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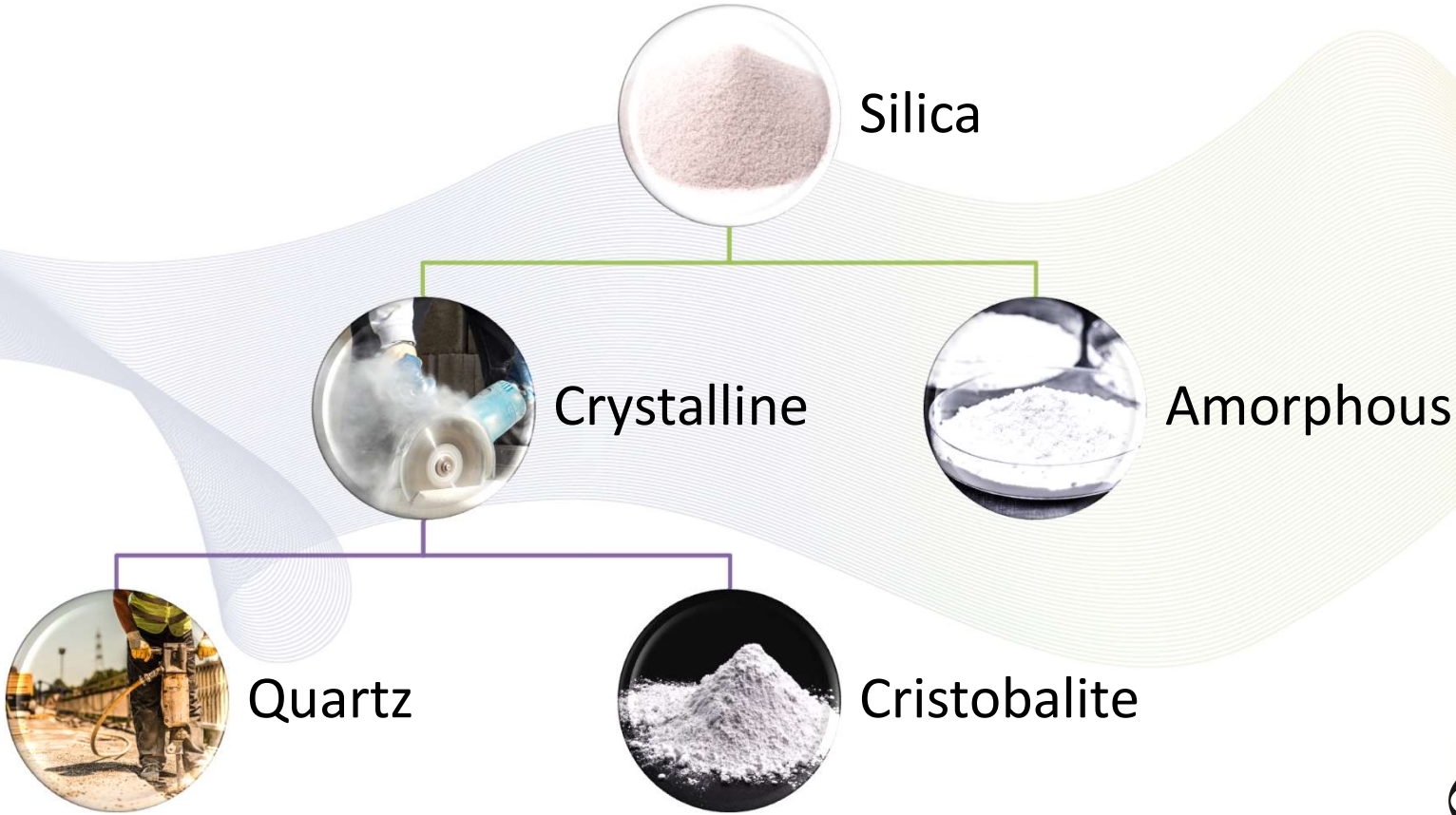
# Post-OSHA Final Silica Rule:

## What We Have Learned...

Presented by:  
Lucinette Alvarado, CIH  
Andy Bragg, COHC



# Silica: It's More Than Dust



# Before the Silica Rule...

1920-  
1936

- U.S. field research on silicosis (mining, granite, and cement industries)
- WV, Hawks Nest tunnel disaster

1938

- *Stop Silicosis* document

1971

- OSHA issued the first silica standard

1974

- CDC proposing a new PEL



# Before the Silica Rule...

- **29 CFR 1910.1000 Table Z-3**

- OSHA PEL (for quartz)

$$\frac{10 \text{ mg/m}^3}{\%SiO_2 + 2}$$

- OSHA PEL (cristobalite)

