OPENING STATEMENT

Caesarstone is one of several manufacturers and suppliers of engineered stone including Cosentino, Quantum Quartz, Smartstone, Project Stone, Stone Italiana and Laminex.

As a significant stakeholder in the engineered stone market, Caesarstone's efforts to improve industry safety are ongoing and have increased over the years. This includes putting clear warnings on our products and providing the comprehensive 'Master of Stone' online learning platform, which makes information and safe working guidelines accessible to fabricators and others who handle our products.

We are deeply engaged with this important issue and are committed to continuing to collaborate with all stakeholders to build a safer industry.

It is worth emphasising that banning engineered stone will not resolve the issue of silicosis in Australia. Almost all substitute materials – except wood – and all stone encountered in construction and tunnelling contain some level of silica, which means they must be handled with exactly the same safety procedures and equipment as engineered stone.

Engineered stone is entirely safe to consumers in its installed form and silica only presents a risk to workers if stone is handled incorrectly. Efforts to improve safety standards have been hampered historically by non-compliance with product handling requirements, a lack of regulatory enforcement and the absence of a national standard.
Caesarstone has consistently stated that it believes that the key to improving industry safety is the implementation of a nationally consistent, mandatory licensing scheme – modelled on the Victorian regime introduced in 2022 – with a rigorous auditing and enforcement structure to support it. Under such a scheme, all stonemasons should be required to obtain a licence to trade, similar to the high-risk work licensing regime.

Regarding questions below, please note that ***Caesarstone rejects all biased assumptions built into the questions.***

1. **Approximately how many slabs does Caesarstone sell in Australia each year? It's latest annual report says it generates about $170million Australian dollars a year in revenue.**

This is commercial-in-confidence information.

2. **What is the average physical size of each slab?**

The 'standard' current size is 3050mm v 1440 mm with three levels of thickness – 13mm, 20mm and 30mm. There are other sizes available, such as 3340 mm x 1640mm (with 20mm or 30mm thickness). In Australia there is only one thickness – 20mm.

3. **What level of silica was in the engineered stone in 1987? 95 per cent?**

At that time, the silica content was in the vicinity of 90%.

Since the 1990s, Caesarstone has consistently disclosed the quartz silica content of its slabs. Data sheets in the late 1990s disclosed the level at 90%+, with later data sheets disclosing 60-100% or the exact percentage.

4. **When Caesarstone started selling artificial stone slabs in 1987 did it know that it contained high levels of silica, a level that is vastly higher than natural stone such as granite and marble and considered carcinogenic to humans if the crystalline silica dust is inhaled?**

Caesarstone slabs were originally named "Quartz Surfaces" because of the high quartz content. Quartz is found in nature, is extremely durable and is one of the most abundant minerals on the planet.

Silica is present in many common materials handled by workers, including nearly all substitutes for engineered stone. <u>All</u> silica is dangerous when released as dust through cutting, grinding and shaping if proper safety measures are not in place.

Material	***Percentage of silica***
Marble and limestone	*2%*
Concrete	*20-40%*
Slate	*25-40%*
Granite	*20-45%*
Porcelain	*~40%*
Natural sandstone (found in tunnelling, mining, construction)	*70-95%*
Engineered stone	*Up to 97%*

Source: Safe Work Australia

Engineered stone has traditionally contained 60-97% silica.

Some new products contain 40% or less.

5. **What did it do back then to warn customers that the product contained dangerously high levels of silica? What was the written wording?**

Since as early as the 1990s, every Caesarstone Material Safety Data Sheet and fabrication guide has carried warnings about the presence of quartz and the risk of silicosis from inhaling quartz dust.

[An MSDS lists the hazardous ingredients of a product and includes information such as safe handling procedures.]

6. **Workers in Israel and men who owned businesses and bought the product claim Caesarstone representatives told them the product was natural and did not mention they had to take precautions. Any comment?**

Caesarstone cannot provide a response in the absence of being told any particulars of these discussions.

Since as early as the 1990s, every Caesarstone MSDS and fabrication guide has carried warnings about the presence of quartz and the risk of silicosis from inhaling quartz dust.

7. **When were Caesarstone products first introduced to Australia? According to information released to the market it states 1998. Who was Caesarstone selling to? Harvey Norman?**

Caesarstone Ltd exported engineered stone from Israel to Australia from approximately 1998, initially to Harvey Norman. Until 31 March 2008, Carsilstone Pty Ltd was the exclusive supplier of Caesarstone engineered stone product in Australia.

Since 1 April 2008, Caesarstone Australia Pty Ltd has been the exclusive supplier of Caesarstone engineered stone product in Australia.

8. Did Caesarstone make any clear warnings to the customers back then? If so, what did it do? Any written documentation you can send?

Caesarstone's 1998 MSDS and fabrication guide for engineered stone predated Caesarstone's entry into the Australian market.

Apart from the 1998 MSDS and fabrication guide, from around 2005 the Caesarstone Fabrication Manual was provided to all Australian fabricators. This August 2005 document included an Australian version MSDS dated June 2003.

As per the regulations, this MSDS was reviewed and reissued on roughly 5-year cycles – first on 9 June 2008, then 26 March 2012, then December 2016, then July 2019 and then January 2020.

The MSDS dated 20 June 1998 prepared by Caesarstone Ltd contained the following hazard and risk statements:

> *Personal Protective Equipment*
>
> *Respirator: Use respirator or particulate mask when cutting or abrading material*
>
> *Procedures and Controls*
>
> *Engineering Controls ASTME-1132-86 Standard practice for health requirements relating to occupational exposure to quartz dust.*
>
> *First Aid Procedures Inhalation The prolonged inhalation of airborne silica can cause the respiratory disease silicosis a progressive, incapacitating and sometimes fatal disease of the lung. The risk of lung disease increases if smoking is combined with silica inhalation. Always use a respirator or particulate mask when cutting or abrading this material. If symptoms develop seek medical assistance immediately.*

The MSDS dated June 2003 in Australian format prepared by Infosafe and issued by Tessera Stones and Tiles Pty Ltd (Carsilstone) contained the following risk and hazard statements.

> *NOT CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO NOHSC CRITERIA*
>
> *QUARTZ Si-O2 60-100%*
>
> *First Aid Inhalation If difficulties arise from inhalation of dusts during cutting remove the victim to fresh air. Ensure airways are clear and have qualified person give oxygen through a face mask if breathing is difficult. Seek medical attention.*

Exposure Limits Quartz --TWA 0.2 mg/m3

Respiratory Protection
During normal application no special respiratory protection is required. However, during cutting, grinding, or sanding operations avoid breathing airborne dust by wearing an AS 1716 approved P1 or P2 particulate filter respirator. Final choice of appropriate breathing protection is dependent on actual airborne concentrations and the type of breathing protection required will vary according to the individual circumstances. Expert advice may be required to make this decision. Reference should be made to Australian Standards AS/NZS 1715 Selection, use and maintenance of Respiratory Protective Devices; and AS/NZS 1716 Respiratory Protective Devices.

Engineering Controls Use with sufficient ventilation to keep airborne concentrations below exposure limits. Mechanical exhaust ventilation may be required. When cutting this product wet cutting methods may be employed to minimise production of dusts and release of respirable silica.

Toxicological Information
WARNING: For inhalation exposure ONLY: Crystalline silica (respirable size) has been classified by IARC as Group 1 CARCINOGENIC TO HUMANS.

Chronic Effects
This product contains silicon dioxide (quartz). No exposure to free respirable silica is anticipated during normal use of this product. It should be noted that free respirable silica has been listed as a suspected human carcinogen by IARC. Inhalation of free respirable silica may cause silicosis or other serious delayed lung injury. Silica may be released by grinding, machining, or cutting this product. Use approved dust respirator when grinding, machining, or cutting. Wet cutting methods will also help minimise the release of respirable silica.

The 9 June 2008 Australian format prepared by ChemAlert for Caesarstone Australia contained the following hazard and risk statements:

NOT CLASSIFIED AS HAZARDOUS ACCORDING TO NOHSC CRITERIA
SILICA, CRYSTALLINE -QUARTZ Si-O2 14808-60-7 >60%

Exposure Standards
Silica, Crystalline Quartz NOHSC (AUS) --0.1 mg/m3

Engineering Controls
Do not inhale dust/powder. Use with adequate natural ventilation. Where a dust inhalation hazard exists, mechanical extraction ventilation or dampening with water is recommended.
PPE Wear cotton or leather gloves. If cutting or sanding with potential for dust generation, wear dust-proof goggles and a Class P1 (Particulate) Respirator.

