

# Silica Toolbox Talk Handout



## **BENEFITS**

Workers in various trades and industries, including mining, tunnelling, quarrying, masonry, metal foundries and ship and bridge repair, can be exposed to crystalline silica dust. Crystalline silica is a mineral that can cause lung cancer and silicosis when inhaled. As a result, employers have a duty under the OHS laws to protect workers from exposure to it. To fulfil that duty, you should educate workers exposed to this hazard.

## **HOW TO USE THE TOOL**

Give this handout to workers as part of a safety talk to educate them on the hazards posed by exposure to silica dust. Whoever gives the talk, whether a supervisor, safety coordinator, foreman, training provider, etc., should cover the hazards of silica dust, safe work procedures for work that may generate such dust and proper use of appropriate PPE.

## **ADDITIONAL TOOLS**

**The Center for Construction Research and Training**

**Spot the Safety Violation: Prevent Exposure to Silica Dust**

**Model Crystalline Silica Exposure Plan**

**Fact Sheet – What Is Crystalline Silica’**

**Hazard Alert: Worker Exposure to Silica During Fracking**

**Ontario MOL Guideline: Silica on Construction Projects**