

Material Handling Guide

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Introduction These instructions are meant to help you handle and store American Quartz slabs safely.

Overview By handling and storing our products properly, we can prevent accidents and ensure that they are always in good shape and prepared for delivery. Every company that handles American Quartz slabs must have the necessary tools to move and handle slabs properly. The following information provides a description of the suggested handling procedures as well as the safe handling practices. Additional information can be located in OSHA Safety and Health Information Bulletin SHIB 08-12-2008, [Hazards of Transporting, Unloading, Storing and Handling Granite, Marble and Stone Slabs | Occupational Safety and Health Administration \(osha.gov\)](#)

Product Identification Sold as: American Quartz

Identity of the substances that contribute to the mixture classification:
Crystalline silica (SiO₂) (quartz, cristobalite)

Relevant identified uses of the substance or mixture and non-recommended uses.

Identified uses: Construction and decoration surface intended for **indoor uses**, primarily as a countertop in kitchens and baths, wall siding and other similar uses.

Contraindicated uses: Do not mechanically process the material using a dry method; avoid producing dust.

Information on manufacturer and provider of safety data sheet

Manufacturer: American Quartz Max Corp

2957 Lenwood Road, Barstow, CA 92311

Tel: (760) 957-8888

Info@americanquartz.com | www.americanquartz.com



Assess all hardware and equipment prior to use. Be sure that any straps and lifting clamps are free from defects and in good working condition.

There should be a minimum of two individuals required to move slabs, one operating equipment and one to guide the operator.

Be sure to keep a safe distance when guiding the equipment operator and stay out of “fall shadow”.

When using equipment to move slabs, only raise the load high enough to clear floor or obstacles.

Back injuries can occur when one's physical capacity is exceeded during load handling operations, or when these tasks are repetitive. This happens during operations like unslinging loads, separating slabs, accommodating loads, repositioning racks, and so on.

Ways to avoid injury- in general most items that will need to be moved will be slabs that are too heavy to move alone and manually. Never attempt to move a slab by yourself. **PARTNER UP!**

