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Statement From AIHA President Barbara J. Dawson, CIH, CSP, on OSHA's Proposed Rule to Protect Workers Exposed to Crystalline Silica

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (August 23, 2013) — American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA) President Barbara J. Dawson, CIH, CSP, has released the following statement on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) proposed rule to protect workers exposed to crystalline silica:

“AIHA is pleased to learn that after more than two years of waiting for the White House to release the proposed rule for occupational exposure to respirable crystalline silica, the process is now moving forward. The document proposes a new permissible exposure limit of 50 micrograms of respirable crystalline silica per cubic meter of air (50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$), calculated as an 8-hour time-weighted average. AIHA will offer more definitive comments as soon as the proposed rule has been thoroughly reviewed. We look forward to working with OSHA and other stakeholders in finalizing a rule that will reduce employees' exposure to silica in the workplace.”

For more information about OSHA's proposed rulemaking, visit: <https://www.osha.gov/silica/>.

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About AIHA®

Founded in 1939, the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) is the premier association of occupational and environmental health and safety professionals. AIHA's 10,000 members play a crucial role on the front line of worker health and safety every day. Members represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government and academia.