

SPECIAL APPLICATIONS

# Safety



# General

This document is one in a series of technical documents providing recommended guidelines for working with Caesarstone® quartz surfaces.

For further information on our training programmes, please contact: [customer-service@caesarstone.com](mailto:customer-service@caesarstone.com).



## Safety

- Ensure that all electrical tools operate at the correct voltage and comply with local safety regulations.
- Ensure that there is adequate ventilation in the work area.



## Important

- If you must use an unfamiliar material, check its suitability by applying it to a small area of the surface that is not visible.
- Slabs from different batches may vary slightly in shade. Always try to use the same batch for the whole job, or carefully match the shade when using slabs from different batches.



## Tools

Refer to the Technician's Toolkit manual for a detailed list of recommended tools and materials.

# Legend

**The following symbols are used in this manual:**



Important



Tip

# 1. Safety

## 1.1 General Safety Procedures

Caesarstone has always been at the forefront of creating a safe work environment. We require our distributors, fabricators and installers to follow the same level of commitment regarding safety and to comply with local occupational, safety and health regulations.

- Maintain a clean and neat working environment. Cluttered areas invite accidents.
- Keep working areas dry, well ventilated and well lit.
- Keep children and visitors at a safe distance from the work area.
- Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times.
- Maintain a fully equipped first-aid kit on site.
- Read the instruction manuals pertaining to the tools used. Learn the tools' application, maintenance, limitations and potential hazards.
- Use the appropriate tools. Do not use tools or attachments for functions or at speeds for which they were not designed. Do not use improvised tools.
- Maintain tools in top condition. Keep tools sharp and clean for best and safest performance.
- All electrical tools must be equipped with a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI). Three-prong plugs must be plugged into three-hole electrical sockets. If an adapter is used to accommodate a two-prong socket, the adapter plug must be attached to a known ground. Never remove the third prong.
- Use clamps or a vice to secure work when necessary, freeing both hands to safely operate tools.
- Always remove keys and wrenches. Check that keys and adjusting wrenches are removed before switching on the tool.
- Do not wear loose clothing, neckties, rings, bracelets or other jewellery that may get caught in moving parts.
- Wear the following protective apparel when fabricating Caesarstone quartz surfaces:



- Hair covering to contain long hair
- Safety helmet when handling and transporting
- Dust mask
- Nonslip, steel-capped safety shoes
- Safety glasses or other approved eye protection.
- Earplugs when working in noisy areas
- Gloves for protection against chemicals or rough material
- In wet areas, aprons and steel-capped rubber boots in addition to the above



## 1.2 Working in Areas with Hazardous Silica Dust

THE DISTRIBUTOR IS EXPECTED TO PROVIDE ITS CUSTOMERS WITH ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION RELATED TO WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WITH SILICA DUST.

Caesarstone slabs and products are not hazardous as shipped and used by the end customer. However, Caesarstone slabs contain crystalline silica (quartz), and their fabrication and processing (i.e., cutting, sawing, grinding, breaking, crushing, drilling, sanding or sculpting) generate dust.

Unprotected and uncontrolled exposure to such dust is dangerous to health and can cause severe illnesses, such as: silicosis, lung cancer, fibrosis of the lungs, tuberculosis, kidney diseases, abrasion of the cornea, and irritation of the skin and eyes. Preexisting physical disorders may aggravate the adverse affects of exposure to silica dust.

If irritation of the eyes or skin is experienced, flush the area immediately with plenty of water. If breathing difficulties are experienced, move outdoors into fresh air. In any event of physical discomfort, consult with a physician.

Wherever this product is fabricated and processed, a silica control programme shall be in place in accordance with all the applicable laws, regulations, orders and directives. The permissible exposure limits to silica dust shall also be met.

Requirements of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration appear at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov); the International Labor Organization at <http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/index.htm>; and the European Network for Silica at <http://www.nepsi.eu/good-practice-guide>.

In addition to any other applicable safety measures, the safety rules below must be followed to ensure employee safety:

- Display a "Hazardous Dust" sign in all areas with hazardous dust.
- Wear a suitable dust mask in all areas displaying a "Hazardous Dust" sign.
- Use dust control systems. Check that the dust intake, filtration and expulsion systems are functioning correctly.
- Use wet tools to prevent airborne dust particles.
- Check that the work area is clean at the end of each shift.
- Wear protective apparel when cleaning and maintaining machinery.
- Wear designated work apparel at the worksite, including shoes and socks. Change into clean work clothes at the worksite. Shower and change into clean clothes before leaving the worksite.
- Do not clean work clothes, machines or floors with compressed air. Perform cleaning only with a suitable vacuum cleaner.
- Eating, drinking and smoking are permitted only in designated areas that are not exposed to hazardous dust.
- Wash hands and face before eating, drinking and smoking.
- Workers must undergo medical tests as required by local regulations.



