

The importance of the clean working conditions



Mobile Dust Extractors

Dust control is playing the importance during any dust causing works on site. Dust control includes practices used to reduce or prevent the surface and air transport of dust during construction. Dust on building sites causes various occupational lung diseases and occupational asthma.

A large volume of fine dust arises when sanding wood or mineral materials, which can pose a serious health risk. Many studies show that this can lead to permanent problems for the respiratory tracts. Therefore, in the interest of their own health and in compliance with legal regulations, painters and decorators should ensure the air in their working environment is clean. This can be achieved by choosing the certified and approved mobile dust extractor.

According to the Dutch TNO testing institute, the limit values are always exceeded when working without dust extraction – sometimes over 100 times more. For instance, when sanding drywall filler in a 90 square metre apartment up to 54 litres of dust is generated*1. For these reasons, one should always consider the health of all those involved, employees and customers, when working with materials that generate dust. Dust arises when processing and machining materials, which can pose a serious health risk.

The types of dust are as diverse as the materials from which they come. The composition decides how hazardous the respective dust is to our health. For example, quartziferous substances in mineral dust are particularly dangerous, as they can lead to lung cancer, among other things. As well as the type of dust, the duration of exposure and amount of dust are also essential in determining the level of health risk. The longer the exposure to the dust and the greater the volume of dust, the more dangerous it becomes. The size of the dust particles should also be considered, because the finer the particles, the deeper they can penetrate into the lung tissue. It is also important to know that the same occupational exposure limits*2 in the bodyshop also apply on the construction site. This is why mobile dust extractors also always have to be used on the construction site.

**Keeps your lungs healthy.
And your customers happy.**

Mobile dust extractors impress not only on account of their health benefits, but also from the customer's point of view. Because, in addition to a cleaner working environment, better work results can be achieved which ultimately leaves a lasting impression on customers and leads to more recommendations and follow-up orders.

**It comes down
to the proper dust class**

As dust occurs in various forms, dust extraction is simply not enough – for your health or under legislation. For all hazardous dust there are occu-



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pational exposure limits in mg/m² of air, which are defined within the framework of dust classes. This standard classifies the dust into three classes: L, M and H. With its product portfolio, Festool covers the entire range for dust extraction: Dust class L (simple and harmless dust such as household dust, clear coats and plaster, as well as materials such as earth, M (all wood dust and dust from fillers, repair compounds and cement, tile adhesive and paints, as well as latex and oil-based paints or quartziferous materials like sand and gravel) and H (carcinogenic dust, dust with carcinogenic and pathogenic particles, as well as dust with mould spores, asbestos, mineral fibres, bitumen and artificial mineral fibres like glass wool). Festool also offers special Class B dust extractors for combustible and explosive dust. When it comes to dust extraction, Festool always recommends using a dust extractor with the proper dust class for the corresponding material.

Dust extraction with a system

Mobile dust extractors are an integral element of the Festool system concept. This is why Festool not only develops its own tools, but its own extractors too. They are compatible with all Festool electric power tools and air tools. For instance, there are extractors with container volumes ranging from 10 to 48 litres, as well as some with or without automatic main filter cleaning (at Festool AC stands for AUTO-CLEAN). They*3 are equipped with an integrated hose garage, Sys-Dock for holding the Systainer, Sortainer and Workcenter and embedded in a complete system of accessories and consumables – from self-cleaning filter bags to various suction hoses through to handles or tool holders.

Festool also offers mobile dust extractors for dust class H - for carcinogenic dust, dust containing carcinogenic or pathogenic particles, as well as dust containing mould spores, asbestos, mineral fibres, bitumen and artificial mineral fibres such as glass wool.

The quicker a sander removes material, the more powerful the connected mobile dust extractor needs to be. The powerful CT 36 AC PLANEX was designed specifically for the extreme material removal rate of the PLANEX long-reach sander.

In summary, a dust extraction system is the vital investment as it not only helps to meet the legal requirements, ensures cleaner air but also brings healthy benefits for workers and clients. Further information on the "Dust-free initiative"*4 is available online at www.festool.co.uk/dustfree

1. Basis of example: 90 m living space, entire area filled, sanding of wall and ceiling using the long-reach sander LHS 225 PLANEX
2. The occupational exposure limit is the time-weighted average concentration of a substance in the air at the workplace, at which acute or chronic damage to the health of the employees cannot be expected. When defining the occupational exposure limit, it is generally understood as eight hours exposure over five days a week during the working life. The occupational exposure limit is specified in mg/m³ and ml/m³ (ppm).
3. Applies to all CT mobile dust extractors – except the CT 17
4. Festool mobile dust extractors can collect up to 99.995% of dust generated during classic sanding, sawing and routing applications.

