



Section 19: Confined Space Entry

1. Confined Space Entry Procedures

- 1.1 A confined space is an enclosed area that has a limited means of egress and is subject to the accumulation of toxic or flammable contaminants or has an oxygen-deficient atmosphere.
- 1.2 Entry into a confined space is not allowed unless a Confined Space Permit and applicable work permits are being used in accordance with site facility requirements.
- 1.3 Prior to entry, the entry contractor must provide a copy of the company's written confined space program and documentation of effective confined space entry training in accordance with OSHA requirements. This program and documentation will be reviewed before entries can be made. Training documentation that demonstrates training is current for all contractors participating in the confined space entry permit must be provided.
- 1.4 Prior to the entry date, contractors must specify their plan and purpose. The EQ representative will communicate all known hazards to the responsible Entry Supervisor at this time.
- 1.5 Personnel, equipment, and supplies needed for entry must be present at the confined space before beginning work.
- 1.6 The contractor must use their permit, which must include all items required by OSHA. Contractors must abide by the provisions and restrictions of their permit and any additional restrictions required by the site.
- 1.7 If space or work conditions change, the Entry Supervisor must terminate work and issue a new permit.
- 1.8 Violation of these requirements may result in immediate removal from EQ premises.

2. Confined Space Monitoring

- 2.1 The confined space may need to be continuously monitored with monitoring equipment. The contractor is responsible for providing this equipment and being qualified to use it. Prior to use, all monitoring equipment must be calibrated each day according to the manufacturer's guidelines.
- 2.2 Contractors are responsible for the safety and health of their employees and must not allow them to enter a confined space that is unsafe or enter a confined space without a permit.
- 2.3 The contractor must pay the costs of additional inspection, evaluation, or consultation provided by EQ for the benefit of the contractor concerning the safety of the confined space.
- 2.4 Additional monitoring equipment may be needed as determined by EQ. Contractors must ensure that employees, visitors, vendors, consultants, or other persons under their

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direction or assisting them are thoroughly trained and understand these requirements before they are allowed to enter a confined space.

3. Working in Confined Spaces

- 3.1 The following rules apply to work performed in confined spaces:
 - A. Ventilation must be of adequate volume to safely maintain the airflow within the confined space. The contractor must be able to prove calculations of the airflow volume upon request.
 - B. Employees or the person supervising the work must report unsafe conditions immediately.
 - C. Welding, cutting, brazing, and purging operations have specific requirements. Consult with the EQ representative.
 - D. Chemicals used or transported inside the confined space have specific requirements. Consult with the EQ representative.
 - E. Tools such as grinders, drills, and sanders have specific requirements. Consult with the EQ representative.
 - F. Rescue and response plans and resources must be available, trained, and equipped as required by OSHA.
- 3.2 The EQ representative or the Entry Supervisor will stop confined space entry during an emergency and not allow entry except as necessary to respond to the emergency.
- 3.3 Employees and the issuer of the permit will determine sources of power, fluids, gases, ventilation, and other means of disturbing the work area within the confined space. Potential disturbances must be locked, tagged, and secured prior to allowing entry in a manner consistent with the Lockout / Tagout section of this manual.
- 3.4 Employees must be able to identify the location of a purge gas release and where the gas is being vented. Purge gas must not be vented inside a building or in a confined space.
- 3.5 Wear hearing protection if the noise level inside the confined space is greater than 85 decibels.