- $\frac{1}{2}$  the value calculated from the mass formula for quartz

- **29 CFR 1926.1153 (Construction)**

- OSHA PEL

$$\frac{250 \text{ mppcf}}{\%SiO_2 + 5}$$

- **ACGIH-TLV<sup>®</sup>**

- 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

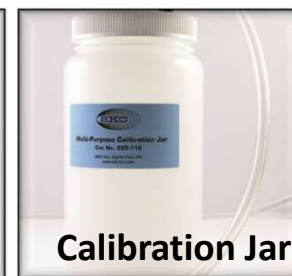
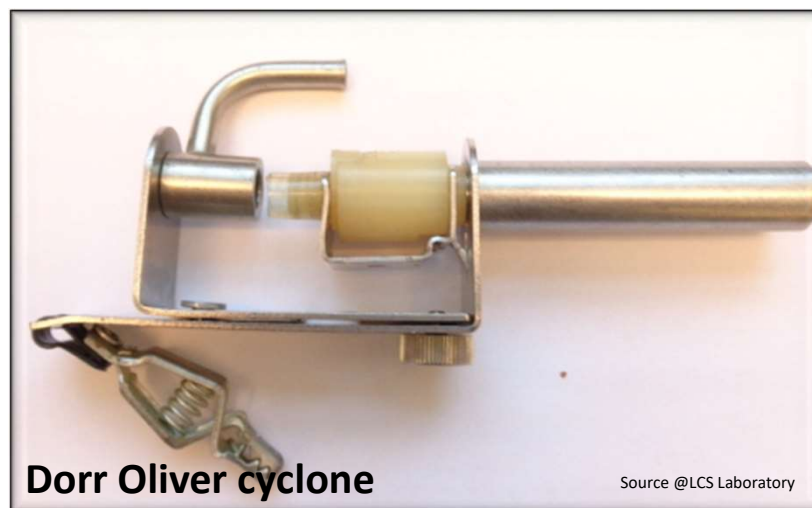
- **NIOSH-REL**

- 0.05 mg/m<sup>3</sup>

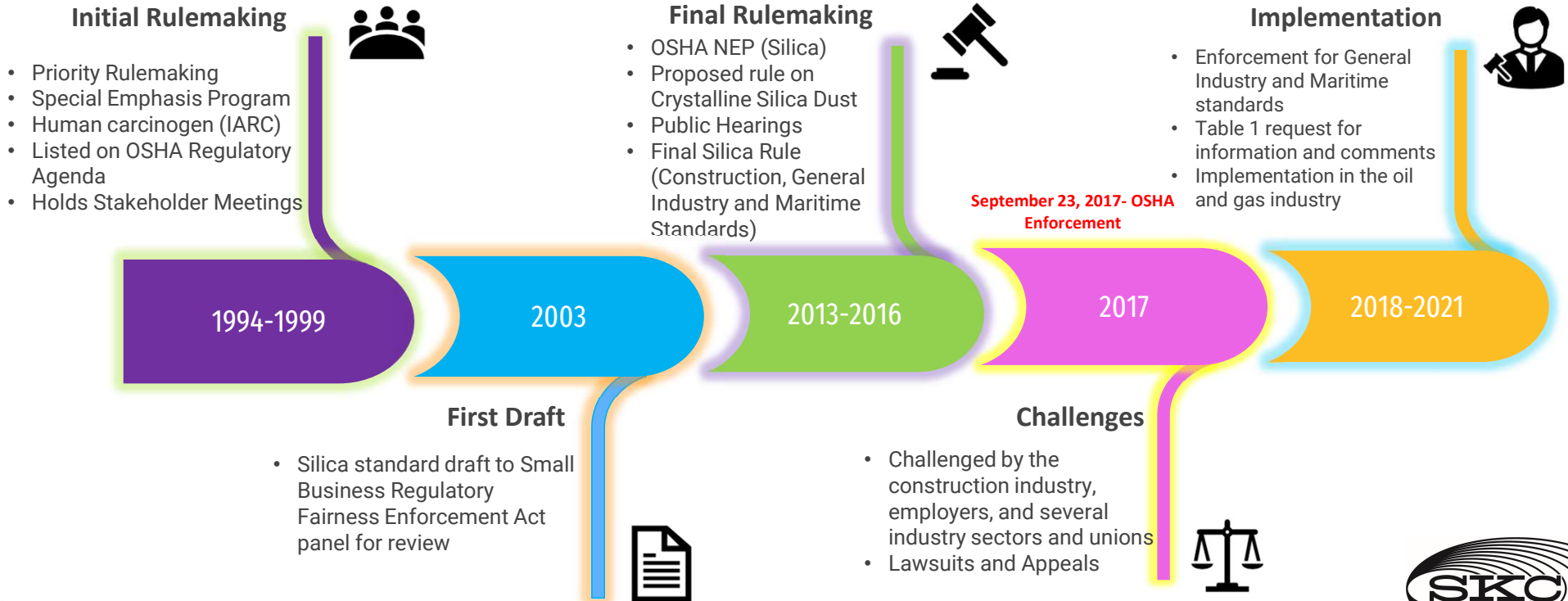


# Before the Silica Rule...

- **Air Sampling**
  - Analytical Method
    - OSHA ID-142
    - NIOSH 7500
  - Air Sampling
    - 1.7 LPM



# Silica Final Rule...A Long Process



# The New Silica Rule's Pros and Cons



Pros

Provides more protection to employees.



Cons

“Too restrictive”. Causes a burden on the construction industry.