Health Hazard Summary
Low toxicity. Adverse health effects, usually associated with long term exposure to high crystalline silica dust levels are not anticipated, due to product form. This product may only present a hazard if slabs are cut, sanded or drilled with dust generation. Use safe work practices to avoid dust generation -inhalation. Chronic exposure to dust may cause lung fibrosis (silicosis). Crystalline quartz is classified as carcinogenic to humans (IARC Group 1).

Inhalation
Exposure considered unlikely. An inhalation hazard is not anticipated unless slabs are cut, or drilled with dust generation which may result in mucous membrane irritation of the upper respiratory tract with over exposure.

HEALTH EFFECTS FROM EXPOSURE: It should be noted that the effects from exposure to this product will depend on several factors including: frequency and duration of use; quantity used; effectiveness of control measures; protective equipment used and method of application. Given that it is impractical to prepare a Chem Alert report which would encompass all possible scenarios, it is anticipated that users will assess the risks and apply control methods where appropriate.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT GUIDELINES:
The recommendation for protective equipment contained within this ChemAlert report is provided as a guide only. Factors such as method of application, working environment, quantity used, product concentration and the availability of engineering controls should be considered before final selection of personal protective equipment is made.

9. **What year did Caesarstone first warn its customers the artificial stone product contained up to 95 per cent silica, which is vastly more dangerous than natural stone products such as marble and granite?**

Caesarstone data sheets in the 1990s list the quartz silica content at 91%.

In Australia, Caesarstone via Carsilstone disclosed in its MSDS dated June 2003 that its product contained 60-100% quartz/silica dioxide.

As stated above (Q4) Silica is present in many common materials handled by workers, including nearly all substitutes for engineered stone, such as natural stone products.

There is currently no medical or scientific basis to say that silica from engineered stone is more dangerous than silica contained in other materials.

10. How did it warn them?

See responses to Q5, Q6, Q8 and Q9.

In addition to the earlier MSDSs and fabrication guides, a more comprehensive list of the MSDSs, fabrication guides and other safety documents provided to purchasers of Caesarstone products since 2010 follows:

a) *MSDSs were provided to purchasers no later than 2010, warning of the risk of dust inhalation from cutting stone products;*

b) *Fabrication manuals were provided to purchasers no later than April 2011, which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure A, on 17 June 2011;*

c) *In or about 2012, a copy of the March 2012 MSDS was provided to purchasers, which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure C;*

d) *On 1 November 2013, provided all purchasers of its products, with a copy of its December 2012 Fabrication and Health Protection Guide which:*

   (i) *attached a letter dated 1 August 2013 which highlighted that it had made changes to its fabrication guide relating to the subject Respirable Crystalline Silica, which could be found at section 16 of the manual, that this material was a general guide for the employers Workplace Health and Safety Responsibilities and that "It is important to note that Crystalline Silica is found in many products including (but not limited to) cement, ceramics, natural stone, bricks, sand, mortar, glass and plaster to name just a few. As a responsible supplier, Caesarstone is merely pointing out the risks associated in fabricating these types of products without wearing appropriate PPE (Personal Protective Equipment). Our Key Message is this: Silicosis is a preventable disease if appropriate measures are taken";*

   (ii) *included a DVD recording attached to the December 2012 Fabrication and Health Protection Guide with provided specific explanation and information as to the mechanisms of how exposure to RCSD can cause silicosis and appropriate methods to control dust [<u>this DVD can be provided on request</u>];*

   (iii) *included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure B;*

e) *in or about 2016, provided all purchasers of its products, with a copy of its February 2016 Fabrication and Health Protection Guide, which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure A;*

f) *Providing all purchasers of its products, in or about 2017, with a copy of its September 2017 Fabrication and Health Protection Guide, which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure A to this document;*

g) *Extending to all purchasers of its products, an invitation to attend a Stonemason Business Information Session on 11 August 2016, which included information and warnings with respect to silicosis;*

h) *In or about August 2017, providing all purchasers of its products, with a copy of its December 2016 Safety Data Sheet which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure C;*

i) *Providing in or about 2019 all purchasers of its products with a copy of its July 2019 Safety Data Sheet, which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure C;*

j) *From January 2016, issuing warnings on the tax invoices and delivery notes that were issued to purchasers of its products and which included warnings and recommended precautions, in the same or similar form to that set out in Annexure D; and additionally*

k) *Caesarstone adopted a practice of providing a copy of its Safe Work Manuals to each person to whom its product was to be supplied prior to the first supply taking place.*

11. When did Caesarstone first learn that people working with the product were getting sick as a result?

2010

12. In 2010 Caesarstone started putting so-called warning stickers on the slabs it was selling. Why did it wait until 2010?

Caesarstone placed warning labels on slabs of stone when it became aware that workers were contracting silicosis in 2010.

13. How big was the warning sticker in Feb 2010 on the slab? - can you provide the measurement? How big is the slab? What part of the slab was the sticker put - on top, the bottom or was there no specific place? Does Caesarstone think the size and lightness of the font at that time was appropriate? How many languages did it include on the sticker?

The warning label is affixed to the back of each slab and cannot be missed. Caesarstone's warning labels have been available in Hebrew, Arabic, Spanish, French. Later Chinese (Mandarin) and Russian were added.

The labels started in 2010 at approximately 14cm x 14cm. Today they are 24cm x 37cm and include a QR code that links to the MSDS and the Master of Stone online training program.

Images of the labels from 2010 through to the current label can be found at the bottom of this document.

14. What was the primary purpose of putting the sticker on the slab?

The warning labels were applied to each and every slab to reinforce the information contained in the MDSDs, fabrication guides and multiple other warnings of the hazards of working with engineered stone without proper safety measures in place and the best practices to avoid the health hazards associated with respiratory crystalline silica dust, as detailed in the response to Q10.

15. Does Caesarstone think it was an effective communication tool for workers working with the product?

Yes. The warning label was on each slab of stone and was unmissable and clear in its message and intent.

16. When did Caesarstone start putting hazard warning symbols on the labels to Australia? Why did it take so long? Why didn't it do it from 2010?

While the first labels did not include the warning symbols, they clearly included the word: WARNING.

17. In early 2010 a documentary in Israel aired which exposed workers dying of silicosis due to engineered stone. The documentary had been in the works months before it aired. Is that

what triggered the decision by Caesarstone to start attempting to put warning labels on the products?

Yes.

18. **In 2012 a study was released with the title Caesarstone and silicosis. Why did Caesarstone send legal letters to the publisher threatening legal action if it wasn't changed? At the time more than 90 per cent of the products sold in Israel were Caesarstone. It is claimed by one of the authors it was an attempt to cover up the role of Caesarstone products in the surge in silicosis cases in Israel?**

The objection to the article was on the basis that it targeted Caesarstone. The article was entitled "Caesarstone® Silicosis: Disease Resurgence among Artificial Stone". The invented name "Caesarstone® Silicosis" did not (and still does not) exist in the World Health Organization's International Classification of Diseases (ICD).

Caesarstone is a name ubiquitously interchanged with engineered stone. However, Caesarstone is just one manufacturer and supplier of engineered stone. There are many others that operate extensively in Australia and throughout the world, including Cosentino, Quantum Quartz, Smartstone, Project Stone, Stone Italiana and Laminex

19. **Did Caesarstone ever offer one of the authors of the report a donation to the lab?**

In the short time provided to respond, we have been unable to find any evidence of this.

20. **In response to a series of questions from Safework NSW as to the alleged first findings of silicosis among artificial stone workers following tests of patients, Caesarstone said it became aware in 2010 as part of the first lawsuit filed against it. How does this correspond with your 2021 annual report which says the first court case was filed in Israel in 2008?**

A single action filed in 2008 does not give rise to a more serious issue in the industry.

Caesarstone was not aware of a number of cases of silicosis until 2010.

21. **Is Caesarstone suggesting that it never heard about an outbreak of workers being diagnosed with silicosis before the 2008 legal action in Israel?**

A single action filed in 2008 does not give rise to a more serious issue in the industry.

Caesarstone was not aware of a number of cases of silicosis until 2010.

22. **Why does Caesarstone use the words alleged cases of silicosis? Is there evidence that this is not the true diagnosis of these patients?**

The diagnosis of silicosis is not always clear. According to experts, the gold standard for diagnosis is (in order):

1. *Pathology based on biopsy which is not always appropriate and infrequently performed;*

2. *High-resolution CT;*

3. *Lung spirometry (which can be impacted by effort and other medical conditions);*

4. *History of exposure.*

The most common mode of diagnosis in Australia is HRCT. Diagnoses based on HRCT are often differential and medical opinion can vary significantly.

