OSHA's Respirable Crystalline Silica standard for general industry and maritime requires employers to limit worker exposures to respirable crystalline silica and to take other steps to protect workers.

Among other things, the standard requires employers to:

- Assess employee exposures to silica if it may be at or above an action level of 25 µg/m³ (micrograms of silica per cubic meter of air), averaged over an 8-hour day;
- Protect workers from respirable crystalline silica exposures above the permissible exposure limit (PEL) of 50 µg/m³, averaged over an 8-hour day;
- Limit workers' access to areas where they could be exposed above the PEL;
- Use dust controls to protect workers from silica exposures above the PEL;
- Provide respirators to workers when dust controls cannot limit exposures to the PEL;
- Use housekeeping methods that do not create airborne dust, if feasible;
- Establish and implement a written exposure control plan that identifies tasks that involve exposure and methods used to protect workers;
- Offer medical exams - including chest X-rays and lung function tests - every three years for workers exposed at or above the action level for 30 or more days per year;
- Train workers on work operations that result in silica exposure and ways to limit exposure; and
- Keep records of exposure measurements, objective data, and medical exams.

General industry and maritime employers must comply with all requirements of the standard by June 23, 2018, except for the following:

Medical surveillance must be offered to employees who will be exposed at or above the action level for 30 or more days a year starting on June 23, 2020. (Medical surveillance must be offered to employees who will be exposed above the PEL for 30 or more days a year starting on June 23, 2018.)

Hydraulic fracturing operations in the oil and gas industry must implement engineering controls to limit exposures to the new PEL by June 23, 2021.

This entire article can be found at: www.osha.gov
May Monthly Meeting

At the May ASSP/AIHA monthly meeting, Chris Robertson, MSPH, CIH, CSP, gave a technical presentation on Designing and Auditing Temporary Confined Space Ventilation Systems. The meeting took place at the Marriot South at Hobby Airport. During the meeting members also voted for the 2018-2019 Gulf Coast Executive Committee. Thank you to all the members who attended and made this meeting a success!

North Section

Several requests have been made to reenergize the North Section of the Gulf Coast Chapter. Your voices have been heard and the first meeting will be held this June. Volunteers are needed for several positions. If you are interested in reenergizing this section, contact Leslie McGaha at mcgaha78@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Meeting and Events

ASSP & AIHA Awards and Honors Meeting
Date	Thursday, June 14th, 2018
Time	3 pm– 6 pm
Location	Marriot Houston South Hobby
9100 Gulf Freeway, Houston TX
Rixio Medina, newly elected ASSP President will be inducting 2018-2019 Gulf Coast Officers and several awards will be given.

Energy Corridor Section Meeting
Date	Thursday, June 14th, 2018
Time	11:00-1:00pm
Location	Wood Group – Stallion Building: 17325 Park Row, Houston TX
Speaker	Doug Rush, CIH, CSP, CHMM
Topic	ISO 45001 Occupational H&S Management System

North Section Monthly Meeting
Date	Thursday, April 12, 2018
Time	11:00-1:00pm
Location	Pallotta’s Italian Grill
Speaker	Ms. Joanne Figueroa, Area Director, OSHA
Topic	Trends and OSHA Area of Focus
Live Flash Fire Demos - June 20th

Don’t miss this opportunity to hear from experts on all aspects of flash fire and then see the real thing live at the world’s largest live fueled fire field! Gathered all in one room will be top authorities on the flash fire hazard and FR fibers and fabrics, plus representatives from the NFPA 2112 committee, the NC State 2112 “Manikin” lab, OSHA, and Wildhorse Resources. Following individual presentations, they’ll come together to take questions from the audience. Don’t miss this one-of-a-kind seminar! EVER WONDER WHAT HAPPENS TO GARMENTS THAT ARE SUBJECTED TO A REAL, FULL-SCALE OUTDOOR FLASH FIRE? You’ll be able to see for yourself, up close and personal, but in complete safety! We’ll release large volumes of propane, control the ignition point, and create huge flash fires… dozens of times. We’ll place manikins in harms’ way, wearing all sorts of common non-FR and FR clothing. You’ll be able to shoot stills and video of it all, and of course we’ll have HD cameras (and even GoPros in the flashes) and we’ll share it all. Hosted proudly by Tyndale Company, Inc. and sponsored by Westex by Milliken.

**When**
Wednesday, June 20, 2018
7:30AM-3:30PM

**Where**
TEEX Brayton Fire Training Field
1595 Nuclear Science Road
College Station, TX 77843

**Accommodations**
A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn College Station - Mention Tyndale When Booking
3081 University Drive East, Bryan, Texas, 77802, USA

**Register Today**
https://teex-tyndale-2018.eventbrite.com/
215.766.5660 x721

**Did you attend Safety 2018?**
Let us feature you in the next newsletter!
Send us your best pictures from the conference to info@gulfcoast.asse.org

**Looking to advance your career?**
Visit ASSP’s job board at http://jobs.assp.org
University of Houston—Clear Lake is offering FREE Fall Protection Train-the-Trainer Workshops and Worker Training sessions starting June 21, 2018.

**Train-the-Trainer Workshop**

<table>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Date and Time</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>South Houston</td>
<td>June 21, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77508</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Houston</td>
<td>June 28, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77508</td>
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**Worker Training**

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<tr>
<td>South Houston</td>
<td>June 22, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77508</td>
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<td>South Houston</td>
<td>June 26, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77508</td>
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<td>South Houston</td>
<td>June 29, 2018 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>University of Houston Clear Lake 2700 Bay Area Blvd. Houston, TX 77508</td>
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NOTE: If you have more than 20 workers who need training, then we can come to your worksite, anywhere in the Houston region.

Register using the “Register Here” links above or

Go to [http://www.eventzilla.net/user/UHCL](http://www.eventzilla.net/user/UHCL) or contact Robert Phalen at (281) 283-3753 or phalen@uhcl.edu