# The New Standard

PEL respirable crystalline silica  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , 8-hr, TWA

AL respirable crystalline silica  $25 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , 8-hr, TWA

Exposure assessment

Methods for controlling exposures

Respiratory Protection

Medical Surveillance

Hazard Communication

Recordkeeping





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# The New Standard

- **29 CFR 1910.1053**
  - Respirable Crystalline Silica, written for General and Maritime Industries
- **29 CFR 1926.1153**
  - Respirable Crystalline Silica, written for the Construction Industry



# The Table 1...

(29 CFR 1926.1153)

Equipment Task	Engineering & Work Practice Control Methods	Required Respiratory Protection & Minimum Assigned Protection Factor (APF)	
		≤ 4 hrs/shift	> 4 hrs/shift
Stationary Masonry Saws	Equipped with an integrated water system.	None	None
Handheld Power Saws	Equipped with an integrated water system.		
<b>Handheld Power Saws (Any Blade Diameter)</b>	Equipped with an integrated water system.		
	When used outdoors	None	APF 10
	When used indoors or in an enclosed area	APF 10	APF 10
	Tasks performed outdoors only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saw equipped with dust collection</li> <li>• Collector must provide adequate air flow and a filter with 99% or greater efficiency</li> </ul>	None	None



[https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/fy16\\_sh-29650-sh6\\_ExposureTable.pdf](https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/fy16_sh-29650-sh6_ExposureTable.pdf)

## Table 1 for General Industry and Maritime?

- OSHA paragraph (a)(3) for general industry and maritime standards.
- General industry activities may be indistinguishable from the construction tasks listed.
- Tasks may be performed in varied environments and conditions.



# Appendix A

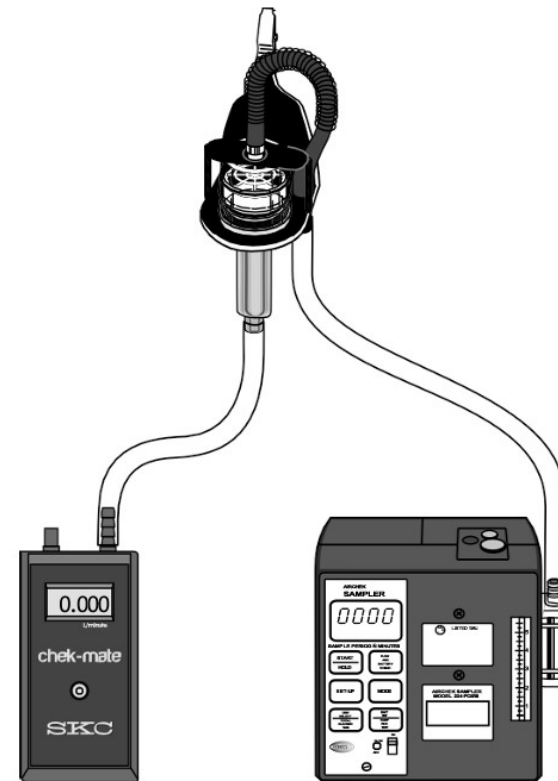
- Analytical methods used:
  - ~~OSHA ID-142~~
  - NIOSH 7500 by XRD
  - NIOSH 7601 by VIS
  - NIOSH 7602 by IR
  - NIOSH 7603 (coal mine dust by IR)
- Lab Accreditations:
  - AIHA LAP
  - A2LA

