

Understanding the National ban on Engineered Stone and why CraftStone is excluded from this ban.

Australia has banned the use, supply and manufacture of engineered stone.

The ban will start on 1 July 2024 and will apply to engineered stone benchtops, slabs and panels.

This decision was made in response to the rise in silicosis diagnoses among engineered stone workers. Banning the use of engineered stone will protect Australian workers from this deadly disease.

What is Engineered Stone?

Definition (*Model Work Health and Safety Regulations, Safe Work Australia*)

Engineered stone means an artificial product that:

- (i) contains crystalline silica; and
- (ii) is created by combining natural stone materials with other chemical constituents such as water, resins or pigments; and
- (iii) undergoes a process to become hardened.

Products Excluded from the Ban.

Products currently excluded from the ban include concrete and cement products; bricks, pavers and other similar blocks; porcelain products; ceramic wall and floor tiles; roof tiles; grout, mortar and render; and plasterboard.

Is CraftStone an “Engineered Stone”?

CraftStone is a lightweight concrete product produced using Cement (white and OPC), Sand, and Pumice Stones. CraftStone does not contain crystalline silica and is not classified as “engineered stone”.

CraftStone is imported under the HS Code: 6810.99.0000, ‘Articles of Cement, of Concrete or, of Artificial Stone, Others’.

Is CraftStone Safe to work with?

Yes, according to the manufacturer's ‘How to Install Instructions’ and the ‘MSDS’ CraftStone is very safe to work with. Please ask for these documents from your CraftStone supplier or download them from www.crafstone.com.au