



Silica – The New Asbestos? It’s more than just dust.....

Every year about two million construction workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica. About 40% of these workers are exposed at levels which exceed the “new” OSHA permissible exposure limit (PEL). Crystalline silica is one of the most common mineral components found in the earth’s crust and is found in materials such as sand, stone, rock, concrete, drywall, brick, glass, mortar, etc. The list goes on. This presentation will discuss who is exposed, the health risks associated with exposures, regulatory limits on exposure and how to mitigate exposures for employees and the general public.

Bio: Valerie is a Senior Project Manager for the Industrial Hygiene division at the Partner Engineering & Science office in Phoenix. She is a Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant through the American Council for Accredited Certification. Her experience is vast within the environmental industry as she has worked in and managed an indoor air quality laboratory, has worked as an Asbestos NESHAP Inspector for Maricopa County Air Quality and has been in consulting for longer than she wants to admit. Her background is in mold, asbestos, lead, indoor air quality investigations, chemical exposure monitoring, noise monitoring, etc.