



Profile of the Month – Paul House

Paul joined Marion in 2015 and has quietly built a following within the company and with clients. His experience on the railroad and on heavy equipment have kept him in demand.

Whether he is managing spills or operating equipment, he is the first person to arrive to work each day. A great teacher, he mentors new technicians and is eager to share his knowledge with others. Competence and humility describe this talented employee who everyone wants on their jobs.

Paul's skills are vast and varied and he will be a valuable asset to the MEI team for many years.

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.  
Making *our* standard, industry standard.

## MARION OPENS OFFICE IN BIRMINGHAM, AL



2459 Ruffner Court, Birmingham, AL

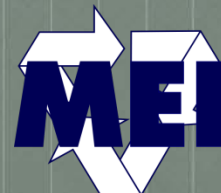
Marion Environmental is pleased to announce our newest satellite office, located in Birmingham, Alabama. For months we have been hard at work scouting locations and seeking the area's premier ER and environmental experts to manage the new facility.

MEI-Birmingham is in a great central location, with ample room to grow. We are thrilled with the site and with the amazing group of professionals who have signed on to the team. As our company continues to grow, we find more and more of the industry's biggest names eager to be part of our special formula. MEI has been setting a new standard for safety, expertise, and professionalism, and we are excited to bolster that reputation even further with the Birmingham office.

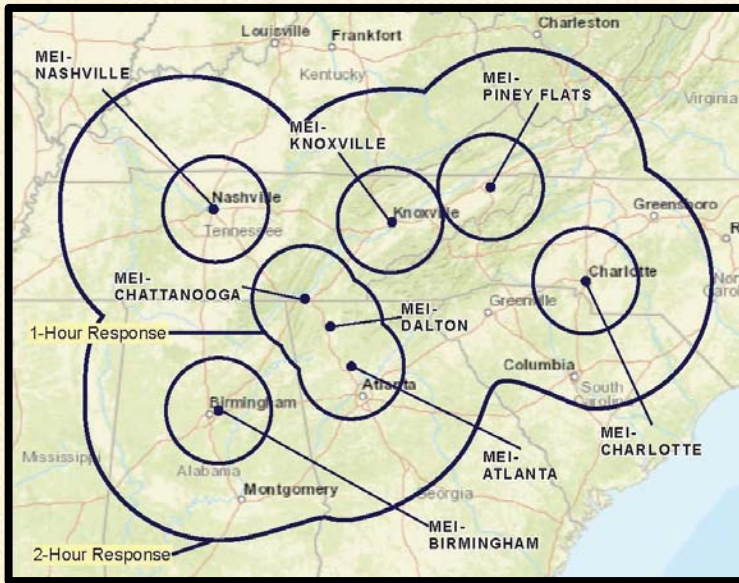


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## EMERGENCY RESPONSE MAP



## MARION PRESENTATION

Tammy Sprouse presented at the ASSE (American Society of Safety Engineers) meeting on February 13. Her topic was crystalline silica standards. It was an informal meeting with a lot of participation. Marion was pleased to sponsor the meeting this month.

Source - OSHA.gov

OSHA recently revised the crystalline silica standard for construction, general industry and maritime. Crystalline silica is a basic component of soil, sand, granite, and many other minerals. Quartz is the most common form of crystalline silica. Cristobalite and tridymite are two other forms of crystalline silica. All three forms may become respirable size particles when workers chip, cut, drill, or grind objects that contain crystalline silica. These tiny particles (known as “respirable” particles) can travel deep into workers’ lungs and cause silicosis, an incurable and sometimes deadly lung disease. Respirable crystalline silica also causes lung cancer, other potentially debilitating respiratory diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and kidney disease. In most cases, these diseases occur after years of exposure to respirable crystalline silica.

Workers can be exposed to respirable crystalline silica during the manufacture of glass, pottery, ceramic, brick, concrete, asphalt-(cont.)

(cont.)

roofing, jewelry, artificial stone, dental, porcelain, or structural clay products; use of industrial sand in operations such as foundry work and hydraulic fracturing; and use of sand for abrasive blasting.

Exposure to respirable crystalline silica can occur during common construction tasks, such as using masonry saws, grinders, drills, jackhammers and handheld powered chipping tools; operating vehicle mounted drilling rigs; milling; operating crushing machines; using heavy equipment for demolition or certain other tasks; and during abrasive blasting and tunneling operations. About two million construction workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica in over 600,000 workplaces.

PELs for respirable crystalline silica have been lowered to 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  with an action level of 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . The previous standard for general industry was 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , and 250  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  for construction and shipbuilding. Employers will be required to implement engineering controls and provide PPE to achieve compliance under the new limits, and to develop a written exposure control plan. “Highly exposed” workers must be offered free medical exams and given information about lung health. Workers must be trained on silica risks and controls. Employers in the construction industry have until June 23, 2017 to comply, while General and Shipyard industries have until June 23, 2018. A special extension is provided for hydraulic fracturing operations, which also have until June 23, 2018, except for engineering controls in that industry, which are exempt until June 23, 2021. OSHA-approved State Plans must implement standards that are at least as stringent as the new federal requirements.

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