23. **When the Israeli study in Israel was finally published in 2012 it was based on a study of workers from 1997 to 2010 who had been diagnosed with silicosis and they all used the Caesarstone product. What did Caesarstone do in Australia to warn customers about the study?**

Caesarstone first became aware of this issue in 2010. In terms of customer warnings, see responses to Q5, Q6, Q8 and Q10.

24. **Caesarstone told Safework reps it visited Stoneworx from 2007 to discuss dust and silicosis. Did Caesarstone ever report any factories to the regulator relating to concerns over dust and safety given workers at these sites have been diagnosed with silicosis. In the case of Stoneworx almost half the workforce was diagnosed with silicosis. If you could provide details.**

Caesarstone Ltd did not have representatives in Australia in 2007. Caesarstone Australia started trading on 1 April 2008.

Caesarstone is involved in litigation with Stoneworx in the Dust Diseases Tribunal, and it is not appropriate to comment in the context of ongoing litigation.

Caesarstone is aware, however, that Safework NSW is prosecuting Stoneworx for violations of the Work Health & Safety Act. Safework NSW is the regulator for ensuring compliance with safety regulations in NSW and questions should be directed to Safework NSW.

25. **Did the Caesarstone representatives ever report back to Caesarstone about the heavy dust in some factories? If not, why not? Ie wasn't it a requirement?**

Caesarstone sales representative typically visited offices, not factory floors. They were sales representatives and held no occupational health and safety qualifications.

Further, all products were collected from Caesarstone warehouses and not delivered to factories by Caesarstone.

While Caesarstone provided extensive and repeated instructions and warnings, it was not within its power or authority to supervise, audit or control fabrication processes.

This is the role of work safety regulators.

26. **In legal cases in Israel, Caesarstone settles and pays on average 33 per cent of the proportion of damages. It has also been settling cases in Australia. Is this an admission of failure of duty of care? Please explain.**

Caesarstone cannot and will not comment on any confidential settlements.

It remains the case that the fabricators and employers of stonemasons are primarily responsible for failing to take any, or any reasonable, precautions to prevent exposure to silica dust.

27. **Is this an admission that Caesarstone is partly culpable for manufacturing a product that is killing people?**

Caesarstone's product is not causing harm. The failure of fabricators and employers to use safe fabrication processes and precautions that are set out in detail in Caesarstone's fabrication manuals and mandated by law has caused considerable harm.

Caesarstone has consistently taken action to promote a safe engineered stone industry since it began operating in Australia, including through extensive efforts to educate fabricators and stonemasons regarding the risks of silicosis and safe product handling and safety guideline.

Caesarstone's guidance and training includes the Good Practice Guide and a safety DVD for the industry, as well as a comprehensive online learning platform called the 'Master of Stone', which makes information and working guidelines accessible to fabricators and others who handle our products, with a focus on health and safety issues[1].

The Master of Stone is offered free by Caesarstone and is available in 12 languages. To date, more than 3800 fabricators and stonemasons have completed the program worldwide. Research has proven the effectiveness of the program in helping workers identify and manage risks in their workplaces. While awareness of the risks of silicosis is already high, the research showed that those who completed the course were 12 per cent more likely to implement safety measures at an individual level and 22 per cent at a factory level. More information on the program is available here https://mos.caesarstone.com.au/

Caesarstone has engaged extensively with government, work safety bodies and industry to help foster better understanding of the issues related to RCS and to promote safer working conditions. This includes engagement with the National Dust Disease Taskforce, engagement with WorkSafe Victoria in relation to that State's licensing scheme, contributing best-practice advice to the NSW Code of Practice: Managing the risks of RCS from engineered stone in the workplace, and involvement in NSW parliamentary inquiries into silicosis and the NSW Dust Diseases Scheme.
In the past, Caesarstone explored the implementation of a self-regulatory accreditation program – and had a clear path to its execution. The only reason this was not actioned was due to legal issues raised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.
That is why Caesarstone has stated consistently that it believes the solution to this problem is the introduction of uniform national regulations and safety guidelines and a mandatory licensing scheme in each State and Territory, modelled on the Victorian scheme, all backed by rigorous auditing and enforcement by well-resourced regulators.
If an accreditation scheme was something that we believed was possible for Caesarstone to undertake, it is certainly within work safety regulators' capabilities.

28. **Does Caesarstone admit it is selling a product that is killing people?**

No

29. **Does Caesarstone agree the product should be banned? If not, what is the company's rationale for not banning it?**

[1] https://mos.caesarstone.com.au/home-page/

Caesarstone does not support a ban on engineered stone.

A ban on engineered stone would not solve the issue of silicosis. There is no logic in banning one product that must be handled in exactly the same manner as all similar products, with almost half of silicosis cases reported in the year to 30 June 2021 occurring in industries outside engineered stone. This means that even if engineered stone is banned, the presence of silica in <u>all</u> substitute materials (except wood) and in industries such as tunnelling and construction means workers will continue to face the risk of silicosis.

Kate Cole, President, Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists, supports a ban on engineered stone but says "banning manufactured or engineered stone does not solve the problem of silicosis in (NSW)"[2]. As Ms Cole also noted: "This is not just an issue in engineered stone but, indeed, across other industries, highlighted most recently with 42 per cent—or almost half—of cases of silicosis reported to 30 June 2021 being from industries outside of engineered stone."

Successive government committees and inquiries, including the National Dust Diseases Taskforce, have stopped short of banning engineered stone, saying instead that a ban should be considered in July 2024 only if 'there is no measurable and acceptable improvement in regulatory compliance rates for the engineered stone sector' and 'evidence indicates preventative measures are not effectively protecting those working with engineered stone from silicosis and silica-associated diseases'.

Caesarstone has stated consistently that it believes the solution to this problem is the introduction of uniform national regulations and safety guidelines and a mandatory licensing scheme in each State and Territory, modelled on the Victorian scheme, all backed by rigorous auditing and enforcement by well-resourced regulators.

30. Workers in Israel and Australia, medical specialists and lawyers claim that Caesarstone covered up or underplayed the dangers of the stone for more than a decade after its release, how do you respond?

Caesarstone notes that the sources of these serious allegations are not cited.

Caesarstone utterly rejects the notion of covering up or diminishing the seriousness of silicosis.

Ever since Caesarstone became aware of silicosis issues in the industry, it has invested considerable resources in educating fabricators how to protect their health by understanding the risks and providing clear guidelines of best practice to avoid the risk. See earlier responses regarding these actions.

31. Workers with silicosis, unions and doctors have likened engineered stone to asbestos? Any comments?

Silicosis is nothing like asbestos.

- *With asbestos, the final product in situ continues to be very dangerous, even to end users. Silicosis, on the other hand, is an occupational disease; prolonged exposure to silica dust*

[2] https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/transcripts/2780/Transcript%20-%20CORRECTED%20-%20Dust%20Diseases%202021%20-%2016%20February%202022.pdf

created by cutting, drilling, grinding or shaping in an unsafe working environment is necessary to contract silicosis.

- *With asbestos, even one fibre can cause damage and diseases such as mesothelioma. Silicosis requires cumulative exposure to silica dust, often over several years.*
- *There are no safe asbestos products and no safe levels of exposure. Engineered stone is absolutely safe in situ and can be handled safely using proper techniques and equipment.*

32. Given so many workers have been diagnosed with silicosis from engineered stone products, including Caesarstone which is the market leader in Australia, do you think there should be a public campaign about the dangers? Should the dangers be mentioned on TV shows that use the product?

No.

In terms of engineered stone, there are no cases of silicosis outside manufacturers and fabricators of the stone.

Engineered stone is safe in situ, so there is no risk to consumers.

It is an occupational disease that exclusively affects workers who cut, drill, grind or shape the stone without proper precautions.

Caesarstone continues to direct its efforts towards warning and educating fabricators, who are the only group at risk.

33. Has Caesarstone ever made political donations in Australia to any state or federal party. If so can you provide details?

No.

34. How much does it pay for lobbying in Australia each year?

Caesarstone has engaged government relations advisers as part of its ongoing work with state and federal governments on policy development around worker safety in the fabrication and stone masonry industries. Caesarstone complies with all lobbyist disclosure requirements. The commercial terms of any relationship are confidential.

35. We have evidence that dry cutting is still going on in Australia, on sites and in some factories. How does Caesarstone think it can be controlled?

Caesarstone supports all bans on dry cutting and has been recommending wet cutting since the 1990s. We acknowledge that compliance across the industry has been a significant issue – on site and in factories. However, this can and should be addressed through regulation and enforcement.

