



CEMINTEL[®]

Photo courtesy of 3M.

WHAT IS CRYSTALLINE SILICA?

Crystalline Silica is everywhere. It's found naturally in stone, rocks, sand, gravel and clay. Sand is one of the raw materials in Fibre Cement.

What is Respirable Crystalline Silica dust?

Respirable Crystalline Silica dust is the fine dust that's created when you use power tools to cut, drill, grind, chip or sand materials and products that contain crystalline silica. This dust is of concern due to its size as it gets caught deep in your lungs and can cause long term damage.

**IF YOU USE THE CORRECT EQUIPMENT
FIBRE CEMENT IS SAFE TO USE**

Cemintel Safety Requirements

01

Cut Outdoors*

The ventilation outdoors is greater than that indoors, and therefore should reduce exposure.

02

Use On-Tool Dust Extraction

Use on-tool dust extraction when using power tools to drill and cut Fibre Cement, with a vacuum that contains a HEPA M Class filter.

03

Correct Equipment

Use a plunge saw with a specifically designed Fibre Cement blade.

04

Don't Sweep, Vacuum instead

When completing your work vacuum with a HEPA M Class filter, rather than a broom as sweeping creates more dust.

05

Use a Respirator

Use a half face P1 or P2 respirator. It is essential that the respirators are Fit Tested and workers are cleanly shaven to obtain a good seal.

* Even though not recommended, indoor cutting can be completed when using an onsite cutting room with exhaust ventilation and a M class filter at a minimum, on-tool dust extraction with a vacuum with a HEPA M Class filter, a Full Face P2 respirator and conducting local occupational and static air monitoring to validate effectiveness of control measures.