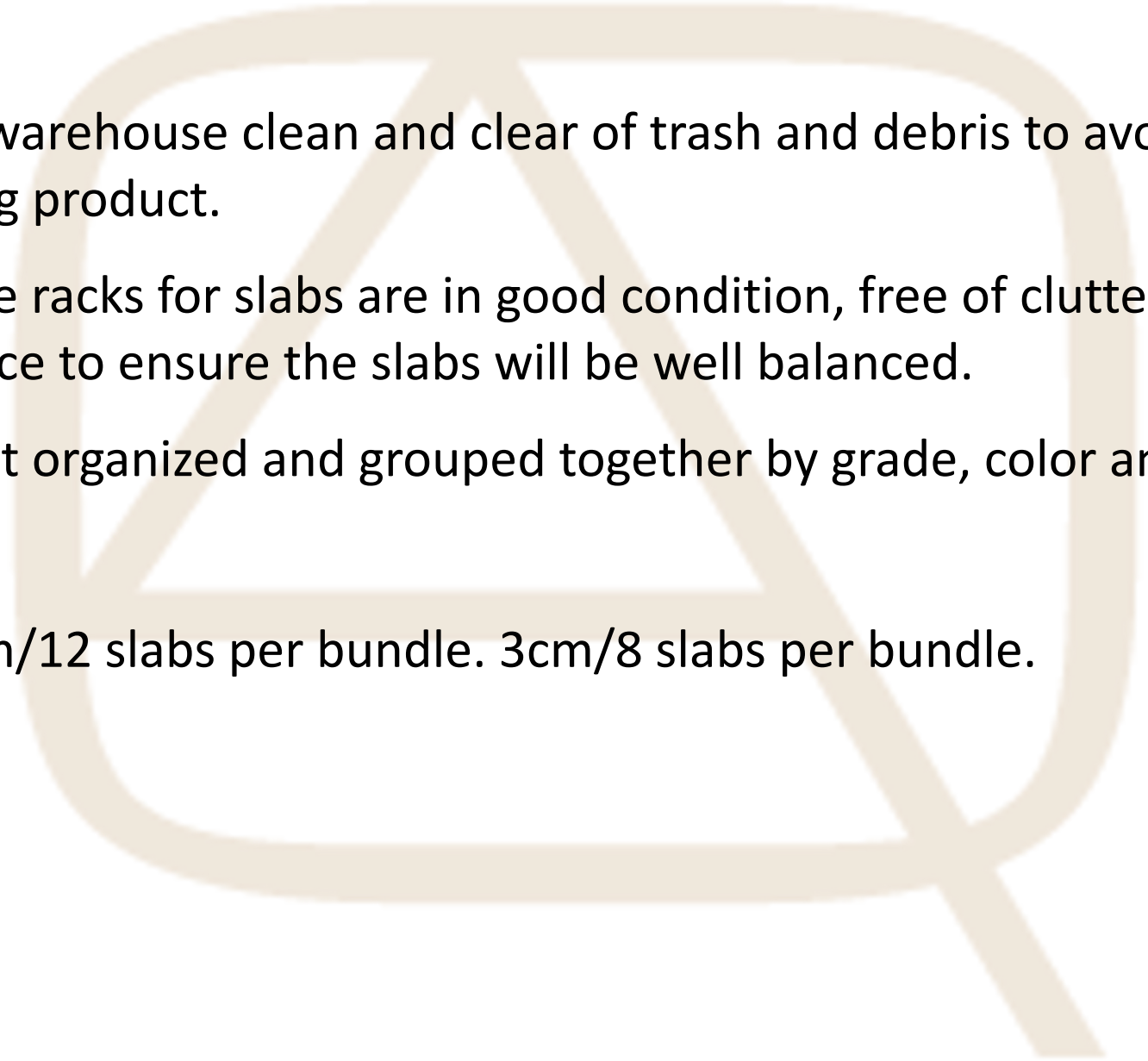
LIFTING/MOVING SLABS- Use the correct lifting technique- asses the item (look for any sharp edges), make sure your feet are on a flat and level ground, bend at knees (keep back straight) not back, use your strongest muscles (arms and legs NOT your back) when lifting, keep load as close to your body as possible (do not slouch or hunch shoulders).

SEPERATING SLABS- do no approach from front or back (BEWARE OF FALL SHADOW) asses slabs from side, make sure your feet are on flat and level ground, do not bend out twist at waist or back, use the appropriate tool (suction cup, wedge or spatula), use your arms not your back.

Things that are dangerous for your back- if you are carrying a load never twist at your waist (keep back straight, move feet first), never attempt to lift, carry or push items (like forklifts and containers) with a straight back, be careful when lifting heavy loads (especially when item is above shoulder height) ask for help or use proper equipment, prior to beginning make sure that the route needed to take is free and clear of any debris and hazards.

USING TOOLS- take breaks as necessary to maintain balance and strength.

WATCH YOUR BACK- avoid arching your shoulders, keep items close to your body and keep your back straight (do not bend or twist at waist).



Always keep the warehouse clean and clear of trash and debris to avoid accidents and possibly damaging product.

Make sure storage racks for slabs are in good condition, free of clutter and are set at the proper distance to ensure the slabs will be well balanced.

Help keep product organized and grouped together by grade, color and thickness.