While the risk of silicosis is well documented and understood, it is acknowledged that all silica-containing materials can be handled safely if proper procedures are followed and proper tools are used – in workshops and on-site. This extends to the fabrication of engineered stone; Dr Graeme Edwards, a senior consulting physician in occupational and environmental medicine and

member of the National Dust Diseases Taskforce, has provided expert evidence that "the product can be fabricated safely"[3].

See response to Q40 for more detail on product handling on site.

36. Why do you think insurers won't cover Caesarstone for product insurance in Australia for future claims as outlined in your annual report? Is it because it is too risky?

Caesarstone Inc., the parent company of Caesarstone Asia Pacific, has always met all of its incurred liabilities and will continue to do so.

It is important to clarify that insurance coverage is not a measure of industry safety.

Insurers are commercial enterprises that frequently make decisions to avoid or exit particular industries or sectors because they cannot generate an adequate return. Insurers do not like conditions of uncertainty and change. One recent example is the decision by many insurers to withdraw from the directors' and officers' liability insurance (D&O) market. That does not mean that directors and officers are uninsurable. Other examples are cybersecurity insurance and home insurance in flood- and storm-prone areas.

We believe that as compliance and safety continue to improve and evidence regarding a decline in incidences and risks becomes available, insurers will come back to this market.

37. How many court cases in Australia is Caesarstone involved with either directly or as a third party? How many since the first legal case in Australia?

This is a matter of public record.

38. Has Caesarstone ever been fined by a regulator?

In the context of this issue, no.

39. Last week your competitor Consentino was found guilty in a Spanish Court of negligence. Reuters reported that the company's owner accepted a six-month suspended prison sentence after admitting to covering up the dangers of the engineered stone product Silestone. Is Caesarstone preparing for any similar allegations?

No.

40. How can unsafe practices at installation sites be regulated? Does it think it is possible for this to happen?

Caesarstone acknowledges that compliance has been a significant issue, including at the point of installation. However, this can be addressed through regulation and there are tools and procedures that enable the safe handling of engineered stone should it be necessary at the point of installation.

Meagan McCool, Director, Construction Services Group Metropolitan, at SafeWork NSW, told the NSW Dust Diseases Review Committee that 85 per cent of workers engaged in installation were

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[3] https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/transcripts/2780/Transcript%20-%20CORRECTED%20-%20Dust%20Diseases%202021%20-%2016%20February%202022.pdf

connected to a fabricator, either as direct employees or contractors[4]. This made monitoring and enforcement of these workplaces easier.

Caesarstone's guideline for installation of engineered stone products has always been that all slabs must be fabricated in workshop – where there are typically better safety controls – not at the installation site. If significant cutting is required upon installation, the slabs should be returned return the slabs to the plant for re-cutting.

However, if on-site cutting or adjustments are required, there are safe handling tools and procedures, including water-integrated tools for wet-cutting and equipment with integrated dust collectors connected to vacuum with a high-efficiency HEPA particulate air filter.[5]

In addition, respiratory protection such as pressurised masks, which may be impractical for long periods of wear at a workshop, can be worn for short periods of on-site work.

Regulators such as SafeWork NSW and WorkSafe Queensland are empowered to enforce these standards if they are included in any state-based on nationwide regulatory regime.

41. Caeasarstone said it would release a product with less silica. Is this because it now admits that a product with more than 80 percent silica is too dangerous?

Caesarstone has consistently taken action to promote a safe engineered stone industry, including, through the development of low-silica products. As part of our ESG commitment, we are committed to developing environmentally friendly products that also have a lower silica content. We launched our low-silica-based product into the market in 2022.

New engineered stone products with less than 40% silica content means they will contain less silica than most other substitute products and substantially less than the sandstone encountered in tunnelling and construction.

Regardless, that does not mean there should be any change the in safety measures required to handle engineered stone. All the safety measures used to cut and polish 90 per cent silica engineered stone would apply to cutting and polishing a much lower percentage silica stone (as they apply to natural stone such as granite and sandstone), on the basis that workers should not be exposed to dust containing any level of silica.

42. Why has the release of the product been delayed?

The product was launched 2022, with further product launches to come this year and next.

43. On average, what is the cost difference to produce and also the price sold for a product with less silica?

No comment.

44. Any other comments?

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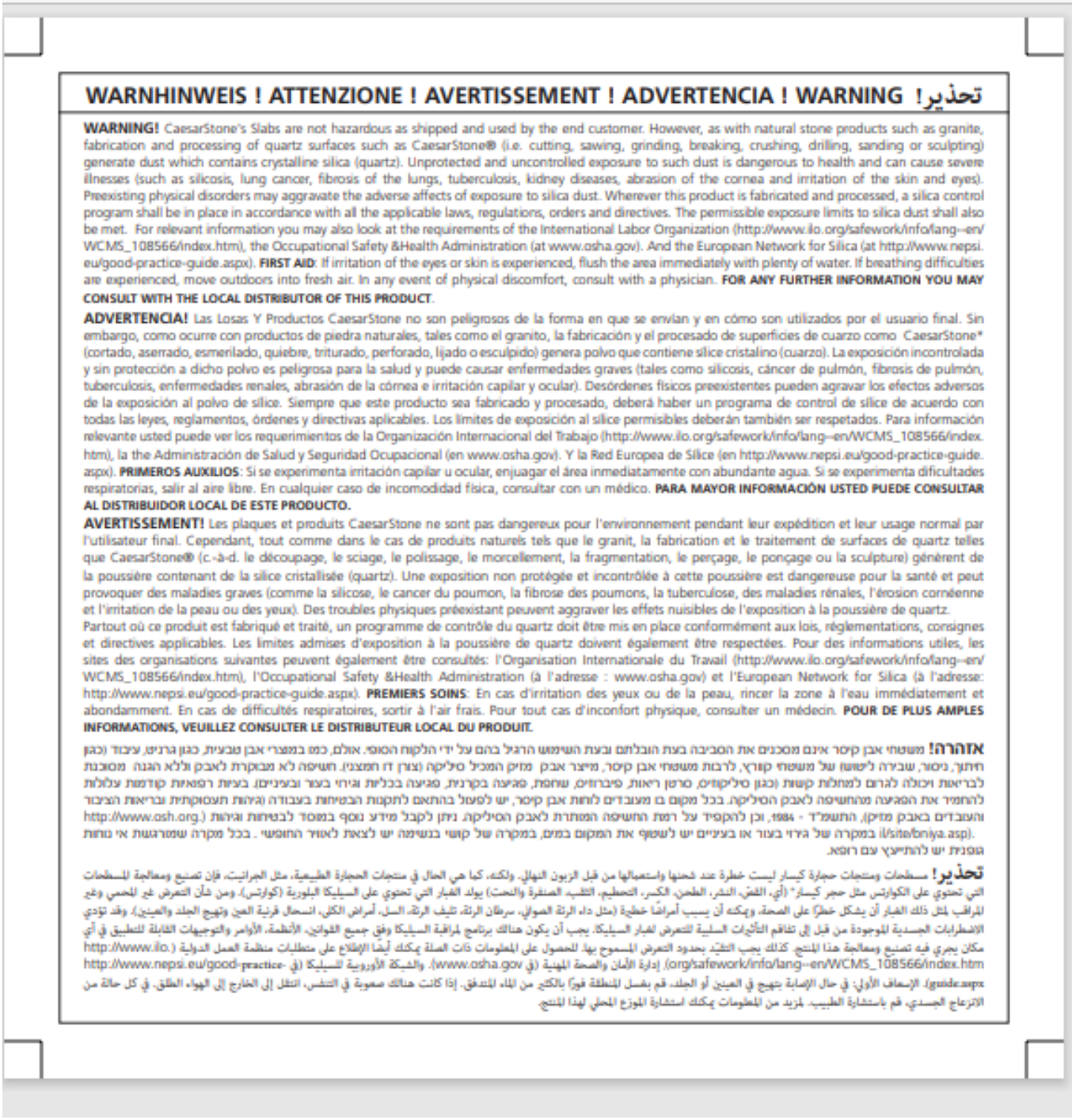
4 https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/lcdocs/transcripts/2816/Transcript%20-%20CORRECTED%20-%20Dust%20Diseases%20Scheme%20-%2018%20March%202022.pdf

5 Several examples of water-integrated cutting tools and tools with integrated dust collectors can be found here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tGItlpwxrM, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HJXajc9LthM, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ry3-lnIcj7o, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSGgvTIyiZo, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rn2hZVD0-Xw https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xXWIOGxkWyA

No.

WARNING LABELS FROM 2010 TO PRESENT

The warning label in February 2010:



WARNHINWEIS ! ATTENZIONE ! AVERTISSEMENT ! ADVERTENCIA ! WARNING تحذير!