SILICA, CRYSTALLINE, by XRD (filter redeposition)		7500
SiO <sub>2</sub>	MW: 60.08 CAS: 14808-60-7 (quartz) 14464-46-1 (cristobalite) 15468-32-3 (tridymite)	RTECS: VV7330000 (quartz) VV7325000 (cristobalite) VV7335000 (tridymite)
METHOD: 7500, Issue 4		EVALUATION: FULL Issue 1: 15 August 1990 Issue 4: 15 March 2003
<b>OSHA:</b> quartz (respirable) 10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (%SiO <sub>2</sub> +2); cristobalite and tridymite (respirable) ½ the above <b>NIOSH:</b> 0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ; carcinogen <b>ACGIH:</b> quartz (respirable) 0.1 mg/m <sup>3</sup> cristobalite (respirable) 0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup> tridymite (respirable) 0.05 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		<b>PROPERTIES:</b> solid; d 2.65 g/cm <sup>3</sup> @ 0 °C; crystalline transformations: quartz to tridymite @ 867 °C; tridymite to cristobalite @ 1470 °C; α-quartz to β-quartz @ 573 °C
<b>SYNONYMS:</b> free crystalline silica; silicon dioxide		
SAMPLING		MEASUREMENT
<b>SAMPLER:</b>	CYCLONE + FILTER (10-mm nylon cyclone, Higgins-Dewitt (HD) cyclone, or aluminum cyclone + 5-µm PVC membrane) *see sampling section	<b>TECHNIQUE:</b> X-RAY POWDER DIFFRACTION <b>ANALYTE:</b> Crystalline SiO <sub>2</sub>
<b>FLOW RATE:</b>	Nylon cyclone: 1.7 L/min; HD cyclone: 2.2 L/min; aluminum cyclone: 2.2 L/min	<b>ASH:</b> Muffle furnace or RF plasma asher or dissolve in tetrahydrofuran <b>REDEPOSIT:</b> On 0.45-µm Ag membrane filter
<b>VOL-MIN:</b> <b>-MAX:</b>	400 L 1000 L	<b>XRD:</b> Cu target X-ray tube, graphite monochromator Optimize for intensity; 1° slit Slow step scan, 0.02°/10 sec Integrated intensity with background subtraction
<b>SHIPMENT:</b>	Routine	<b>CALIBRATION:</b> NIST SRM 1878a quartz, NIST SRM 1878a cristobalite, USGS 210-75-0043 tridymite suspensions in 2-propanol.
<b>SAMPLE STABILITY:</b>	Stable	<b>RANGE:</b> 0.02 to 2 mg SiO <sub>2</sub> per sample [2]
<b>BLANKS:</b>	2 to 10 per set (see step 13.g.)	<b>ESTIMATED LOD:</b> 0.005 mg SiO <sub>2</sub> per sample [2]
<b>BULK SAMPLE:</b>	High-volume or settled dust; to identify interferences	<b>PRECISION (S<sub>p</sub>):</b> 0.08 @ 0.05 to 0.2 mg per sample [1]
ACCURACY		
<b>RANGE STUDIED:</b>	25 to 2500 µg/m <sup>3</sup> [1] (800-L sample)	
<b>BIAS:</b>	None known	
<b>OVERALL PRECISION (S<sub>p</sub>):</b>	0.09 (50 to 200 µg) [1]	
<b>ACCURACY:</b>	± 16%	
<b>APPLICABILITY:</b> The working range is 0.025 to 2.5 mg/m <sup>3</sup> for an 800-L air sample.		
<b>INTERFERENCES:</b> Micas, potash, feldspars, zircon, graphite, and aluminosilicates. See APPENDIX.		
<b>OTHER METHODS:</b> This is similar to the method in the Criteria Document [3] and P&CAM 259 [4] which has been collaboratively tested [1]. This method is similar, except for sample collection, to 5315 [5,6]. Method P&CAM 109 [7,8,9], which incorporates an internal standard, has been dropped. XRD can distinguish the three silica polymorphs and silica interferences can be eliminated by phosphoric acid treatment. IR (methods 7602 and 7603) can also quantify quartz, cristobalite and tridymite if amorphous silica and silicates are not present in large amounts. However sensitivity is reduced if multiple polymorphs are present and secondary peaks must be used. Crystalline silica can also be determined by visible absorption spectrophotometry (e.g., Method 7601), but polymorphs can not be distinguished. Visible absorption methods also have larger laboratory-to-laboratory variability than XRD and IR methods and therefore are recommended for research use only [10].		



# Active Sampling for Silica

- Normal Sampling Procedures
  - Pump, cyclone, media, calibrator
- Differences for Silica
  - Short tasks – concrete cutting, grinding, etc.
  - High Flows – necessary for valid analysis
- Availability of proper sampling devices
  - New Larger Cyclones for higher flow



For most workplace conditions, the change in the criteria for respirable dust in the final rule would theoretically increase the mass of respirable dust collected over that measured under the previous criteria by an amount that depends on the size distribution of airborne particles in the workplace. Soderholm (1991, Document ID 1661) examined these differences based on 31 aerosol size distributions measured in various industrial workplaces (*e.g.*, coal mine, lead smelter, brass foundry, bakery, shielded metal arc [SMA] welding, spray painting, pistol range) and determined the percentage increase in the mass of respirable dust that would be collected under the ISO/CEN convention over that which would be collected under the 1968 ACGIH criteria. Soderholm concluded that, for all but three of the 31 size distributions that were evaluated, the increased respirable dust mass that would be collected using the ISO/CEN convention for respirable dust instead of the 1968 ACGIH criteria would be less than 30 percent, with most size distributions (25 out of the 31 examined, or 80 percent)

cyclone samplers on the market, such as the Dorr-Oliver, Higgins-Dewell (HD), GK2.69, SIMPEDS, and SKC aluminum. In the PEA, OSHA reviewed several studies demonstrating that these samplers collect respirable particles with efficiencies that closely match the ISO/CEN convention (Document ID 1720, pp. IV-21—IV-24). In addition to cyclone samplers, there are also personal impactors available for use at flow rates from 2 to 8 L/min that have been shown to conform closely with the ISO/CEN convention (Document ID 1834, Attachment 1). Cyclones and impactors both separate particles by size based on inertia. When an airstream containing particles changes direction, smaller particles remain suspended in the airstream and larger ones impact a surface and are removed from the airstream. Cyclones employ a vortex to separate particles centrifugally, while impactors use a laminar airflow around a flat surface such that particles in the desired size range impact onto the surface.

