

OSHA makes new, revised resources on silica available

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has released two resources to help small-business employers comply with the agency's final silica rule. The *Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for General Industry and Maritime*, available at <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3911.pdf>, outlines steps that employers are required to take, including assessing worker exposures, using engineering and work practice controls to keep exposures below a specified safety threshold, offering medical exams to certain highly exposed workers, and training workers. Enforcement of the final rule is scheduled to begin June 23, 2018.

Released earlier in the year, the *Small Entity Compliance Guide for the Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for Construction*, available at <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3902.pdf>, describes requirements to protect employees, including using engineering controls specified in the standard or selecting other effective engineering controls to reduce exposures, offering medical exams to workers who will need to wear a respirator under the silica standard for 30 or more days a year, and training workers. The guide was updated to reflect the new enforcement date of September 23, 2017.

—Source: U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration

ASCE minimum design load standard committee member applications due by September 30

The revision cycle for American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 7-16, *Minimum Design Loads and Associated Criteria for Buildings and Other Structures*, starts in September 2017, and the committee is seeking new members to begin work on the next edition of the standard. Ronald O. Hamburger will chair the 2022 cycle.

Those who are 35 or younger and are interested in serving on ASCE 7 committees may also apply to participate in the Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) Codes and Standards Activity Division for Young Professionals (CSAD-YP), a funded opportunity, and should indicate their interest by checking the appropriate box on the online form. In addition to young professionals, anyone with a strong desire to contribute to the further development of the ASCE 7 standard may apply for membership on the committee. Individuals with a broad knowledge of structural engineering or limited focus on a particular practice area or expertise, such as hydrology, climate, or seismology, can make significant contributions.

To apply for the committee, submit an application by September 30, 2017, via the online form at <http://www.asce.org/codes-and-standards/standards-committee-application-form/>. Select "SEI" from the "Institute" drop-down menu and then "Minimum Design Loads (ASCE/SEI 7)" from the "SEI Committee" drop-down menu. Applicants should indicate the category of membership for which they are applying—voting or associate—for each of the main committees or subcommittees. Associate members can be accepted until balloting begins. Eligible regulatory members can qualify for travel reimbursement per ASCE's travel policy. For more information, contact Jennifer Goupil, senior manager of engineering at SEI, at jgoupil@asce.org or (571) 421-3998.

—Source: American Society of Civil Engineers

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