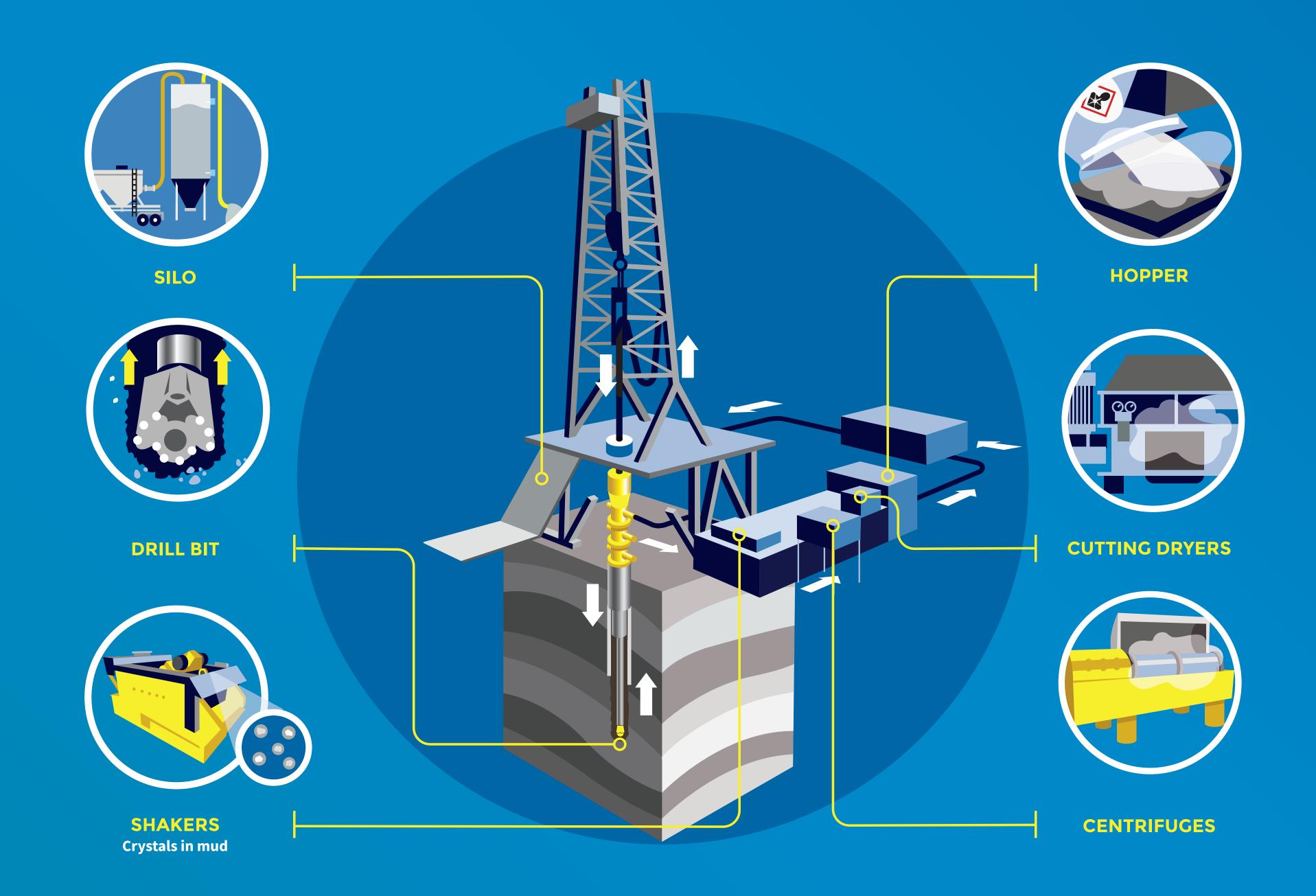
# SILICA DUST: DRILLING IT WILL TAKE YOUR BREATH AWAY!

# SILICA LOCATIONS/TASKS



## **WHAT IS SILICA**



Crystalline (Quartz) Found in rock, sand, cement



**Visible Dust** 



**Crystals in Lungs** 

Silica is a naturally occurring mineral found in sand, rock and dry mixable products. Silica is hazardous when it is inhaled, often as a dust. When silica dust is visible, overexposure is often just a matter of time without safety measures. The health effects are typically not felt right away, but years later.

# **SAFETY MEASURES**



#### **Dust Capture** Stay out of area when loading is underway. Use a respirator if you are breathing the dust.

**Vented Shakers** 

Use a respirator if

collecting samples

or washing screens.



# **Cuttings Dryers**



Wet down solids or use a respirator when scraping out. Confined space and lock-out/ tag-out requirements.



Centrifuges Wet down solids or use a respirator when scraping out. Lock-out/tag-out requirements.



# Pour slowly to reduce dust. Wear a respirator.

### IT'S JUST A MATTER OF TIME

I have worked on rigs for a long time and until the last few years I did not give much thought to what I was breathing other than H2S. Now we understand that a bunch of other hazards may be present and without controls could come back to haunt you later in life. I worry about what might be lurking in my lungs – Rig Manager