The current OSHA sampling method for crystalline silica, ID-142, is the method used by OSHA to enforce the

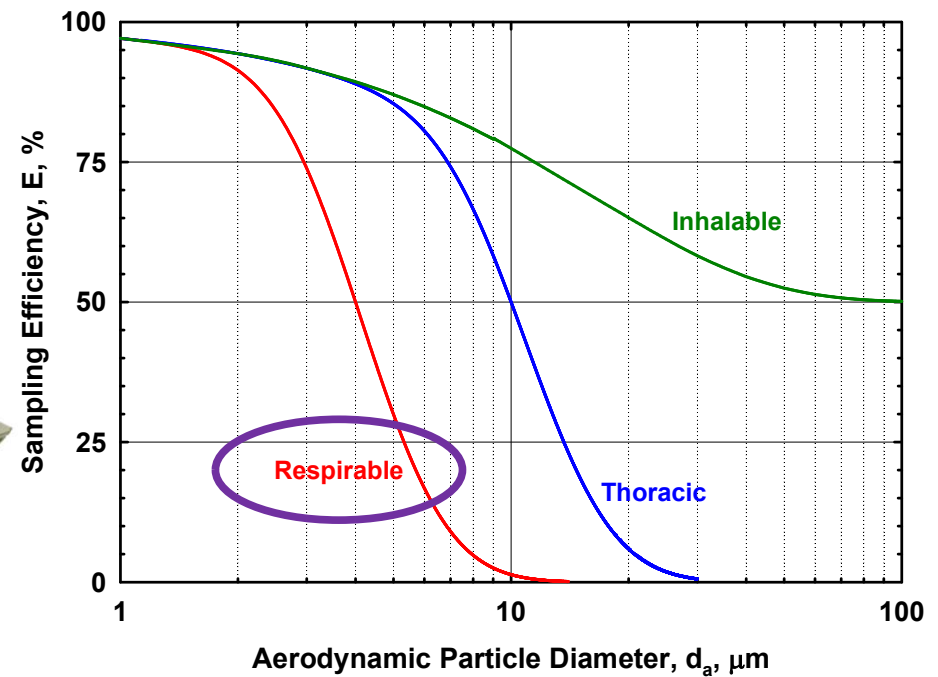
Method 7500 also allows for the use of an aluminum cyclone at 2.5 L/min. NIOSH is revising its respirable dust method to include any sampler designed to meet the ISO/CEN criteria (Document ID 2570, Tr. 219).

The devices discussed above, when used at the appropriate flow rates, are capable of collecting a quantity of respirable crystalline silica that exceeds the quantitative detection limit for quartz (the principle form of crystalline silica) of 10 µg for OSHA's XRD method (Document ID 0946). For several scenarios based on using various devices and sampling times (8-hour, 4-hour, and 1-hour samples), OSHA calculated the amount of respirable quartz that would be collected at quartz concentrations equal to the existing general industry PEL, the proposed (and now final) rule's PEL, and the proposed (and now final) rule's action level. As seen in Table IV.3-A, computations show that the 10-mm nylon Dorr-Oliver operated at an optimized flow rate of 1.7 L/min, the aluminum cyclone operated at 2.5 L/min, the HD cyclone operated at 2.2 L/min, and the GK2.69 operated at 2.5 L/min will all collect enough



# Active Sampling for Silica

- Particle-Size-selective Samplers
  - ISO/CEN Respirable Criteria



## Slide 15

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**KG0** [ @Lucinette Alvarado ] You may want to caption the page numbers in the OSHA Silica Rule on which our samplers are listed. I know the PPI are listed on page 16439. I don't recall the page for our cyclones.

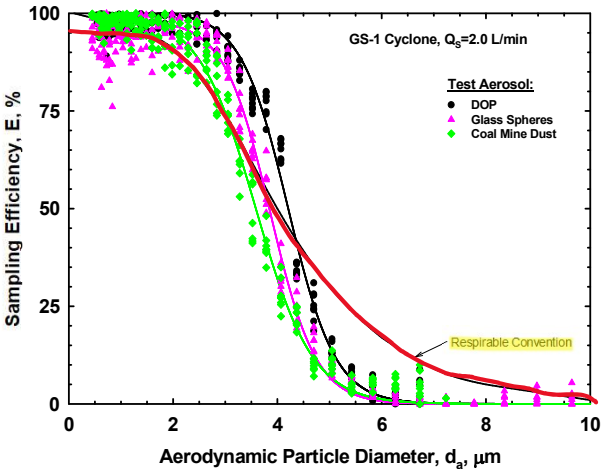
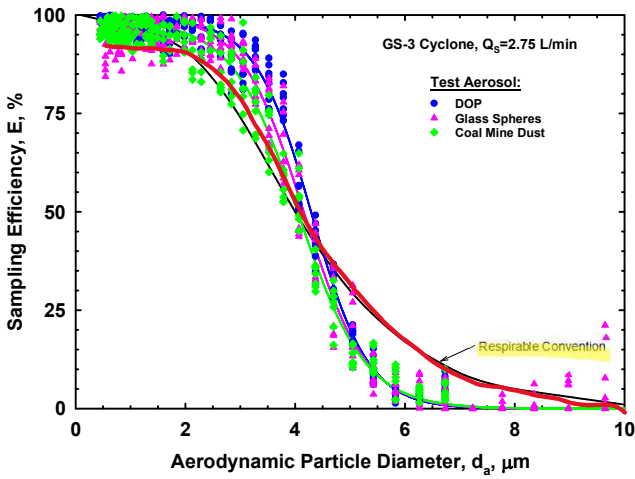
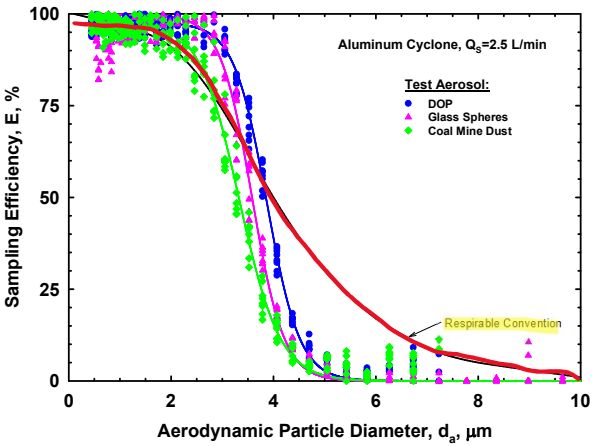
Karin Galligan, 2023-08-06T14:46:02.980

