

MCAC NEWS BRIEF

A Snapshot of MCAC Headlines

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Top Stories In This Briefing



MCAC: A Profile

What Does Your Association Look Like?



Sexual Harassment Training Deadline Extended

Training Now Due by January 1, 2021



Construction Industry Responds to OSHA Silica Request for Information

Table 1 Revisions Recommended

MCAC: A Profile

Have you ever wondered what MCAC looks like? Here is a glimpse at MCAC by the numbers for the 2019/20 membership term.



By Volume (contractor members)

A =	25	up to \$1M
B =	24	\$1M - 4.9M
C =	8	5M - 9.9M
D =	2	\$10M - 14.9M
E =	3	\$15M and over

By Region

Northern California =	27
Southern California =	23
San Diego =	12

By Member Type

Associate	37	Manufacturers, distributors, service providers, other associations, etc.
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Regular	62	Contractors
Honorary	22	Retired

Coming up...MCAC breaks records! See how in the next News Brief.



Sexual Harassment Training Deadline Extended

In the [2Q 2019 MCAC newsletter](#), we reported that possible relief for the looming January 1, 2020 sexual harassment training deadline was pending in the legislature as [SB 778](#) made its way through the process. That relief was granted when Governor Newsom signed SB 778 on August 30, 2019.

This is great news for all you procrastinators out there!

Employers with five (5) or or more employees now have until January 1, 2021 to provide the anti-harassment training required by [SB 1343](#) passed in 2018. What else did SB 778 do? It clarified some of the key areas of confusion presented in SB 1343.

Supervisory Employees

SB 778 does not change the training timeline already in effect for supervisory employees. Employees in a management role are still required to receive anti-harassment training once every two years. This is the case whether they were trained in 2018 or during 2019.

Non-Supervisory Employees

SB 778 also clarifies that employees who are or were trained in 2019 do not need to be retrained until two years have passed, sometime in 2021, and then every two years thereafter.

[Anti-harassment training was provided at the MCAC 164th State Meeting](#) in Huntington Beach on September 20, 2019 courtesy of Saint Moore Insurance Agency and Loescher Solutions. MCAC is exploring additional training opportunities for 2020. More info to follow.

Construction Industry Responds to OSHA Silica Regulation Request for Information

Late 2018, federal OSHA published a [Request for Information \(RFI\)](#) pertaining to the Respirable Crystalline [Silica Standard](#) with a focus on examining three primary objectives:

1. the effectiveness of *control measures* not currently included for tasks and tools listed in [Table 1](#) (think vacuum systems for dry cutting with more tools/tasks),
2. *tasks and tools* not currently listed in Table 1 (think mortar mixing), and
3. the effectiveness of *engineering and work practice control methods* in limiting employee exposure to crystalline silica (e.g. ventilation/fans and employee isolation and working upwind during dust generating activities).

A national construction industry coalition comprised of roughly 26 trade associations including our own national association, Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA), responded. The Construction Industry Safety Coalition (CISC) laid out their items for attention in an [October 15, 2019 letter](#) to OSHA.

Among the items the Coalition submitted to OSHA for consideration are:

- exclusion of mortar mixing from the Silica Standard
- adding dry cutting with vacuum attachments to Table 1 for stationary masonry saws and handheld power saws
- use of standard shop vacuums as part of engineering controls
- an exception to the prohibition on dry sweeping and dry brushing for short durations



This information-gathering by OSHA is an important step for the possibility of additional tasks, equipment and controls being added to Table 1 thereby giving construction employers more options and improved compliance. Table 1 is a critical component of the Silica Standard because employers who follow Table 1 correctly are not required to measure workers' exposure to silica and are not subject to the permissible exposure limit (PEL).

OSHA intends to evaluate the available information to determine if revisions to Table 1 may be appropriate. We will be monitoring this issue closely.



Reminder! California is a [State Plan State](#) which means its standards must be at least as effective as federal standards in protecting workers. This means that California may or may not fall in line with any changes to the Silica Standard that might be viewed as reducing such protections.

Sincerely,

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