

Toolbox Talk: Dust Management



Why this matters

Construction dust (e.g. silica from cutting concrete, wood dust, plaster dust) can cause asthma, lung cancer, COPD and other serious health problems.



Key Points

- Identify tasks that create dust:
 - Cutting, grinding, sanding, sweeping.
- Use control measures:
 - on-tool extraction, water suppression, dust barriers.
- Wear suitable respiratory protective equipment (RPE) if exposure cannot be prevented.
- Keep the site tidy and clear away dust regularly using vacuum extraction or damp methods, not dry sweeping.
- Ensure dust controls are maintained and checked.

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Confirmation Questions

1. Why should you never dry sweep dust on site?
2. What are two methods used to control dust at source?