



## Guide to Dust Collection

Virtually all bulk materials handling systems generate dust. Even dusty foodstuffs are a hazard to health. Such dust can damage the lungs and, when suspended in air in the right ratios, many organic materials are an explosion risk. Therefore dust collection, air filtration, cleaning up of spilled or settled dust and correct choice of air handling equipment are essential considerations for any bulk materials storage, handling or processing operation.

The health of the people working for you is of paramount importance. If their wellbeing is compromised it will affect the productivity of your business – which, in the long term, will cost money. Taking preventative action to eliminate dust contamination from your working environment is therefore extremely important, not only from a welfare point of view, but also to comply with Health and Safety legislation. SHAPA members supply equipment for every area of dust collection and dust control. For all dust collection and control systems, including dust extraction, filters, monitors and of course filter media, you'll find a SHAPA member to help. In addition, SHAPA members offer a range of air handling equipment such as, air compressors, blowers and exhausters for pneumatic conveying systems and industrial fans for ventilation systems.

Depending on your industry, and the types of products you handle, our SHAPA members will make appropriate recommendations. A good dust filter bag will minimise particle emission and can even help to minimise the risk of explosions. It will also be completely sealed and meet the manufacturing standards laid down by ISO 9001:2000. And, for those occasions when dust gets spilled or you require the means to remove settled dust on a regular basis, there are both centralised and mobile vacuum cleaning systems available. Ideally you want to minimise dust levels, whether within an enclosed factory or from dusty materials being moved or stored in the open. Dust detection equipment monitors the movement of particle emissions and is typically installed in strategic areas such as stack points or within air filtration systems. These types of devices will emit a warning when contamination levels become dangerous. There are different types of dust monitors, dust control and dust suppression systems – so you'll need to ask for further advice before making a purchase.

A good dust collection system is essential if you want to keep your immediate working environment safe and clean. Failure to install the right equipment can have a negative effect on productivity – especially if workers are continually exposed to it over a prolonged period of time.

Companies, Consultants, Project Managers and all those involved with new solids handling projects or updating existing process plant should head for the Equipment Finder on the [SHAPA website](#) just a click or two away. The range and scope of the bulk handling equipment available is second to none and you can be assured that the members of SHAPA will always design and develop your plant always ensuring the highest standards and professionalism. Alternatively, you can email your enquiry direct to [info@shapa.co.uk](mailto:info@shapa.co.uk) or make contact by phone on 01904 373040.