



# Hazardous Dust & Fibres

**Intent:** To eliminate or minimise the risks of fatalities, injuries and events arising from the management, removal and disposal of hazardous dust and fibres such as asbestos and respirable crystalline silica.

## Engineered Safety in Practice (examples):

- Identify and specify materials that have lower exposure risks where practicable (e.g. Low Silica Stone products).
- Explore and agree on methodologies to minimise exposure to hazardous dusts and fibres through engineering means (e.g. dust suppression, extraction, negative pressure tents, ventilation and containment)
- Explore available technology to conduct works remotely or at a distance (e.g. robots, mobile plant attachments)
- Avoid disturbing materials containing hazardous materials/fibres in design scope if safely contained

## FSR Controls

1. Identify *hazardous dust and fibre* risks during Safety in Design, constructability assessments, and work planning, and implement controls to eliminate or engineer out those risks.
2. An Occupational Health and Hygiene Management Plan must be in place and endorsed by a qualified occupational hygienist.
3. Before commencing Demolition Work or alterations / modifications to existing structures, a third-party hazardous materials survey must be undertaken.
4. All personnel undertaking asbestos removal must be trained, competent, and work under a valid licence.
5. Obtain an inspection and clearance certificate upon completion of licensed asbestos removal.
6. Compressed air, blowers or dry sweeping must not be used for cleaning surfaces where hazardous dust may be present.
7. Use HEPA-filtered vacuums rated for the dust being collected (e.g. M-class minimum for respirable crystalline silica).
8. Implement engineering controls where hazardous dust may be generated, such as on-tool extraction, water suppression, or local exhaust ventilation.
9. Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) used to prevent inhalation of *hazardous dust and fibres* must be fit-tested, except for loose-fitting Powered Air Purifying Respirator (PAPR) units.
10. Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) to prevent inhalation of *hazardous dust and fibres* must be suitable for the task, maintained and inspected before each use for signs of damage or deterioration.
11. Conduct exposure monitoring and Health Surveillance in accordance with the Health Risk Assessment (HRA) to confirm the effectiveness of implemented controls.
12. Decontaminate tools, equipment, and clothing exposed to *hazardous dust or fibres in line* with the applicable Exposure Control Plan or Safe Work Method Statement.
13. Dispose of hazardous waste, including asbestos, at licensed facilities authorised to receive that waste.

## DEFINITIONS

Hazardous dust and fibres: [As per the definition in this link](#)