## ATTENZIONE!

LE LASTRE E I PRODOTTI IN QUARZO CAESARSTONE non sono pericolosi quando spediti ed usati dall'utente finale. Tuttavia, come per i prodotti in pietra naturale quali il granito, la fabbricazione e la lavorazione delle superfici in quarzo Caesarstone® (es. il taglio, la segazione, la molatura, la rottura, la sbriciolatura, la trapanatura, la sabbiatura o l'intagliare) generano polvere che contiene silice cristallina (quarzo). L'esposizione non protetta ed incontrollata alla polvere è dannosa alla salute e può causare gravi malattie (quali la silicosi, tumore ai polmoni, fibrosi dei polmoni, tubercolosi, malattie renali, abrasione della cornea ed irritazioni della pelle e degli occhi). Disturbi medici pre-esistenti possono aggravare gli effetti avversi dell'esposizione alla polvere di silice. Ovunque questo prodotto sia fabbricato ed elaborato, va applicato un programma di controllo-silice in accordo con le leggi, i regolamenti, le ordinanze e le direttive in vigore. Devono anche essere rispettati i limiti consentiti all'esposizione alla polvere di silice.

Per ulteriori informazioni si chiede gentilmente di fare riferimento ai requisiti dell'Ente Internazionale del Lavoro

- "International Labor Organization"

(all'indirizzo [http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS\\_108566/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index.htm)),

all'Ente Professionale dell'Amministrazione sulla Sicurezza e Salute -

"Occupational Safety & Health Administration

(all'indirizzo [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov))

e alla Rete Europea della Silice - European Network for Silica

(all'indirizzo <http://www.nepsi.eu/good-practice-guide.aspx>).

**MISURE DI PRONTO SOCCORSO:** Nel caso di irritazione degli occhi o della pelle, sciacquare immediatamente l'area irritata con molta acqua. Nel caso di difficoltà respiratorie, uscire immediatamente all'aria aperta. In caso di disagio fisico, consultare un medico.

**PER QUALSIASI ULTERIORE INFORMAZIONE È POSSIBILE CONSULTARE IL DISTRIBUTORE LOCALE DI QUESTO PRODOTTO.**

## WARNING ! ADVERTENCIA ! AVERTISSEMENT ! تحذير !

**WARNING!** Caesarstone's Slabs are not hazardous as shipped and used by the end customer. However, as with natural stone products such as granite, fabrication and processing of quartz surfaces such as Caesarstone® (i.e. cutting, sawing, grinding, breaking, crushing, drilling, sanding or sculpting) generate dust which contains crystalline silica (quartz). Unprotected and uncontrolled exposure to such dust is dangerous to health and can cause severe illnesses (such as silicosis, lung cancer, fibrosis of the lungs, tuberculosis, rheumatoid arthritis, autoimmune diseases, lupus erythematosus, kidney diseases, abrasion of the cornea and irritation of the skin and eyes). Preexisting physical disorders may aggravate the adverse affects of exposure to silica dust. Wherever this product is fabricated and processed, a silica control program shall be in place in accordance with all the applicable laws, regulations, orders and directives. The permissible exposure limits to silica dust shall also be met. For relevant information you may also look at the requirements of the International Labor Organization ([http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS\\_108566/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index.htm)), the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)) and the European Network for Silica (at <http://www.nepsi.eu>). **FIRST AID:**

If irritation of the eyes or skin is experienced, flush the area immediately with plenty of water. If breathing difficulties are experienced, move outdoors into fresh air. In any event of physical discomfort, consult with a physician. **PROPOSITION 65 WARNING:** Quartz surfaces, including this Caesarstone product, contain crystalline silica, a material known to the State of California to cause cancer. **FOR ANY**

**FURTHER INFORMATION YOU MAY CONSULT WITH THE LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR OF THIS PRODUCT.**

**ADVERTENCIA!** Las Losas Y Productos Caesarstone no son peligrosos de la forma en que se envían y en cómo son utilizados por el usuario final. Sin embargo, como ocurre con productos de piedra naturales, tales como el granito, la fabricación y el procesado de superficies de cuarzo como Caesarstone\* (cortado, aserrado, esmerilado, quiebre, triturado, perforado, lijado o esculpido) genera polvo que contiene silice cristalino (cuarzo). La exposición incontrolada y sin protección a dicho polvo es peligrosa para la salud y puede causar enfermedades graves (tales como silicosis, cáncer de pulmón, fibrosis de pulmón, tuberculosis, la artritis reumatoide, enfermedades autoinmunes, lupus eritematoso, enfermedades renales, abrasión de la córnea e irritación capilar y ocular). Desórdenes físicos preexistentes pueden agravar los efectos adversos de la exposición al polvo de sílice. Siempre que este producto sea fabricado y procesado, deberá haber un programa de control de sílice de acuerdo con todas las leyes, reglamentos, órdenes y directivas aplicables. Los límites de exposición al sílice permisibles deberán también ser respetados. Para información relevante usted puede ver los requerimientos de la Organización Internacional del Trabajo ([http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS\\_108566/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index.htm)), la Administración de Salud y Seguridad Ocupacional (en [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)) y la Red Europea de Sílice (en <http://www.nepsi.eu>). **PRIMEROS AUXILIOS:** Si se experimenta irritación capilar u ocular, enjuagar el área inmediatamente con abundante agua. Si se experimenta dificultades respiratorias, salir al aire libre. En cualquier caso de incomodidad física, consultar con un médico. **PARA MAYOR INFORMACIÓN USTED PUEDE CONSULTAR AL DISTRIBUIDOR LOCAL DE ESTE PRODUCTO.**