**LA0 0** [ @Karin Galligan ] Thanks for the reference. The SKC aluminum cyclone is mentioned on the same page. I will add a slide with the snapshot of the section

Lucinette Alvarado, 2023-08-07T17:08:10.233



# Cyclones' Collection Efficiency



**Respirable Convention  
 ISO 7708:1995**

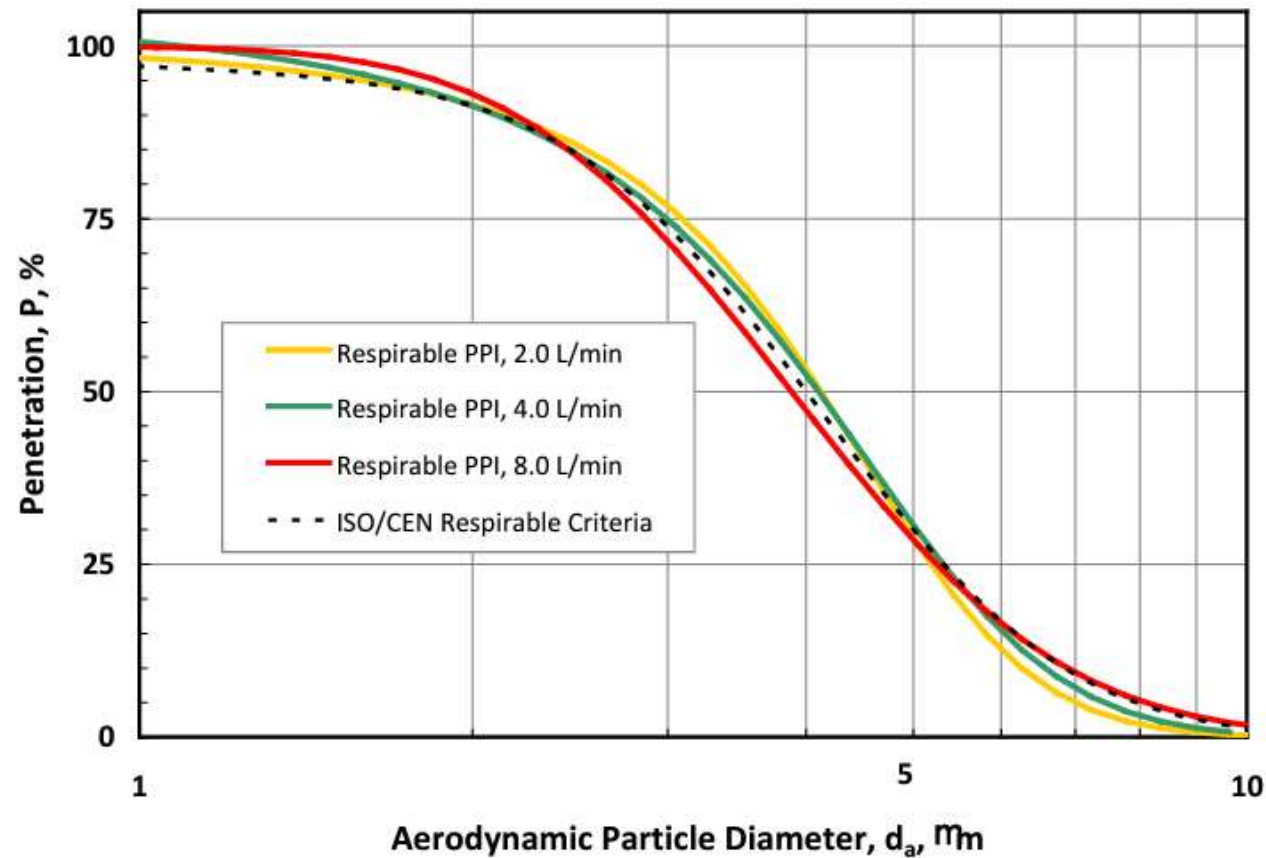


## Slide 16

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**KG0**    [@Lucinette Alvarado] Cite source of data?  
Karin Galligan, 2023-08-06T14:47:35.607

# Parallel Particulate Impactor (PPI®)



## Slide 17

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**KG0**    [@Lucinette Alvarado] I wonder if Saulius could output a higher resolution of this graph for you. This looks a little fuzzy.