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AVERTISSEMENT! Les plaques et produits CaesarStone ne sont pas dangereux pour l'environnement pendant leur expédition et leur usage normal par l'utilisateur final. Cependant, tout comme dans le cas de produits naturels tels que le granit, la fabrication et le traitement de surfaces de quartz telles que CaesarStone® (c.-à-d. le découpage, le sciage, le polissage, le morcellement, la fragmentation, le perçage, le ponçage ou la sculpture) génèrent de la poussière contenant de la silice cristallisée (quartz). Une exposition non protégée et incontrôlée à cette poussière est dangereuse pour la santé et peut provoquer des maladies graves (comme la silicose, le cancer du poumon, la fibrose des poumons, la tuberculose, des maladies rénales, l'érosion cornéenne et l'irritation de la peau ou des yeux). Des troubles physiques préexistant peuvent aggraver les effets nuisibles de l'exposition à la poussière de quartz.
Partout où ce produit est fabriqué et traité, un programme de contrôle du quartz doit être mis en place conformément aux lois, réglementations, consignes et directives applicables. Les limites admises d'exposition à la poussière de quartz doivent également être respectées. Pour des informations utiles, les sites des organisations suivantes peuvent également être consultés: l'Organisation Internationale du Travail (http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index.htm), l'Occupational Safety &Health Administration (à l'adresse : www.osha.gov) et l'European Network for Silica (à l'adresse: http://www.nepsi.eu/good-practice-guide.aspx). **PREMIERS SOINS**: En cas d'irritation des yeux ou de la peau, rincer la zone à l'eau immédiatement et abondamment. En cas de difficultés respiratoires, sortir à l'air frais. Pour tout cas d'inconfort physique, consulter un médecin. **POUR DE PLUS AMPLES INFORMATIONS, VEUILLEZ CONSULTER LE DISTRIBUTEUR LOCAL DU PRODUIT.**

אזהרה! משטחי אבן קיסר אינם מסכנים את הסביבה בעת הובלתם ובעת השימוש הרגיל בהם על ידי הלקוח הסופי. אולם, כמו במוצרי אבן טבעית, כגון גרניט, עיבוד (כגון חיתוך, ניסור, שבירה לישפון) של משטחי קוורץ, לרבות משטחי אבן קיסר, מייצר אבק מזיק המכיל סיליקה (צורן דו חמצני). חשיפה לא מבוקרת לאבק וללא הגנה מסוכנת לבריאות ויכולה לגרום למחלות קשות (כגון סיליקוזיס, סרטן ריאות, סיברוזיס, שחפת, פגיעה בכליות ובריונים), בעיות רפואיות קודמות עלולות להחמיר את הפגיעה מהחשיפה לאבק הסיליקה. בכל מקום בו מעובדים לוחות אבן קיסר, יש לפעול בהתאם לתקנות הבטיחות בעבודה (גיהות תעסוקתית ובריאות הציבור והעובדים באבק מזיק), התשמ"ד - 1984, וכן להקפיד על רמת החשיפה המותרת לאבק הסיליקה. ניתן לקבל מידע נוסף בנושא לבטיחות וגיהות (http://www.osh.org.il/sita/bniya.asp). במקרה של גידי בעור או בעיניים יש לשטוף את המקום במים, במקרה של קושי בנשימה יש לצאת לאוויר החופשי . בכל מקרה שמורגשות אי נוחות נוספות יש להתייעץ עם רופא.

تحذير! مسطحات ومنتجات حجارة كيسار ليست خطرة عند شحنها واستعمالها من قبل الزبون النهائي. ولكنه، كما هي الحال في منتجات الحجارة الطبيعية، مثل الجرانيت، فإن تصنيع ومعالجة المسطحات التي تحتوي على الكوارتس مثل حجر كيسار® (أي، القطع، النشر، الطحن، الكسر، التحطيم، الثقب، الصنفرة والنحت) يولد الغبار التي تحتوي على السيليكا البلورية (كوارتس). ومن شأن التعرض غير المحمي وغير المراقب لمثل ذلك الغبار أن يشكل خطرًا على الصحة، ويمكنه أن يسبب أمراضًا خطيرة (مثل داء الرئة الصواني، سرطان الرئة، تليف الرئة، السل، أمراض الكلى، انسحال قرنية العين وتهيج الجلد والعينين). وقد تؤدي الاضطرابات الجسدية الموجودة من قبل إلى تفاقم التأثيرات السلبية للتعرض لغبار السيليكا. يجب أن يكون هناك برنامج لمراقبة السيليكا وفق جميع القوانين، الأنظمة، الأوامر والتوجيهات القابلة للتطبيق في أي مكان يجري فيه تصنيع ومعالجة هذا المنتج. كذلك يجب التقيّد بحدود التعرض المسموح بها. للحصول على المعلومات ذات الصلة يمكنك أيضًا الإطلاع على متطلبات منظمة العمل الدولية (http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index.htm)، إدارة الأمان والصحة المهنية (في www.osha.gov)، والشبكة الأوروبية للسيليكا (في http://www.nepsi.eu/good-practice-guide.aspx). الإسعاف الأولي: في حال الإصابة بتهيج في العينين أو الجلد، قم بغسل المنطقة فورًا بالكثير من الماء المتدفق. إذا كانت هناك صعوبة في التنفس، انتقل إلى الخارج إلى الهواء الطلق. في كل حالة من الانزعاج الجسدي، قم باستشارة الطبيب. لمزيد من المعلومات يمكنك استشارة الموزع المحلي لهذا المنتج.

May 2011:

WARNHINWEIS ! ATTENZIONE ! AVERTISSEMENT ! ADVERTENCIA ! WARNING ! تحذير

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2012:

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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 sílice 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), la the Administración de Salud y Seguridad Ocupacional (en 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.**

WARNING ! ADVERTENCIA ! AVERTISSEMENT ! אזהרה ! تحذير !

AVERTISSEMENT! Les plaques et produits Caesarstone ne sont pas dangereux pour l'environnement pendant leur expédition et leur usage normal par l'utilisateur final. Cependant, tout comme dans le cas de produits naturels tels que le granit, la fabrication et le traitement de surfaces de quartz telles que Caesarstone® (c.-à-d. le découpage, le sciage, le polissage, le morcellement, la fragmentation, le perçage, le ponçage ou la sculpture) génèrent de la poussière contenant de la silice cristallisée (quartz). Une exposition non protégée et incontrôlée à cette poussière est dangereuse pour la santé et peut provoquer des maladies graves (comme la silicose, le cancer du poumon, la fibrose des poumons, la tuberculose, polyarthrite rhumatoïde, les maladies autoimmunes, le lupus érythémateux, desmaladies rénales, l'érosion cornéenne et l'irritation de la peau ou des yeux). Des troubles physiques préexistant peuvent aggraver les effets nuisibles de l'exposition à la poussière de quartz. Partout où ce produit est fabriqué et traité, un programme de contrôle du quartz doit être mis en place conformément aux lois, réglementations, consignes et directives applicables. Les limites admises d'exposition à la poussière de quartz doivent également être respectées. Pour des informations utiles, les sites des organisations suivantes peuvent également être consultés: l'Organisation Internationale du Travail (http://www.ilo.org/safework/info/lang--en/WCMS_108566/index. htm), l'Occupational Safety &Health Administration (à l'adresse: www.osha.gov) et l'European Network for Silica (à l'adresse: http://www.nepsi.eu). PREMIERS SOINS: En cas d'irritation des yeux ou de la peau, rincer la zone à l'eau immédiatement et abondamment. En cas de difficultés respiratoires, sortir à l'air frais. Pour tout cas d'inconfort physique, consulter un médecin. **POUR DE PLUS AMPLES INFORMATIONS, VEUILLEZ CONSULTER LE DISTRIBUTEUR LOCAL DU PRODUIT.**

אזהרה! משטחי אבן קיסר אינם מסכנים את הסביבה בעת הובלתם ובעת השימוש הרגיל בהם על ידי הלקוח הסופי. אולם, כמו במוצרי אבן טבעית, כגון גרניט, עיבוד (כגון חיתוך, ניסור, שבירה ליטוש) של משטחי קוורץ, לרבות משטחי אבן קיסר, מייצר אבק מזיק המכיל סיליקה (צורן דו חמצני). חשיפה לא מבוקרת לאבק וללא הגנה מסוכנת לבריאות ויכולה לגרום למחלות קשות (כגון סיליקוזיס, סרטן ריאות, פיברוזיס, שחפת, דלקת מפרקים שגרונית, מחלות אוטואימוניות, זאבת אדמנתית, פגיעה בקרנית, פגיעה בכליות וגירוי בעור ובעיניים). בעיות רפואיות קודמות עלולות להחמיר את הפגיעה מהחשיפה לאבק הסיליקה. בכל מקום בו מעבדים לוחות אבן קיסר, יש לפעול בהתאם לתקנות הבטיחות בעבודה (גיהות תעסוקתית ובריאות הציבור והעובדים באבק מזיק), התשמ"ד – 1984, וכן להקפיד על רמת החשיפה המותרת לאבק הסיליקה. נתן לקבל מידה נוסף לבטיחות וגיהות (http://www.osh.org.il/site/bniya.asp). במקרה של גירוי בעור או בעיניים יש לשטוף את המקום במים, במקרה של קושי בנשימה

2018:

DANGER TO STAFF!

