

A Wake-Up Call For The Stone Industry: Safety, Compliance & The Future Of Fabrication

The UK stone industry is facing one of its most significant regulatory shifts in decades.

CAUTION



Following growing concern over silicosis cases in young stonemasons, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has now introduced strict new guidance banning unsafe dry cutting of engineered stone and making water suppression systems a legal requirement.

Alongside this, the HSE will carry out 1,000 inspections nationwide, with businesses failing to comply facing serious penalties — including fines, prosecution, and potential imprisonment.

The message from regulators is clear:

Controlling dust exposure is no longer optional — it is a legal and moral requirement.

THE REALITY OF SILICA DUST

When engineered stone is cut, ground, or polished, it releases extremely fine crystalline silica particles that can penetrate deep into the lungs.

Recent investigations have highlighted:

- ▶ Young workers in their 20s and 30s diagnosed with silicosis
- ▶ Cases developing after only short-term exposure
- ▶ Severe, irreversible lung damage
- ▶ A disease that is entirely preventable with correct controls

This has led to urgent calls across the industry for

Better respiratory protection

Improved workshop extraction

Safer fabrication methods

Proper wet-working processes



WATER-FED TOOLS ARE NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER

DZambelis

One of the key points reinforced by the latest HSE guidance is the importance of water suppression during cutting, grinding and polishing processes.

Using water-fed equipment helps suppress harmful silica dust at source, significantly reducing airborne particles created during fabrication.

At D Zambelis, we supply a range of professional wet-working solutions designed to support safer workshop environments while maintaining the high-performance results fabricators demand.

GISON PNEUMATIC WET POLISHER



A professional wet polisher designed for precision finishing with integrated water-feed functionality to help reduce airborne dust during operation.

- ✓ Smooth finishing performance
- ✓ Water-fed dust suppression
- ✓ Ideal for stone polishing applications

SKU: 532-GPW-218L

GISON PNEUMATIC WET GRINDER



Built for demanding fabrication environments, this wet grinder combines powerful performance with improved dust suppression through water-assisted operation.

- ✓ Reliable wet grinding performance
- ✓ Supports safer fabrication processes
- ✓ Designed for professional stone workshops

SKU: 532-GPW215CA

MAKITA PW5000C WATER POLISHER



A trusted industry solution for wet polishing applications, helping fabricators achieve high-quality finishes while reducing airborne dust exposure.

- ✓ Wet-use polishing system
- ✓ Precision control and performance
- ✓ Professional-grade reliability

SKU: 218-110



RESPIRATORY PROTECTION REMAINS ESSENTIAL

DZambelis

While wet-working methods help control dust at source, proper PPE remains a critical part of worker protection.

We supply a range of essential respiratory protection solutions designed specifically for demanding stone fabrication environments:



3M™ VERSAFLO™ FACESHIELD WITH COMFORT FACESEAL

Lightweight, compact and well-balanced faceshield with a comfortable face seal for dusts, spraying and chemical processing

Highly versatile - Integrated protection from a range of respiratory, face, bumpcap, eye and hearing hazards.

Increased control and comfort with the deflector which allows users to direct the airflow inside the headtop

- ✓ Highly versatile
- ✓ Increased control and comfort
- ✓ Lightweight, compact and well-balanced



MOLDEX HALF & FULL FACE MASK SYSTEMS

Advanced reusable respiratory protection for prolonged exposure environments.

- ✓ Secure, professional-grade protection
- ✓ EasyLock filter system compatibility
- ✓ Designed for industrial stone fabrication use

SKU: 192



EASYLOCK FILTER & FUME PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Specialist filtration designed to reduce exposure to hazardous airborne particles.

- ✓ Particulate and fume filtration options
- ✓ Compatible with Moldex EasyLock systems
- ✓ Engineered for demanding workshop conditions

SKU: 192

AIR FILTRATION & WORKSHOP EXTRACTION SYSTEMS

DZambelis

Alongside PPE, effective air management is critical in controlling silica dust exposure at source.

We supply advanced workshop filtration solutions designed to improve air quality and reduce airborne contamination:



MAGNUM

It's the best support to extend the working area up to 8 meters away from the dust collector. It can be used with both technologies: dry and wet. The arm, with its position flexibility, permits the operator huge versatility; which is the primary characteristic of this kind of product.



AIRBOX

Dust collector with water technology, thanks to its versatility, is used for many processes with dry and water tools. Its simplified but sturdy construction and the low maintenance required make this dust collector the most common for companies in stone industries and more. The AirBox utilizes high-quality materials such as: Stainless steel AISI 304 for machine body and pump and brass for the nebulization nozzles.



AIR5

The bench with water technology uses the same filtration principle as the Air Box suction cabin. The bench, realized in galvanized steel, has been specially designed to convey the air inside the purification tower (built in AISI 304). The submersible pump, installed inside the tank in the purification tower, is easy to access for checks and maintenance. Special atomising nozzles made in brass create a cloud of highly effective filtering water. Finally, the powerful fan ensures excellent suction, both during dry and wet processing.

THE INDUSTRY IS CHANGING

The latest HSE announcement reinforces a wider shift happening across the industry:
Safer working practices are now mandatory | Dry cutting is under major scrutiny
Dust suppression is essential | Workshops must adapt to modern safety standards

This is no longer simply about compliance

It's about protecting workers, improving workshop environments, and future-proofing businesses.

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