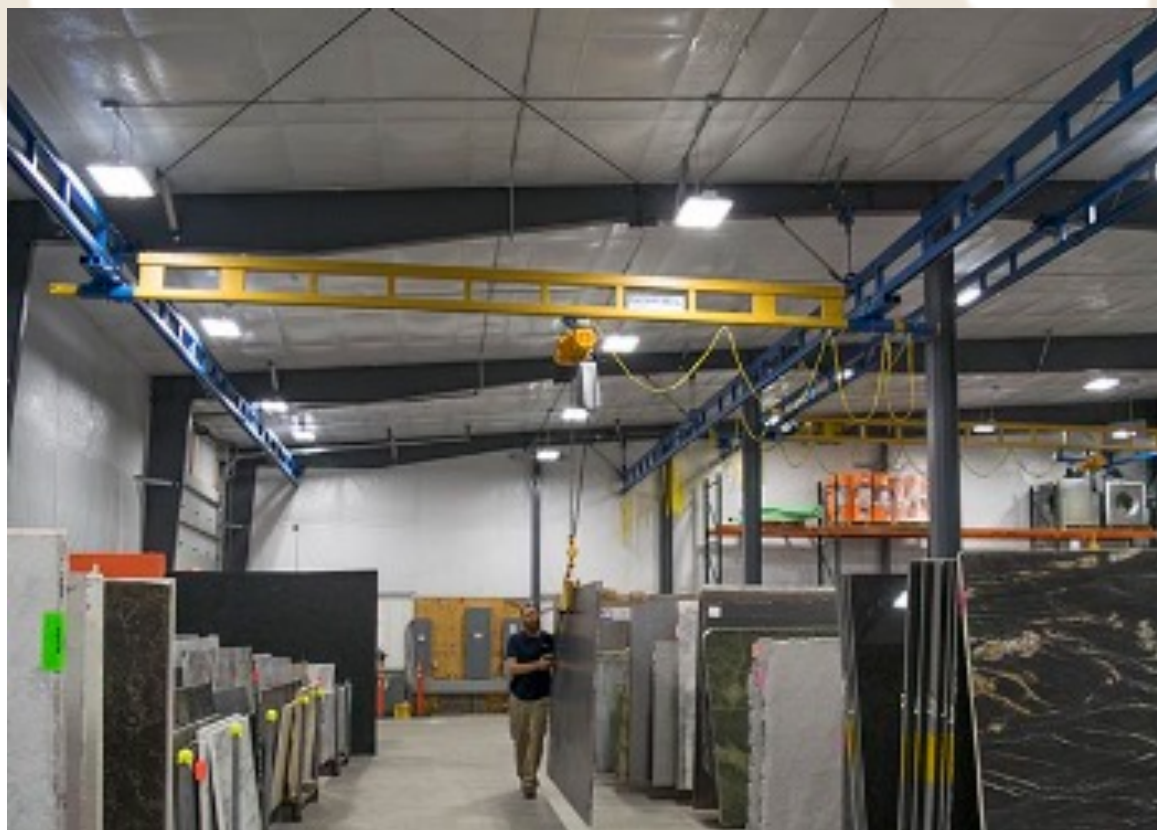
Slab bundles- 2cm/12 slabs per bundle. 3cm/8 slabs per bundle.

Our Fundamental Rules are in place to prevent injury and save lives, if followed correctly.

1. Work team intervention procedures must be followed at all times.
2. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) regulations should always be in accordance with standards.
3. All slab handling and storage procedures must be followed at all times.
4. All forklift truck handling procedures must be followed at all times.
5. All accidents and injuries must be reported.

