Crystalline Silica Compliance Webinar Series for AFS Members

AFS is holding a six-month webinar series focused on controlling crystalline silica.

This Members-Only Webinar series will share practical ideas from the industry to help metalcasters develop an organized silica plan to efficiently and cost-effectively control the material.

Following are the scheduled webinar topics. Questions may be submitted in advance of each monthly webinar to jgaresche@afsinc.org. Please use the subject line “Silica Webinar Question.”

**Wednesday, Feb. 28, 1 p.m. Central – “Silica Substitutes: Will They Work for Your Foundry?”**
Come learn about non-silica media, who is already using these products, and the pros and cons from those who have experience transitioning.
**Goal:** Determine if non-silica media may be a viable option in your foundry. If not, proceed to comply with the regulations.

**Thursday, March 29, 1 p.m. Central – “How to Select an Industrial Hygienist and What to Expect”**
What information should you be prepared to answer when they visit your site? How should you set up your files to meet the recordkeeping requirements?
**Goal:** Establish a relationship with a certified industrial hygienist. Proceed to schedule silica sampling in a variety of process areas.

**Thursday, April 26, 1 p.m. Central – “Respiratory Protection and Silica Medical Surveillance Programs”**
After your lab results are back, what do you do first? Each step, from selecting a respirator to medical surveillance requirements, will be covered.
**Goal:** Know all your responsibilities for providing respiratory protective equipment. Post silica signage as required. Schedule affected employees for baseline silica medical surveillance.

**Wednesday, May 30, 1 p.m. Central – “Control of Silica Exposures – Part 1: Identification and Evaluation of Silica Exposure Control Options”**
This session is applicable to facility managers and maintenance managers.
**Goal:** Know your silica sources and learn how to reduce concentrations of respirable crystalline silica.

**Thursday, June 28, 1 p.m. Central – “Control of Silica Exposures – Part 2: Conducting the OSHA Required Silica Exposure Control Planning”**
This session is applicable to facility managers and maintenance managers.
**Goal:** Learn what needs to be documented in your Silica Exposure Control Plan. Document everything, even ventilation systems you’ve installed prior to the passing of the revised silica rules.

**July TBA**
**Goal:** Remove obstacles so you can continue to make progress.

Many resources are available to members now on the AFS website at [www.afsinc.org/silica](http://www.afsinc.org/silica), including a Silica Compliance Timeline and many supporting documents, forms, and checklists to assist you in attaining compliance with the new silica rules.