

Table of Occupational Exposure Limit values

The following table shows the Occupational Exposure Limits (OEL) for quartz, cristobalite and tridymite in application in Europe and in some other countries.

Country	Occupational Exposure Limit (OEL) Name	Adopted by	Quartz (q)	Cristobalite (c)	Tridymite (t)
Australia	National Exposure Standard	Worksafe Australia, National Occupational Health & Safety Commission	0,2	0,1	
Austria	Maximalen ArbeitsplatzKonzentration	Bundesministerium für Arbeit und Soziales	0,15	0,15	0,15
Belgium		Ministère de l'Emploi et du Travail	0,1	0,05	0,05
Denmark	Threshold Limit Value	Direktoratet for Arbejdstilsynet	0,1	0,05	0,05
Finland	Occupational Exposure Standard	National Board of Labour Protection	0,2	0,1	0,1
France	Empoussiérage de référence	Ministère de l'Industrie (RGIE)	5 or 25k/Q		
	Valeur limite de Moyenne d'Exposition	Ministère du Travail	0,1	0,05	0,05
Germany	Maximalen ArbeitsplatzKonzentration	Grenzwerte in der Luft am Arbeitsplatz	0,15	0,15	0,15
Greece		Legislation for mining activities	0,1	0,05	0,05
Ireland		2001 Code of Practice for the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work (CoP)	0,05	0,4	0,4
Italy	Threshold Limit Value	Associazione Italiana Degli Igienisti Industriali	0,05	0,05	0,05
Luxembourg	Maximalen ArbeitsplatzKonzentration	Grenzwerte in der Luft am Arbeitsplatz	0,15	0,15	0,15
Netherlands	Maximaal Aanvarde Concentratie	Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid	0,075	0,075	0,075
Norway	Threshold Limit Value	Direktoratet for Arbejdstilsynet	0,1	0,05	0,05
Portugal	Threshold Limit Value	Instituto Portuges da Qualidade, Hygiene & Safety at Workplace	0,1	0,05	0,05
Spain	Valores Limites	Instituto Nacional de Seguridad e Higiene en el Trabajo	0,1		
		Instrucciones de Técnicas Complementarias (ITC)	0,1	0,05	0,05
		Reglamento General de Normas Basicas de Seguridad Minera	5 or 25k/Q		
Sweden		National Board of Occupational Safety and Health	0,1	0,05	0,05
Switzerland	Valeur limite de Moyenne d'Exposition		0,15	0,15	0,15
United Kingdom	Maximum Exposure Limit	Health & Safety Executive	0,3	0,3	0,3
	Occupational Exposure Standard				
USA	Permissible Exposure Limit	Occupational Safety & Health Administration	10/(%SiO ₂ +2)	PEL (Quartz)/2	PEL (Quartz)/2
	Threshold Limit Value	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists	0,05	0,05	0,05

Q : quartz percentage

Source : Adapted from IMA-Europe

Date : 08/05/03, updated version available at <http://www.ima-eu.org/en/silhsefacts.html>

OELs are applicable to 100 % quartz, cristobalite or tridymite.

Some countries have special rules for mixed dust, e.g. in France the following equation is applied: $C_{ns}/5 + C_q/0.1 + C_c/0.05 + C_t/0.05 \leq 1$ (C = mean concentration, ns = non silicogen)