



CONFINED SPACE ENTRY

Purpose

Confined spaces present unique hazards that can lead to serious injuries or fatalities if not properly managed. Today's reminder is to stay alert to these risks and follow safe entry procedures every time.

What is a Confined Space?

A confined space is an area that:

- Has limited or restricted means of entry or exit
- Is not designed for continuous occupancy
- May contain hazardous atmospheres, engulfment hazards, or other safety risks

Examples include tanks, silos, pits, sewers, pipelines, crawl spaces, and certain equipment in both construction and manufacturing facilities.

Key Hazards

- Oxygen deficiency or oxygen-enriched environments
- Flammable gases or vapors
- Toxic substances such as carbon monoxide or hydrogen sulfide
- Engulfment by liquids, grain, or loose materials
- Restricted movement that complicates rescue

Safe Work Practices

- Always identify and evaluate confined spaces before entry
- Obtain a valid entry permit when required
- Test the atmosphere for oxygen, flammables, and toxics before entry and continuously monitor while inside
- Ventilate the space to control hazards when possible
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Use safe access methods such as ladders or fixed platforms designed for entry
- Emergency rescue tripods and retrieval devices are for **rescue only** and must never be used for routine entry or retrieval
- Maintain communication with the attendant outside the space
- Never enter a confined space alone

Your Role

- Stop and assess if a space is considered a confined space before entering
- Follow the written permit system and entry procedures
- Speak up if you see unsafe practices or conditions
- Protect yourself and your team by staying aware of confined space hazards

Key Reminder

Confined spaces can look harmless, but hidden dangers are always possible. Every safe entry begins with preparation, testing, permits, and teamwork. One shortcut can be the difference between life and death.