Karin Galligan, 2023-08-02T18:56:22.160

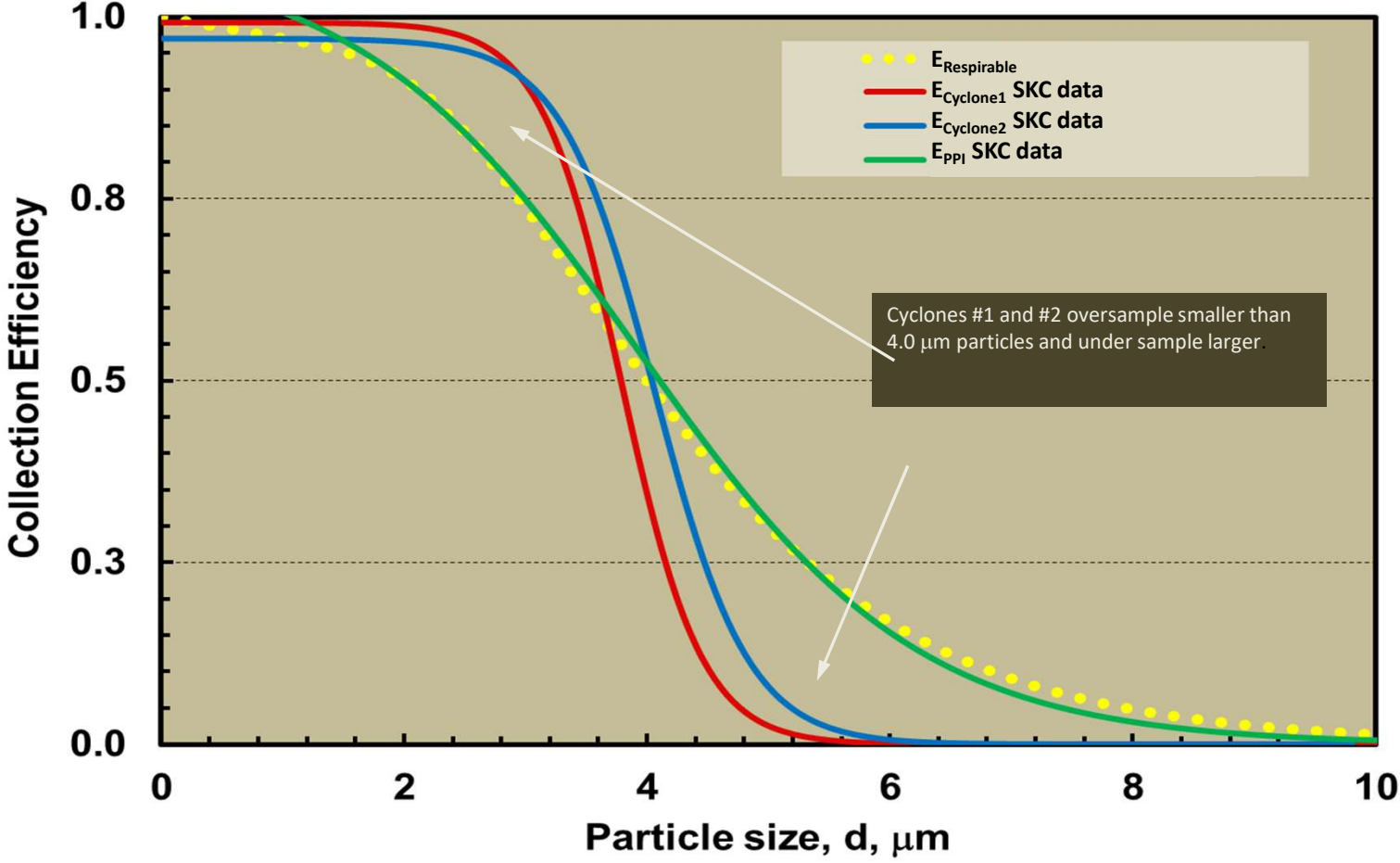
**LA0 0**   [@Karin Galligan] we found a better one!

