

Confined Space Entry

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Potential hazards of confined spaces:

- Toxic fumes
- Oxygen deficiency
- Explosive atmosphere
- Exposure to hazardous energies
- Moving machine parts
- Engulfment/entrapment

Safety precautions:

- Perform a hazard assessment: Identify all hazards and needed controls. Include hazards created by the work itself.
- Get a confined space permit signed by a confined space entry supervisor.
- Monitor air:
- Provide initial and continuous monitoring for toxics, flammables, and oxygen.
- Ventilate and monitor when performing hot work or applying chemicals either in a confined space or an adjacent area.
- Check for adequate, continuous ventilation when hazardous atmospheres are possible.
- Lock-out all energy sources: This includes stored energies.
- Use proper controls and protective equipment: This includes respiratory, skin, eye, and fall protection.
- Set up a retrieval device.

Confirm that training is current for:

- Entry personnel
- Attendants
- Supervisors
- Rescue personnel
- Ensure that rescue personnel are available.
- Ensure that the attendant is:
 - In communication with rescue and entry personnel.
- Know how to prevent heat stress:
 - Take breaks as needed in a cool environment.
 - Drink fluids.