

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CONFINED SPACES

A confined space is a place which is substantially enclosed (though not always entirely), and where serious injury can occur from hazardous substances or conditions within the space.

Hazardous Substances and Conditions May Include:

- Lack of Oxygen
- Dangerous Chemical Gases or Vapours
- Flammable Vapours That Can Ignite or Explode
- Dust, Sawdust or Grain That Can Choke or Suffocate
- Physical Hazards - Steam, Heat, Moving Parts or Energy Sources

Working Safely in Confined Spaces



1. Confined Spaces must be secured and marked with suitable DANGER signs.
2. Only specially trained personnel are permitted to enter and monitor Confined Spaces.
3. Air testing should take place before entry into a Confined Space.
4. At least two trained persons are required for Confined Space work - no lone working!
5. At least one person must remain outside the Confined Space to monitor the situation.
6. A suitable and sufficient risk assessment must be carried out, which identifies all potential hazards, and specifies control measures to be taken to mitigate risk.
7. Confined Space working requires a Permit to Work.
8. The Permit to Work should specify: safe entry conditions, isolation procedures and any ventilation requirements.

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