Lucinette Alvarado, 2023-08-07T17:47:35.414

**KG0 1**    So much better! Great job!

Karin Galligan, 2023-08-07T17:51:01.264

# Cyclones vs PPI®



## Slide 18

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**KG0**

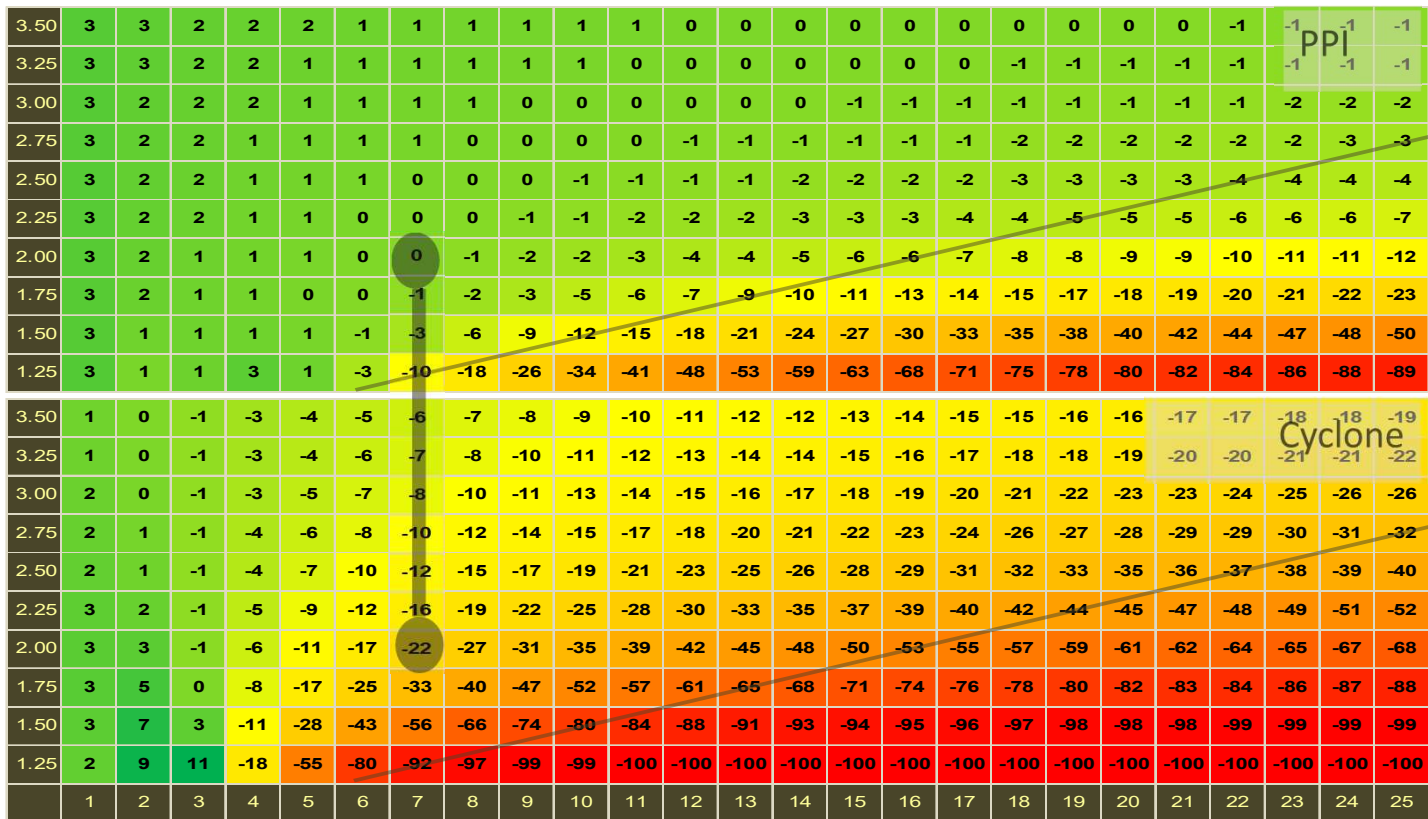
[@Lucinette Alvarado] Can you cite the source for the data shown on this slide (it's only shown as "SKC data" in the graph key?

Karin Galligan, 2023-08-06T14:30:55.286

# Cyclones vs PPI®

Bias Map

Geometric Standard Deviation, GSD



Mass Median Diameter, MMAD,  $\mu$ m



## Slide 19

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**KG0**    [@Lucinette Alvarado] Cite data source?  
Karin Galligan, 2023-08-06T14:31:44.975



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# The New Rules

- Restrict Housekeeping Practices
- Medical Exams
- Employee Training
- Recordkeeping
  - Exposure measurements
  - Objective data



# Appendix B

- **Medical Surveillance**
  - Physical Examination
  - Baseline Testing for TB
  - Pulmonary Function Testing
  - Chest X-ray
  - Recordkeeping



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# Penalties

\$5,000 min  
per offense

Fines up to  
\$70,000

Consecutive  
non-  
compliance  
\$7,000 per  
day



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# Lessons Learned...

- New Action Level
- Table 1 in 1926.1153(c)(1)
- Review of Analytical Methods
- Size-Selective Samplers Added
- To Be Patient...
- Comply With The Regulations



# The Future of Silica Safety



## Slide 24

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**KG0**

[@Lucinette Alvarado] Does exposure monitoring play any role in the future of silica safety?

Karin Galligan, 2023-08-06T14:34:17.228

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# Thank you for your attention!

[www.skcinc.com](http://www.skcinc.com)

[www.skctech@skcinc.com](mailto:www.skctech@skcinc.com)

