respirator Starter Kit **(160100)**

## ➤ Head Tops



Sundström SR 570 Respirator Face Shield **(160901)**



Sundström SR 580 Respirator Face Shield **(1C8200)**



Sundström SR 601 Respirator Hood with Hose **(161300)**

### For further sources and references:

When an inspector calls animation | HSE: When a health and safety inspector calls leaflets | HSE: Direct advice sheets | COSHH essentials for stoneworkers