

Confined Space Hazards Overview

Refer to sign-in sheet for attendees (note: a separate meeting should be held with all absent employees).

1. Overview:

Entry into confined spaces poses many hazards and can result in serious injury and death if performed without the proper training, equipment and procedures.

2. Examples of Confined Spaces (not an all inclusive list):

A confined space is a space that is not designed for continuous human occupancy and has a limited means for entrance and exit. Examples of confined spaces include but are not limited to:

- Tanks
- Vessels
- Silos
- Storage bins
- Hoppers
- Vaults
- Pits
- Manholes
- Equipment housings/compartments
- Ductwork
- Pipelines

3. Permit Required Confined Spaces are confined spaces that have one or more of the following characteristics:

- Contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere, e.g., oxygen deficient, oxygen enriched or asphyxiating and toxic gases;
- Contains a material with the potential to engulf someone who enters the space;
- Has an internal configuration that might cause an entrant to be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross section; and/or
- Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazards, e.g., electrical hazards, chemical hazards, heat stress.

4. Employer Confined Space Program Requirements Overview:

- Identify and conspicuously mark all permit required confined spaces.
 - “DANGER -- PERMIT-REQUIRED CONFINED SPACE -- AUTHORIZED ENTRANTS ONLY” or using an equally effective means.
- Maintain a list of all identified confined spaces for employee, contractor and visitor review (update as site conditions change).

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- Develop and maintain a detailed confined space entry program in accordance with OSHA requirements.
- Train all employees on their roles and responsibilities under the confined space program.
- Contractors must follow the site's contractor confined space entry program requirements or have an equally effective program of their own.
- **Note:** *The above is a generalized overview of the confined space requirements. Entry into confined spaces requires a detailed program. Only properly trained and authorized personnel are permitted to enter confined spaces. If you are not trained and authorized do not enter confined spaces.*

5. Employee Responsibilities Overview:

- Know and understand your site's confined space entry program requirements.
- Be able to identify confined spaces.
- Do not enter confined spaces unless trained and authorized by your employer. If trained and authorized use and follow the employer's confined space entry procedures.

6. Discussion:

- Are there any confined spaces on the site?
- What are the confined spaces?
- Who is authorized to enter confined spaces?

7. Reminder:

- Safety is the responsibility of both management and employees!

Next Safety Meeting is scheduled for _____ and the topic will be _____.

Take Exam / Review Results

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