

# 15. CONFINED SPACE

**PLAN AHEAD. FOLLOW PROCEDURES. SAVE LIVES.**



**CORPORATE SAFETY**  
TRAINING & CONSULTING

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## WHY THIS MATTERS

Confined spaces can be deadly. Hazards like lack of oxygen, toxic gases, engulfment or fire can kill in seconds.

**Never enter a confined space unless it is absolutely necessary and you have the proper training, equipment and authorization.**

### WRONG WAY ❌

- No testing
- No ventilation
- No permit
- No attendant
- No rescue plan
- No PPE

**Unprepared entry can lead to serious injury or death.**

### RIGHT WAY ✅

- Test the atmosphere
- Ventilate
- Obtain permit
- Attendant outside
- Rescue plan in place
- Use proper PPE

**Follow procedures. Return home safely.**

## COMMON HAZARDS

- LACK OF OXYGEN**  
Too little oxygen can cause dizziness, unconsciousness or death.
- TOXIC ATMOSPHERE**  
Toxic gases or vapors can cause poisoning or death.
- ENGULFMENT**  
Materials like grain, sand, or liquids can trap and suffocate you.
- FIRE & EXPLOSION**  
Flammable gases or vapors can ignite and explode.
- EXTREME TEMPERATURE**  
Heat stress or cold stress can be deadly.
- EQUIPMENT HAZARDS**  
Moving parts, electrical hazards and mechanical equipment can cause injury.

## 6 KEY RULES FOR CONFINED SPACE ENTRY

- EVALUATE**  
Identify hazards and determine if entry is necessary.
- TEST**  
Test the atmosphere for oxygen, toxic gases, and flammables.
- VENTILATE**  
Ventilate to maintain a safe atmosphere before and during entry.
- PERMIT**  
Obtain a valid confined space entry permit before entry.
- ATTEND**  
Keep an attendant outside the space at all times.
- RESCUE**  
Have a rescue plan and the equipment ready before entry.

## CONFINED SPACE ENTRY PERMIT

The permit documents the safe entry conditions. It must be completed and authorized before entry.

Location / Space ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Purpose of Entry: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time in: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized by: \_\_\_\_\_

Pre-Entry Checklist	Yes	No
Hazards identified	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Atmosphere tested	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ventilation established	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Isolation / Lockout completed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rescue plan in place	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attendant assigned	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PPE required and available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communications confirmed	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Valid for this period only  
 Time out: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Authorized by (signature): \_\_\_\_\_

### DO'S - FOLLOW THESE

- Follow all procedures and your training.
- Obtain and follow the entry permit.
- Test the atmosphere before entry and continuously as required.
- Ventilate the space before and during entry.
- Use the required PPE and equipment.
- Maintain communication with the attendant.
- Have a rescue plan and equipment in place.
- Exit immediately if conditions change.

### DON'TS - AVOID THESE

- Don't enter without a valid permit.
- Don't enter without testing the atmosphere.
- Don't rely on smell or sight to detect hazards.
- Don't enter alone.
- Don't disable or remove safety equipment.
- Don't ignore alarms or warning signs.
- Don't stay in the space longer than necessary.

### REQUIRED PPE & EQUIPMENT

- Gas monitor (calibrated)
- Ventilation blower
- Tripod / Winch
- Full body harness & lifeline
- Hard hat
- Gloves
- Eye protection
- Appropriate respiratory protection
- Two-way communication

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is a confined space?
- What hazards can exist in confined spaces?
- Why is a permit required?
- Who is the attendant and what is their role?
- What should you do if conditions change while you are inside?



## KEY TAKEAWAY

**CONFINED SPACE ENTRY IS HIGH RISK - BUT WITH PROPER PLANNING, TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT, IT CAN BE DONE SAFELY.**

- Plan your work.
- Follow the rules.
- Watch out for each other.
- Go home safe every day.

## REAL-LIFE EXAMPLE

A worker entered a tank without testing the atmosphere. He collapsed due to lack of oxygen. An untrained coworker tried to rescue him and also collapsed.

Both workers could have been saved by following confined space procedures, using a permit, testing the atmosphere, and having a rescue plan.

**Don't be a statistic. Follow the rules.**



## CONFINED SPACE CHECKLIST

- Is it a confined space?
  - Have hazards been identified?
  - Has the atmosphere been tested?
  - Has ventilation been established?
  - Has the equipment been isolated?
  - Is a permit completed and signed?
  - Is an attendant in place?
  - Is a rescue plan in place?
  - Is the required PPE available?
  - Is communication working?
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## EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- In an emergency:
- Alert the attendant.
  - Do not enter to rescue.
  - Call emergency services.
  - Use the rescue plan and equipment.
- PRACTICE RESCUE. BE PREPARED.**

## IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

Report unsafe conditions, missing equipment, or any concerns.

**Speak up. It could save a life.**

**SUPERVISOR SIGN-OFF**

Discussed with crew by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SAFETY MESSAGE**  
 Safety in confined spaces is no accident. Your actions protect you and your team.