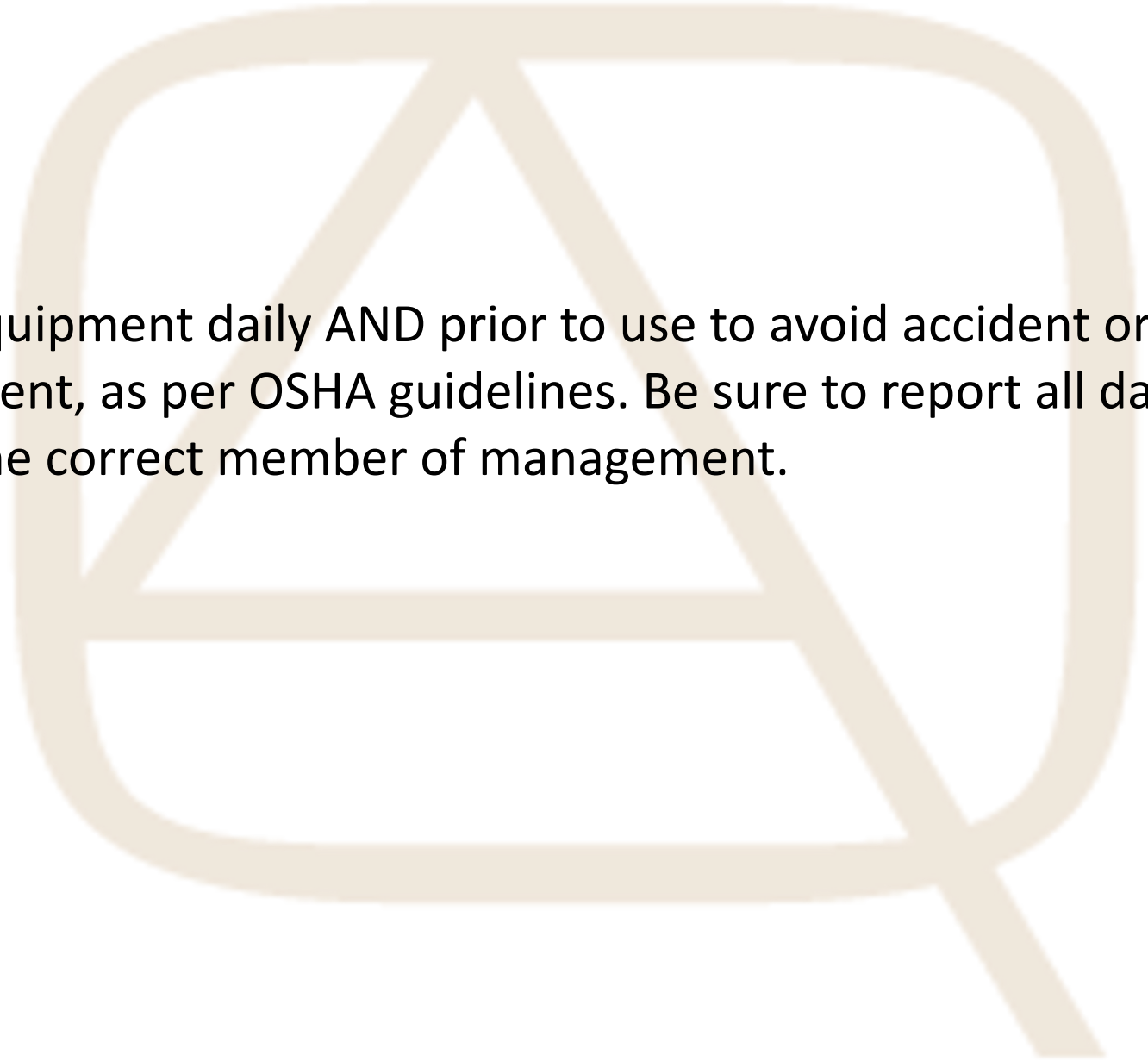


Be sure to use the proper personal protective equipment when lifting and handling slabs. A forklift with a slab boom or lifter (clamp) should be used when moving individual slabs. When moving multiple slabs at once, a crane should be used if possible. Prior to moving slabs, it is important to have an idea of the weight of the bundle to ensure that you do not exceed the equipment's rated capacity.

