

Silica Dust Control Checklist

The Durovac logo is a yellow hexagon with the word "DUROVAC" in bold, dark blue, sans-serif capital letters. In the background of the entire page, there is a large, faint, dark blue circular graphic containing a checkmark.

OVERVIEW

Silica dust isn't just a regulatory headline – it's a real hazard on shop floors, fabrication areas, and dust-generating work zones. Effective silica dust control protects your workforce, keeps you audit-ready, and drives compliance with OSHA's 29 CFR 1910.1053 silica standard.

This Silica Dust Control Checklist for Plant Managers arms you with a simple, actionable way to evaluate your current controls – from hazard identification and engineering practices to PPE and monitoring – so you can confidently spot gaps, prioritize improvements, and strengthen your safety program.

1. Silica Dust Hazard Identification

- ☐ Have all work areas been assessed for respirable crystalline silica levels?
- ☐ Do you conduct regular exposure monitoring in high-risk zones?
- ☐ Are records of exposure data maintained and accessible?

2. Engineering Controls

- ☐ Are wet methods or ventilation used to suppress dust at the source?
- ☐ Do you use HEPA-filtered vacuums as part of your dust collection system?
- ☐ Is your vacuum fully grounded and OSHA compliant?
- ☐ Are tools connected to integrated dust collection systems?

Consider the **PowerLift Silica Dust Vacuum** – engineered for high-volume silica control, HEPA filtration, and built-in safety.

3. Equipment Specifications

- ☐ Does your current vacuum meet HEPA specs (99.97% efficiency at 0.3 microns)?
- ☐ Does it support continuous-duty operation (10-20 HP motor options)?
- ☐ Is the system mobile (forklift pockets, lifting eyes)?
- ☐ Is your system compatible with multi-zone or scalable setups?

4. Administrative Controls

- ☐ Have employees received silica-specific training on dust hazards?
- ☐ Is a written silica exposure control plan (ECP) in place and updated annually?
- ☐ Do you have a routine maintenance and inspection protocol for vacuums?
- ☐ Are HEPA filters checked/replaced at recommended intervals?

5. PPE & Monitoring

- ☐ Are workers equipped with NIOSH-approved respirators when needed?
- ☐ Is real-time air monitoring or spot testing used during high-exposure tasks?
- ☐ Do you keep documentation of all PPE and monitoring activities?

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

If this checklist raised questions, or confirmed areas that need improvement, you don't have to tackle them alone. Review your results with your EHS team and prioritize any gaps tied to exposure risk or housekeeping.

Get a second set of eyes on your dust control strategy with a no-obligation conversation with a DuroVac specialist.

Evaluate industrial vacuum solutions designed for silica dust, including HEPA-filtered systems built for continuous duty and regulatory compliance.



Talk to a Dust Control Expert



Explore OSHA-Compliant Vacuum Solutions