

Dear valued partner,

This June we will provide safety information on two new MSHA programs and the newly revised OSHA Hazard Communication program.

When does the MSHA Surface Mobile Equipment Standard become enforceable?

- a) July 17, 2024
- b) December 25, 2025
- c) January 1, 2024
- d) Oh, no! We didn't realize there is a new Surface Mobile Equipment Standard.

Answer at the end of the email.



(Missed a previous email? [Click here](#) to see an archive of previous month's safety emails on Rockwood's Loss Control website.)



WHAT IS The MSHA SURFACE MOBILE EQUIPMENT STANDARD?

Written Plan and Training DUE July 17, 2024

MSHA's [final rule](#) requires mine operators to have written safety programs for surface mobile equipment (excluding belt conveyors) at surface mines and surface areas of underground mines. The safety programs must include input from miners and their representatives and identify hazards and risks. Training on each of the hazards must also be completed by the July 17, 2024 deadline.

Resources:

[Surface Mobile Equipment Safety Program \(Presentation\)](#)

[Compliance Assistance: Templates and Other Resources](#)

[Frequently Asked Questions](#)

[MSHA Mobile Equipment Operation Checklist](#)



WHAT IS The MSHA SILICA STANDARD?

On April 18, 2024, MSHA issued its final rule, Lowering Miners' Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica and Improving Respiratory Protection, to reduce miner exposures to respirable crystalline silica and improve respiratory protection for all airborne hazards. The final rule:

- Lowers the permissible exposure limit (PEL) for respirable crystalline silica to 50 micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) for a full shift, calculated as an 8-hour
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time-weighted average (TWA) for all miners; establishes an action level for respirable crystalline silica at 25 µg/m³ for a full shift, calculated as an 8-hour TWA for all miners;

- Includes uniform requirements for controlling and monitoring exposures to respirable crystalline silica at coal and metal and nonmetal (MNM) mines;
- Includes medical surveillance requirements for MNM mines, modeled on the existing medical surveillance requirements for coal mines; and
- Updates existing respiratory protection requirements by incorporating by reference a voluntary consensus standard by the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) that reflects the latest advances in respiratory protection technologies and practices – ASTM F3387-19 Standard Practice for Respiratory Protection.

Resources:

Video: [SKC How to: Sample for Silica](#)

Rental: [SGS Galson Silica Monitoring Kit](#) (\$173/kit)

Get more information [here](#).



WHAT IS THE OSHA REVISED HAZARD COMMUNICATION STANDARD?

[The updated standard](#) will require labels on small packaging to be more comprehensive and readable and makes changes to help ensure trade secrets no longer prevent workers and first responders from receiving critical hazard information on safety data sheets.

The update take effect on July 19, 2024.

Workers will also benefit from other changes in the updated standard, including a clearer hazard classification process to provide more complete and accurate hazard information on labels and safety data sheets; updated physical hazard classes to better inform users on safe handling of explosives, aerosols and chemicals under pressure; and updated precautionary statements on how to safely handle, store and dispose of hazardous chemicals.

Resources:

[Sample Written Hazard Communication Program](#)

[Sample Hazard Communication Program](#)



Rockwood Resources:

- Rockwood Toolbox Talk | [Silicosis](#)
 - Rockwood Toolbox Talk | [Dust and Fumes](#)
 - Rockwood Toolbox Talk | [Mobile and Heavy Equipment](#)
 - Rockwood Toolbox Talk | [Chemical Emissions](#)

 - You can find additional Rockwood Toolbox Talks [here](#).
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Learn more about **SILICA and HAZARD COMMUNICATION** on Streamery

Every Rockwood policy includes access to Streamery, a vast safety library with videos, quizzes and more resources to help you promote safety in your workplace. If you don't have access, contact us to get a username. Enter the SKU number below to find the recommended video.

Watch [Streamery](#) videos on **SILICA and HAZARD COMMUNICATION**:

- **Silica Safety in Industrial and Construction Environments:** 16 min / SKU: 3598 + 3598-S / English & Spanish
- **Silica:** 15 min / SKU: 3419 + 3419-S / English & Spanish
- **Hazard Communication:** 14 min / SKU: 5061 + 5061-S / English & Spanish
- **Hazard Communication – The GHS & YOU:** 14 min / SKU: 3320 + 3320-S / English & Spanish

- **Many more on Streamery**



Questions? Feel free to reach out: As always, your Rockwood partners are available to answer your questions and help you promote safety in the workplace. Contact Rockwood Loss Control for any support you need.

ANSWER: When does the MSHA Surface Mobile Equipment Standard become enforceable?

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#RockwoodSafetySolutions #LossControl #SafetyTips

Thank you for your continued partnership,

Rockwood Loss Control Team

Safetysolutions@rockwoodcasualty.com