



OSHA Issues First Silica Rule Enforcement Guidance

Message from SCA: OSHA has just issued an enforcement guidance for their Occupational Exposure to Silica rule. While this guidance was issued due to the upcoming October 23rd enforcement deadline for the construction industry, the information can be used to assist in compliance for the maritime industry.

The guidance is intended for Occupational Safety and Health Administration staff. However, employers and workers can use the information to judge if they are meeting the agency's requirements and learn what to expect during an inspection.

Among the guidance's directions for inspectors are two flow charts explaining how an inspection should proceed depending what methods construction contractors are using to comply with the rule. The guidance also outlines initial steps for inspectors, such as collecting workers' personal breathing samples, reviewing the employer's written silica exposure plan, and analyzing the employer's silica exposure assessment.

[Read the guidance here >](#)

Development of the final version of the enforcement guidance is ongoing