ENGLISH **DANGER related to generated dust**: Causes damage to lungs through prolonged or repeated exposure (inhalation). May cause cancer if inhaled. May cause respiratory tract irritation and eye irritation. **PREVENTION**: Do not fabricate until all safety precautions have been obtained, read and understood. Do not breathe dust generated in the fabrication processes. All safety instructions listed below and under the law must be implemented. Wash face and hands thoroughly after fabricating. Do not eat, drink or smoke when fabricating this material and in the fabrication working environment. Wear protective gloves, protective clothing, and eye or face protection. Dispose of scrap material and debris in accordance with local regulations. **FIRST AID MEASURES**: Get medical advice/attention if you feel unwell. IF IT GETS INTO YOUR EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contacts if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. **Content**: This product is made of minerals that include crystalline silica (85%-95%), such as silica sand, quartz, cristabolite or other, polyester (5-15%), pigments and additives such as titanium dioxide and mirrors (5%). **Intended Use of Product**: Kitchen and bathroom worktops and other indoor uses. **More Info: Caesarstone's surfaces are not hazardous as shipped and used by the end customer. However**, fabrication and installation processes generate hazardous dust, which contains crystalline silica (SiO_2) particles. The USA Occupational Safety and Health Administration alerted that workers who inhale such hazardous dust during fabrication and installation are at risk for **silicosis (an incurable, progressively disabling and sometimes fatal lung disease), lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and kidney disease**. According to certain medical schools of thought, occupational inhalation of such dust may increase the risk for certain auto-immune diseases. Persons with preexisting respiratory disorders and smokers may be more susceptible to the effects of such dust. **Safety Instructions: Strict compliance with health and safety regulations can prevent silicosis and the other health damage**. Therefore, wherever this product is fabricated, a silica control program shall be in place in accordance with all the applicable laws and regulations. Exposure to dust must be below the exposure limits set by the law. Safety measures must be used as well as equipment and methods that involve water, local exhaust ventilation, other engineering controls that reduce the creation of dust, and applicable personal protection equipment. For more information you are required to read Caesarstone's Safety Data Sheet (available at www.caesarstone.com). Additional information can be found at: www.osha.gov, http://www.ilo.org, http://www.who.int/en/ and www.nepsi.eu. For the address and phone no. of the local Caesarstone® distributor please see http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/

Caesarstone Ltd., +972 4 6109368, M.P Menashe 3780400, Israel

Open for more languages: עברית, العربية, Français, Español, Русский, 简体中文

FRANÇAIS **DANGER POUR LE PERSONNEL ! DANGER lié aux poussières générées** : Risque avéré d'effets graves pour les poumons à la suite d'expositions répétées ou exposition prolongée (inhalation). Peut provoquer le cancer en cas d'inhalation, irriter les voies respiratoires et les yeux. **PRÉVENTION** : Ne pas traiter avant d'avoir obtenu, lu et compris toutes les précautions de sécurité. Ne pas respirer les poussières générées par les procédés de travail. Toutes instructions de préventions citées ci-dessous et soumise la loi doivent être mise en œuvre. Porter un équipement de protection respiratoire approprié pour les particules. Laver le visage et les mains soigneusement après procédés de travail. Ne pas manger, boire ou fumer en traitant ce matériau ou en environnement de travail utilisant ce matériau. Porter des gants et vêtements de protection, et protections pour yeux ou visage. Éliminer les rebuts et débris conformément à la réglementation locale. **MESURES DE PREMIERS SECOURS** : Consulter un médecin en cas de malaise. EN CAS DE CONTACT AVEC LES YEUX : Rincer avec précaution à l'eau pendant plusieurs minutes. Enlever les éventuelles lentilles de contact s'il est possible de le faire aisément. Continuer à rincer. Ce produit est composé de minéraux à base de silice cristalline (85-95 %) parmi lesquels le sable de silice, quartz, cristobalite ou autres, polyester (5-15 %), pigments et additifs tels que le dioxyde de titane et des miroirs (5 %). **Utilisation intentionnelle du produit**: Plans de travail cuisine, salle de bain et autres usages en intérieur. **Informations complémentaires : Les surfaces Caesarstone ne présentent pas de danger durant leurs transports et leurs utilisations par le client final. Toutefois**, les procédés de travail et installation génèrent des poussières dangereuses contenant des particules de silice cristalline (SiO_2). L'Occupational Safety and Health Administration des États-Unis a averti que les travailleurs inhalant de telles poussières dangereuses lors des procédés de travail et de l'installation sont exposés à un risque de silicose (une maladie pulmonaire incurable, progressivement invalidante et parfois fatale), cancer du poumon, bronchopneumopathie chronique obstructive (BPCO) et maladie rénale. Selon certains courants de pensée médicaux, l'inhalation de telles poussières sur le lieu de travail pourrait accroître le risque de certaines maladies auto-immunes. Les personnes ayant des troubles respiratoires préexistants et fumeurs peuvent être plus sensibles aux effets de ces poussières. **Instructions de sécurité : Le respect vigoureux des réglementations relatives à la santé et à la sécurité peut prévenir la silicose et autres problèmes de santé**. Dans tous les lieux où ce produit est traité, un programme de contrôle de la silice doit être mis en place en accord avec toutes les lois et réglementations applicables. L'exposition aux poussières doit être inférieure aux limites d'exposition stipulées par la loi. Les mesures de sécurité doivent être appliquées, ainsi que les équipements et méthodes reposant sur l'eau, ventilation locale par aspiration, contrôles techniques supplémentaires réduisant la génération de poussières et équipement protection individuel. Pour plus amples informations, consulter la Fiche de données de sécurité de Caesarstone (disponible sur www.caesarstone.com). Des informations complémentaires sont disponible sur : www.osha.gov, http://www.ilo.org, http://www.who.int/fr/ et www.nepsi.eu. Pour l'adresse et numéro de téléphone du distributeur local Caesarstone®, veuillez vous reporter à http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/