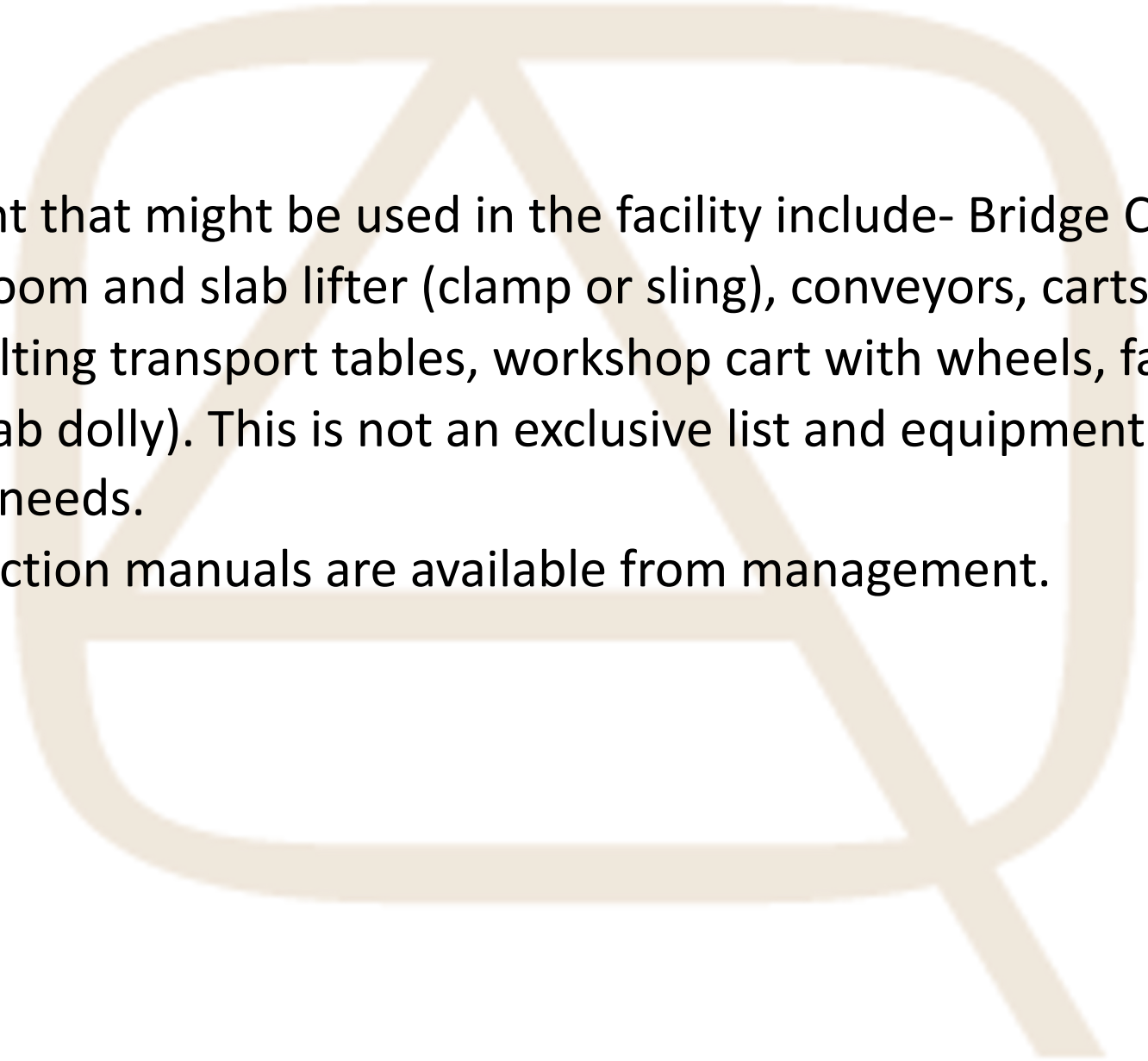


Use extreme care when loading, unloading and handling quartz slabs due to weight ranging from several hundred pounds to several thousand pounds. To avoid serious injury do not attempt to move slabs alone or remove any type of support or banding due to shifting or settling during transport that could cause slabs to fall or collapse; which could trap, crush, cause serious bodily harm or fatality. Always be sure to position yourself out of the “fall shadow” (in front of or behind).





Always inspect equipment daily AND prior to use to avoid accident or injury due to damaged equipment, as per OSHA guidelines. Be sure to report all damages immediately to the correct member of management.



Types of equipment that might be used in the facility include- Bridge Crane, forklift equipped with a boom and slab lifter (clamp or sling), conveyors, carts/tables/dollies (slab cart/buggy, tilting transport tables, workshop cart with wheels, fabrication carts, hand trucks and slab dolly). This is not an exclusive list and equipment may vary depending on site needs.

Training and instruction manuals are available from management.

EMPLOYEE RISK INFORMATION SHEET

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the “Material Handling Guide”.

I acknowledge my accountability to read, understand and abide by all the safety rules, regulations and requirements. Additionally, I understand that failure to abide by these safety requirements may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal without prior warning.

Employee Signature

Date

Employee Printed Name

