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 igaresche@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, including a Silica Compliance Timeline and many supporting documents, forms, and checklists to assist you in attaining compliance with the new silica rules.