



Employers have a responsibility under the Health & Safety at Work Act to, as is reasonably practicable, keep the workers safe and healthy. Masonry Trades need to manage the dust risks by elimination, isolation or managed practices.

Dust happens by:

- Cutting, sanding, polishing operations, grinding & sweeping
- Dry and exposed work sites, wind and heat
- Removing fibrous insulation, lagging or packing materials (possible asbestos)
- Lead oxide dust from lead piping

Ways to reduce the risks associated with dust: Extraction methods:

- On tool extraction – vacuum attachments or inbuilt vacuum on cutting equipment
- Local Exhaust Ventilation (LEV) – places of work where cutting, grinding or polishing
- Always be aware of others in the vicinity

Using water:

- Continuous water and wet working methods keep dust out of the air
- Spray dampen dry work areas regularly (ground, sand & gravel piles)
- Ensure there is an adequate quality water supply for the entire project
- Wash and clean the equipment and work areas regularly and DO NOT dry sweep
- Dust silt must not go down the drain and dispose of silt collection in suitable containers as per the site requirements (Environmental plan)

Hygiene:

- Wash hands and face after completion of tasks before eating or drinking
- Separately wash contaminated work gear and clothing frequently and wash down boots on site if possible

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):

- Wear suitable PPE for the Task as per the applicable Safety Data sheets & SSSP requirements
- Respiratory protection, hearing protection, overalls, jackets, gloves, eye protection, hard hats