



Aware

PROTECT YOUR
EMPLOYEES FROM
BERYLLIUM EXPOSURE

WHAT IS BERYLLIUM?

- 1. As one of the lightest elements, Beryllium is unique due to its strength and light weight.
- 2. It's most often employed in alloy or oxide form.



Beryllium-copper alloys offer exceptional hardness, electrical and heat conductivity, and resistance to corrosion.



Beryllium oxide is an important component in insulators and other ceramic elements in electronic and electrical equipment.

DANGERS OF BERYLLIUM

Beryllium is extremely toxic to lung tissue. When beryllium materials are processed it can release dust, fume, or mist into the air, which can be inhaled. The lungs may respond to irritation from the particles by producing cells called granuloma, resulting in difficulty breathing, weakness, fatigue, loss of appetite, a higher chance of lung cancer and chronic beryllium disease, even death.



Granuloma: small clump of cells that form when lung tissue becomes inflamed

WHO IS AFFECTED?

**Primary Beryllium
Production Workers**

**Workers Processing Beryllium
Metal/Alloys/Composites**

Examples: Welders and Metal Fabricators

Secondary smelting and refining

Examples: Recycling electronic and computer parts, metals

Abrasive Blasters

END PRODUCTS CONTAINING BERYLLIUM

Aerospace
Automotive
Defense
Dental labs
Electronics
Energy

Medicine
Nuclear energy
Sporting goods
Telecommunication
Ceramic manufacturings

SOURCE

BERYLLIUM METAL,
ALLOYS, AND OXIDE

AIR

Breathing in dust, fumes or
mists containing beryllium

SURFACES

Skin or eye contact with
soluble salts of beryllium or
shavings from metal or alloy

STAY COMPLIANT AND KEEP YOUR EMPLOYEES SAFE



Limit exposure



Provide protective equipment



Develop exposure control plans



Train and educate workers



Offer medical examinations

OSHA UPDATE:

Final Rule to Protect Workers from Beryllium Exposure

On January 9, 2017, OSHA published its Final Rule to Protect Workers from Beryllium Exposure, putting limits on Beryllium exposure. The rule's new permissible exposure limits replaces a 40-year-old standard that didn't properly protect workers from beryllium's toxic effects.

The permissible exposure limit and most of the other provisions will come into force on March 12, 2018.

**Its important to take measures
now in order to be compliant with
the new regulations and to protect
your employees.**

United States Department Of Labor, Beryllium <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/beryllium/index.html>

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