العربية **خَطَر على العاملين! خَطَر يتعلق بالغبار المتولد** بسبب المنتَج ضررًا على الرئتين عند التعرض المطوّل أو المتكرر له (بالاستنشاق). ويمكن أن يسبب السرطان إذا استُنشق. وتهيّج المجاري التنفسية والعينين. **الوقاية**: تجنب إخضاع المادة لعملية التصنيع إلا بعد الحصول على جميع احتياطات السلامة وقراءتها وفهمها. لا تستنشق الغبار المتولد عن عمليات التصنيع. يجب تنفيذ جميع تعليمات السلامة المدرجة أدناه وكذلك التعليمات التي ينص عليها القانون. اغسل الوجه واليدين بإفاضة بعد عملية التصنيع. لا تأكل أو تشرب أو تدخن وأنت تصنع هذه المادة وخلال التواجد في بيئة العمل التي يتم فيها التصنيع. وارتدِ قفازات وملابس واقية، وضع واقية عينين أو قناع واقي للوجه. تخلص من بقايا المادة ومخلفاتها طبقًا للائحة المحلية. **إجراءات الإسعاف الأولي**: احصل على مشورة أو عناية طبية إذا شعرت بتوعك. **إذا دخلت المادة إلى العينين**: اغسل الماء عليهما واشطفهما بحذر لعدة دقائق. وإذا كنت ترتدي عدسات لاصقة وكان رفعها سهلًا فأزعها. واواصل الشطف. **المحتوى**: هذا المنتَج مصنوع من مواد معدنية فيها سَيليكا بلورية (85 - 95%) كرمل السيليكا أو الكوارتز أو الكريستوباليت أو سوى ذلك، وبوليستر (5-15%)، وأصبغة ومواد مضافة كثاني أكسيد التيتانيوم والمرايا (5%). **الاستخدام المراد للمنتج**: في أسطح عمل المطابخ والحمامات وغير ذلك من تطبيقات داخلية. **معلومات إضافية لا تشكل أسطح** Caesarstone® **مصدرَ خطر محتمل بالشكل الذي تُشحن به وتُستخدم لدى الزبون النهائي**. ولكنّ عمليات التصنيع والتركيب تولد غبارًا خطرًا يحتوي على جسيمات السيليكا البلورية (SiO_2). وحسب تحذير إدارة السلامة والصحة المهنيتين الأمريكية (OSHA)، فإن العمال الذين يستنشقون هذا الغبار الخطر أثناء التصنيع والتركيب يكونون عرضة للإصابة **بالسُحار السيليسي (وهو مرض رئوي لاشفاء منه يؤدي تدريجيًا إلى العجز وأحيانًا إلى الوفاة)، وسرطان الرئة، وعرض الانسداد الرئوي المزمن** (COPD)، **واعتلال الكلية**. وحسب مدارس تفكير طبية معينة، فإن استنشاق هذا الغبار في بيئة العمل يمكن أن يعزز احتمالية الإصابة ببعض أمراض المناعة الذاتية. وقد يكون الأشخاص المصابون سابقًا بأعتال في الوظيفة التنفسية وباضطرابات تنفسية مزمنة أكثر حساسية لآثار هذا الغبار. **تعليمات السلامة**: إن التقيد الصارم بأنظمة الصحة والسلامة يُمكن أن يقي من الإصابة بالسُحار السيليسي وسواه من أضرار صحية. لذا يجب في كل مكان لتصنيع هذا المنتَج أن يوضع برنامج لضبط السيليكا طبقًا لكل القوانين والأنظمة ذات الصلة. ويجب أن يكون التعرض لهذا الغبار دون المستويات القانونية. كما يجب اتخاذ تدابير السلامة، واستخدام معدات وطرق تُعمل رطبة، وتهوية نابذة محلية، وسوى ذلك من وسائل الضبط الهندسية التي تحد من توليد الغبار ومعدات الحماية الشخصية المنطبقة. لمزيد من المعلومات، عليك بقراءة صحيفة بيانات سلامة المادة (المتاحة على الموقع www.caesarstone.com). وهناك معلومات إضافية على المواقع: www.osha.gov ،http://www.ilo.org ،http://www.who.int/en/ ،www.nepsi.eu. وللحصول على عنوان ورقم هاتف موزع "Caesarstone" المحلي، انظر من فضلك هذه الصفحة: http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/.

РУССКИЙ **ОПАСНО ДЛЯ ПЕРСОНАЛА! ОПАСНОСТЬ в связи с образованием пыли.** При длительном или многократном воздействии (вдыхание) вызывает поражение легких. Может вызывать рак при вдыхании. Может вызывать раздражение дыхательных путей и раздражение глаз. Предотвращение. Не обрабатывайте до тех пор, пока не будут получены, прочитаны и поняты все меры предосторожности. Не вдыхать пыль, образующуюся в процессе производства. Все инструкции по безопасности, перечисленные ниже и соответствующие законодательству, должны быть выполнены. После обработки тщательно вымыть руки и лицо. Не принимать пищу, не пить и не курить в процессе обработке и в рабочей среде. Использовать защитные перчатки, защитную одежду и средства защиты глаз и лица. Отходы и мусор утилизировать в соответствии с местным законодательством. **МЕРЫ ОКАЗАНИЯ ПЕРВОЙ ПОМОЩИ.** В случае плохого самочувствия обратиться за медицинской помощью. ПРИ ПОПАДАНИИ В ГЛАЗА: тщательно промыть глаза водой в течение нескольких минут. При наличии контактных линз снять их, если это легко сделать. Продолжить промывание. Содержание: данный продукт состоит из минералов, включая кристаллический диоксид кремния (85—95 %) в виде кварцевого песка, кварца, кристобалита и др., полиэфира (5—15 %), пигментов и добавок, включая диоксид титана, и зеркал (5 %). **Целевое применение:** рабочие поверхности для ванн и кухонь и другие виды использования в помещениях. **Дополнительная информация: поверхности Caesarstone не представляют опасности при транспортировке и использовании конечным потребителем, однако** при обработке и установке образуется опасная пыль с содержанием частиц кристаллического диоксида кремния (SiO_2). Управление по технике безопасности и гигиене труда США предупреждает, что рабочие, которые вдыхают опасную пыль в процессе обработки и установки, подвержены риску силикоза (необратимое прогрессирующее и иногда смертельное заболевание легких), рака легких, хронического обструктивного заболевания легких (ХОЗЛ) и заболевания почек. Согласно ряду медицинских теорий, вдыхание такой пыли может повышать риск некоторых аутоиммунных заболеваний. Люди, страдающие нарушениями дыхательной системы, и курящие могут быть более чувствительны к воздействию пыли. **Инструкции по безопасности: строгое соблюдение санитарных норм и правил безопасности может предотвратить развитие силикоза и другой вред здоровью**. Поэтому везде, где производится обработка этого продукта, должна действовать программа по контролю за кремнием в соответствии со всеми применимыми законами и нормами. Воздействие пыли должно быть ниже пределов воздействия, установленных законом. Необходимо использовать меры безопасности, а также оборудование и методы, которые включают в себя воду, местную вытяжную вентиляцию и другие технические средства управления, уменьшающие образование пыли, и применимое индивидуальное защитное оборудование. Для получения дополнительной информации вам необходимо ознакомиться с листом безопасности Caesarstone (доступно на сайте www.caesarstone.com). Дополнительную информацию можно найти на сайтах www.osha.gov, http://www.ilo.org, http://www.who.int/en/ и www.nepsi.eu. Адрес и телефон местного дистрибьютора Caesarstone® ищите на сайте http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/

עברית **סכנה לעובדים! סכנה כתוצאה מאבק שמוצר מעיבוד המוצר:** חשיפה ממושכת או חוזרת ונשנית (שאיפה) של אבק זה, גורמת נזק לריאות ומחלות ריאה שונות כמפורט בהמשך. עלול לגרום לגירוי בדרכי הנשימה ולגירוי בעיניים. **מניעה:** אין לעבד את המוצר לפני קבלת כל ההוראות הנדרשות. קריאתם והבנתם. אין לנשום אבק שמוצר כתוצאה מעיבוד המוצר. יש ליישם את כל כללי הבטיחות המפורטים מטה ולפי החוק. יש לרחוץ פנים וידיים ביסודיות לאחר עיבוד המוצר. אין לאכול, לשתות או לעשן בעת עיבוד המוצר או בסביבת העיבוד. יש להשתמש בכפפות מגן, בבגדי מגן ובמיגון לעיניים או לפנים. שאריות ופסולת של המוצר יש להשליך בהתאם לחוק. **אמצעי עזרה ראשונה:** יש לפנות לייעוץ/השגחה רפואית אם אינך חש בטוב. **במקרה של מגע בעיניים:** יש לשטוף בזהירות במים במשך מספר דקות. יש להסיר עדשות מגע במידה וישנן וניתן לעשות זאת בקלות, ולהמשיך בשטיפה. **תכולה:** מוצר זה עשוי ממינרלים שכוללים סיליקה גבישית (85%-95%), כגון חול סיליקה, קוורץ, קריסטובליט ואחרים, פוליאסטר (5%-15%), פיגמנטים ותוספים כגון טיטניום דו-חמצני ומראות (5%). **שימוש מיועד:** משטחי עבודה למטבח ולחדרי אמבטיה ושימושים אחרים בתוך מבנה. **מידע נוסף: משטחי אבן קיסר אינם מסוכנים בשל המשלוח ובזמן השימוש על ידי לקוח הקצה.** עם זאת, בהתלכיי עיבוד והתקנה מוצר אבן מסוכן, המכיל חלקיקי סיליקה גבישית (SiO2). פיקוח הבריאות והבטיחות בעבודה (OSHA) של אריהב החריט כי עובדים השואפים אבק מסוכן מסוג זה במהלך עיבוד או התקנה נמצאים בסיכון לחלות **בסיליקוזיס** (מחלת ריאות פרוגרסיבית, חשוכת מרפא, הגורמת למוגבלות ולפעמים אף למוות), **בסרטן ריאות, במחלת ריאות חסימתית כרונית (COPD) ובמחלת כליות.** על פי אסכולות רפואיות חסימות, שאיפה של האבק במקום העבודה עלולה להגביר את הסיכון לחלות במחלות אוטואימוניות חסימות. אנשים הסובלים מהפרעות נשימתיות וכן מעשנים מועדים להיות רגישים יותר להשפעות של אבק מסוג זה. **כללי בטיחות: הקפדה מוחלטת על תקנות הבריאות והבטיחות יכולה למנוע סיליקוזיס וכל בריאותי חמור.** לפיכך, בכל מקום שבו מבוצע עיבוד של המוצר חובה להטהיר תכנית בקרת סיליקה, בהתאם לכל החוקים והתקנות החלים בנושא זה. החשיפה לאבק חייבת להיות מתחת לרמת החשיפה המשוקללת המרבית המותרת בחוק. חובה להשתמש באמצעי בטיחות, וכן בציוד ובשיטות עבודה שכוללים מים, אוורור מקומי לפליטת חלקיקים, באמצעי זיהוי ואמצעי בקרה הנדסיים אחרים שמפחיתים את יצירת האבק וזיהוי מן אישי מתאים. לקבלת מידע נוסף, עליך לקרוא את גיליון הבטיחות של המוצר (זמין באתר www.caesarstone.com). מידע נוסף ניתן למצוא בכתובות: http://economy.gov.il/Employment/SafetyAndHealth/Pages/default.aspx-וגם ,www.nepsi.eu ,http://www.who.int/en/ ,http://www.ilo.org ,www.osha.gov

