NOTE: This sample shows an easy-to-use format that can be changed to address the specific tasks performed by each employee. The sample plan meets the requirements of the OSHA silica standard and contains the level of detail that OSHA considers useful for employers in helping them protect their employees. As the sample shows, the plan can contain useful information without being long or complicated.

SAMPLE #1 – WRITTEN SILICA EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

Company: John Doe Renovators

Person Completing the Plan, Title: John Doe, Owner

Jobsite/Project: ABC Development

Competent person for silica on the project: John Doe

Description of Task:
Demolishing concrete and tile floors inside homes or public buildings using a jackhammer.

Control Description

Controls:
- Use jackhammer equipped with the appropriate, commercially available shroud and a vacuum dust collection system with the flow rate recommended by the jackhammer manufacturer, a filter that is at least 99 percent efficient, and a filter cleaning mechanism.
- Use a portable fan to exhaust air and prevent the buildup of dust.

Work practices:
- Check shrouds and hoses to make sure they are not damaged before starting work.
- Make sure the hoses do not become kinked or bent while working.
- Use switch on vacuum to activate filter cleaning at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer.
- Replace vacuum bags as needed to prevent overfilling.
- Use the jackhammer and vacuum controls according to manufacturer’s instructions for reducing the release of visible dust.
- If visible dust increases, check controls and adjust as needed.

Respiratory protection:
- Use respirator with APF of 10 the entire time the task is being performed.
- See the written respiratory protection program for information on selection, training and fit testing requirements, in addition to proper use instructions for respirators (for example, being clean shaven when using a respirator that seals against the face).

Housekeeping:
- Dust containing silica on work surfaces and equipment must be cleaned up using wet methods or a HEPA-filtered vacuum.
- Do not use compressed air or dry sweeping for removing dust and debris containing silica from work surfaces.
- Dispose of used vacuum bags in a container and keep the container sealed.

Procedures Used to Restrict Access to Work Areas:
Schedule the work so that only employees who are engaged in the task (the jackhammer operator and employees helping the operator) are in the area.
NOTE: This sample shows an easy-to-use format that can be changed to address the specific tasks performed by each employee. The sample plan meets the requirements of the OSHA silica standard and contains the level of detail that OSHA considers useful for employers in helping them protect their employees. As the sample shows, the plan can contain useful information without being long or complicated.

SAMPLE #2 – WRITTEN SILICA EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

Company: Jane Doe Masonry

Person Completing the Plan, Title: Jane Doe, Owner

Jobsite/Project: XYZ Subdivision

Competent person for silica on the project: Jane Doe

Description of Task: Cutting bricks using a stationary masonry saw outdoors.

Control Description

Controls:

When cutting bricks using a stationary masonry saw, Table 1 will be fully and properly implemented, including using a saw with an integrated water delivery system that delivers a steady stream of water to the cutting blade. The saw operator will make sure that enough water for the saw is available before starting to cut, and that a steady stream of water can be seen while cutting. The operator will change water, when needed, to maintain flow of water to the blade.

Work practices:

Use the stationary masonry saw in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions to minimize the release of visible dust. Inspect dust controls daily to make sure they are functioning properly. Stop work and adjust controls if you see an increase in visible dust.

Respiratory protection:

Respiratory protection is not required. Use a portable fan to exhaust air and prevent the buildup of dust.

Housekeeping:

Slurry generated by the saw will be cleaned up before it dries using a wet vacuum. When emptying the vacuum, the slurry will be transferred into a plastic bag and placed inside a container for disposal. The container will be sealed to prevent the release of dust back into the work space.

Never sweep or use compressed air on dried slurry. If slurry dries, immediately wet it down and clean it up with the wet vacuum.

Procedures Used to Restrict Access to Work Areas:

When the controls on a stationary masonry saw are fully and properly implemented, access does not need to be restricted to decrease other employees’ exposure to respirable crystalline silica.

The competent person can use traffic cones or barrier tape to restrict access if needed for other reasons such as safety concerns.