

SILICA CONTROL TOOL®: WHAT'S NEW

NOVEMBER 28, 2024

The Silica Control Tool® was updated in November 2024 with silica exposure data from Canadian construction worksites that was collected in 2023 and 2024. Our ongoing respirable crystalline silica monitoring program allows the Tool to adapt to changes in work processes and updates in exposure control technologies. The latest version of the Tool includes work activities and exposure control options that were not available in previous versions.

NEW WORK ACTIVITIES

The following new work activities are now available:

Material	Task	Tool	Engineering Control Options
Asphalt	Plant operator (operating an asphalt plant)	Asphalt plant control panel	Closed, pressurized cab, booth or room
Asphalt	Loader operator (operating a loader at an asphalt plant)	Loader	Closed pressurized cab
Asphalt	Groundsperson (working as an asphalt plant groundsperson)	N/A	Uncontrolled
Any	Street sweeping	Mechanical street sweeper	Uncontrolled Water spray on tool
Ceramic tiles	Removal and/or demolition	Hand tools	Uncontrolled
Ceramic tiles	Removal and/or demolition	Rotary hammer	Uncontrolled Material wetting - standalone

NEW EXPOSURE CONTROL OPTIONS

Adding new exposure data to the Tool also expands the capability of the tool to estimate exposure for work activities that are already in the Tool. In the November, 2024 update, two new control options have been added for two work activities that were already available in the Tool.

Material	Task	Tool	Engineering Control Options
Concrete	Chipping	Any	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetting separate from tool• Wetting integrated to tool• LEV separate from tool• LEV integrated to tool (new)
Concrete	Scarifying	Bush hammer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wetting integrated to tool• LEV integrated to tool (new)• Both LEV and wetting