简体中文　在加工过程中产生的粉尘与其相关危害：长时间或反复接触（吸入）会对肺部造成损害。吸入可能导致癌症或导致呼吸道和眼部不适。**预防措施：**在未经阅读，理解和实施所有安全预防措施之前，请勿擅自加工。别吸入加工过程中产生的粉尘。严格执行下列的，以及法律所规定的安全措施。加工后，请彻底清洗脸部和手部。当进行此材料加工和在制作工作环境时，请勿进食、饮水或吸烟。戴防护手套，防护服，护镜或面罩。请严格遵守当地法规处理加工废料和剩余物。急救措施：如感不适，请立即寻求医疗协助。如不慎入眼：请用清水小心冲洗数分钟。有佩戴隐形眼镜者，请在适当的时候摘下，继续冲洗。成分：该产品由矿物质制成，包括诸如硅砂、石英、方石英或其他物质等的结晶二氧化硅(85%-95%)、聚酯(5-15%)、颜料和添加剂（如二氧化钛）以及反光镜(5%)。**产品用途：**厨房和浴室台面以及其他室内使用建材。**其它信息：**在运输材料的过程中和用户使用的最终产品上，**Caesarstone 产品是安全的。然而**，在加工和安装过程中会产生含有结晶二氧化硅(SiO2)颗粒的有害粉尘。美国职业安全与健康管理局警告，在加工和安装过程中吸入此类有害粉尘的工作人员将面临罹患**矽肺病（一种无法治愈、逐渐致残并且可能会导致致命的肺部疾病）、肺癌、慢性阻塞性肺病(COPD)和肾脏疾病的风险**。根据某些医学院的观点，长期性吸入此类粉尘可能会增加罹患某些自身免疫性疾病的风险。本就存在呼吸系统疾病的患者和吸烟者可能更容易受到此类粉尘的影响。**严格遵守健康与安全规则，可有效防止矽肺病和其他健康损害**。因此，无论在何处加工该产品，都应根据所有适用的法律法规制定硅控制程序。接触粉尘分量必须低于法律规定的限制。采取适当的安全措施以及采用湿加工法、安装排气通风导管和其他可减少粉尘产生的工程控制设备。欲了解更多信息，请阅读 Caesarstone 的安全数据表（可从 www.caesarstone.com 获取）。有关更多信息，请查访：www.osha.gov、http://www.ilo.org、http://www.who.int/en/ 以及 www.nepsi.eu。有关 Caesarstone® 本地经销商的地址和电话号码，请阅 http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/

ESPAÑOL ¡PELIGRO PARA EL PERSONAL! PELIGRO relacionado con la generación de polvo: provoca daño en los pulmones tras exposición prolongada o reiterada (inhalación). Puede provocar cáncer si se inhala. Puede provocar irritación de las vías respiratorias e irritación ocular. **PREVENCIÓN**: no manipular el producto antes de haber leído y comprendido todas las precauciones de seguridad. No respirar el polvo que se genera durante el proceso de fabricación. Se deben implementar todas las instrucciones de seguridad enumeradas a continuación y en virtud de la ley. Lavarse bien la cara y las manos después de manipular el producto. No comer, beber ni fumar durante la fabricación de este material ni en el área de fabricación. Utilizar guantes y vestimenta de protección, así como protección ocular y facial. Eliminar los desechos y residuos de conformidad con la normativa local. **MEDIDAS DE PRIMEROS AUXILIOS**: si no se siente bien, solicite ayuda/atención médica. SI ENTRA EN CONTACTO CON LOS OJOS: enjuagar cuidadosamente con agua durante varios minutos. Quitarse los lentes de contacto si los tiene puestos y puede hacerlo fácilmente. Continuar enjuagándose. **Contenido**: este producto está hecho de minerales que incluyen silice cristalina (85 %-95 %), como arena silice, cuarzo, cristobalita u otros, poliéster (5-15 %), pigmentos y aditivos tales como dióxido de titanio y espejo (5 %). **Uso previsto del producto**: mesones de cocina y baños y otros usos en interiores. **Más información: las superficies de Caesarstone no son peligrosas en el envio y uso por parte del cliente final. Sin embargo,** los procesos de fabricación e instalación generan un polvo peligroso que contiene partículas de silice cristalina (SiO2). La Administración de Seguridad y Salud Ocupacional de los EE. UU. alertó que los trabajadores que inhalen dicho polvo peligroso durante la fabricación e instalación corren riesgo de contraer **silicosis (una enfermedad pulmonar incurable, progresivamente incapacitante y, en ocasiones, mortal), cáncer de pulmón, enfermedad pulmonar obstructiva crónica (EPOC) y enfermedad renal**. De acuerdo con algunas escuelas de pensamiento de la medicina, la inhalación de dicho polvo por parte de los trabajadores puede aumentar el riesgo de determinadas enfermedades autoinmunitarias. Las personas con enfermedades respiratorias preexistentes y fumadoras pueden ser más susceptibles a los efectos del polvo. **Instrucciones de seguridad: el cumplimiento riguroso de la normativa de salud y seguridad puede prevenir la silicosis y otros daños a la salud**. Por lo tanto, dondequiera que se fabrique este producto, se debe implementar un programa de control de silice de conformidad con todas las leyes y normativas aplicables. La exposición al polvo debe estar por debajo de los límites de exposición establecidos por ley. Se deben utilizar medidas de seguridad, así como equipos y métodos que incluyan agua, ventilación local de extracción y otros controles de ingeniería que disminuyan la generación de polvo tanto como cualquier clase de equipo de protección personal aplicable y designado para este tipo de trabajos. Para obtener más información, lea la hoja de datos de seguridad de Caesarstone (disponible en www.caesarstone.com). Puede encontrar información adicional en: www.osha.gov, http://www.ilo.org, http://www.who.int/es/ y en www.nepsi.eu. Para obtener la dirección y el número de teléfono del distribuidor local de Caesarstone®, **consulte** http://www.caesarstone.com/global-presence/

The current label:

DANGER! SILICA DUST WORK LIKE A MASTER

Do not perform any fabrication before all risks and prevention means are understood and all safety measures are in place

caesarstone MASTER OF STONE

RISKS: This product contains crystalline silica (~90%), resin, pigments and additives such as titanium dioxide. When processing this product crystalline silica dust is generated. Occupational inhalation of crystalline silica dust causes silicosis (an incurable, progressively disabling and sometimes fatal lung disease) and may cause COPD, cancer and other serious diseases.

PREVENTION: Scan the QR code for more information about the product characteristics, risks and safety measures, which appear in Caesarstone's Safety Data Sheet and Good Practice Guide, at mos.caesarstone.com.

MONITOR AND MINIMIZE THE LEVEL OF SILICA DUST

USE WATER-INTEGRATED MACHINERY

USE VENTILATION

CLEAN WORKING ENVIRONMENT WITH RUNNING WATER

USE RESPIRATORY PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND OTHER PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Minimize silica dust level to below the Permissible Exposure Limit • Restrict access to hazardous dust areas • Leave working clothes at the workplace • Take your breaks away from the fabrication area • Undergo medical surveillance • Smoking may increase the health damages • do not smoke • Consult with occupational health and safety specialists • Dry sweep/ Compressed air • First aid: get medical attention if you feel unwell

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITION 65

WARNING: This product contains chemicals, including silica and titanium dioxide, that become airborne and may be inhaled when fabricating this product and are identified to the State of California as causing cancer and birth defects. For information see www.p65warnings.ca.gov.

Caesarstone: MP Menashe, 3780408, Israel +972-4-618-8368