

Good Work Practices
Create a plan – Learn the plan – Work the plan

1. Planning:

Every confined space entry, whether permit or non-permit is unique and must be planned in advance.

2. Control the Work Area:

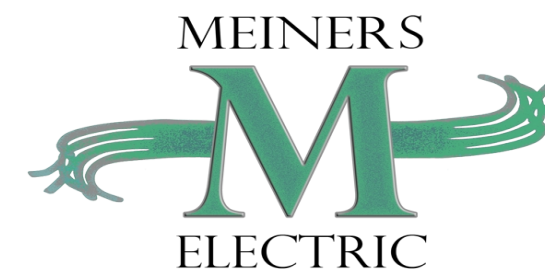
1. Use barricades to restrict access to the entry point and only open access to the confined space when ready to perform work.
2. If work is to occur on or adjacent to an area with vehicle traffic or equipment movement:

Note: Gas operated equipment such as vehicles, generators, etc operating in the proximately may present a carbon monoxide hazard in confined spaces.

1. All crew members should wear reflective clothing of some type.
2. Use a combination of cones, barricades, signalmen and vehicles to protect work area(s) from traffic whenever possible.

3. Prepare for the Entry:

1. Setup the rescue tripod (as applicable for entry) on a stable surface and ensure that it is positioned over the access point. The type of rescue equipment used will depend on the configuration of the confined space.
2. Remove the access cover to the confined space and start the air monitoring process.
Note: It may be necessary to use a forced air blower to maintain proper air quality.
 1. **Testing for flammable gases and vapors.** Before an employee enters an enclosed space, the internal atmosphere shall be tested for flammable gases and vapors with a direct-reading meter or similar instrument capable of collection and immediate analysis of data samples without the need for off-site evaluation. This test shall be performed after the oxygen testing and ventilation required by paragraph (e)(9) of this section demonstrate that there is sufficient oxygen to ensure the accuracy of the test for flammability.
 2. **Ventilation and monitoring.** If flammable gases or vapors are detected or if an oxygen deficiency is found, forced air ventilation shall be used to maintain oxygen at a safe level and to prevent a hazardous concentration of flammable gases and vapors from accumulating. A continuous monitoring program to ensure that no increase in flammable gas or vapor concentration occurs may be followed in lieu of ventilation, if flammable gases or vapors are detected at safe levels.
3. When all hazards have been eliminated and the space is deemed safe, entry can begin. The last person entering the space will be connected to the rescue device at all times unless it creates a greater hazard.



One big family

Confined Space Entry



OSHA defines a confined space as:

- The space is large enough for an employee to enter fully and perform assigned work;
- The space is not designed for continuous occupancy;
- Has a limited means of entry and exit. (*Underground vaults, tanks, storage bins, diked areas, vessels, silos, etc.*);

OSHA defines a "Permit Required Confined Space as:

- The space contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere;
- The space contains a material with the potential to engulf someone who enters the space;
- The space has an internal configuration that might cause an entrant to be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross section; and/or
- Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazard.

NOTE: Reasonable care has been taken in preparing this document and the information provided herein is believed to be accurate. However, this information is not intended to constitute an "authoritative resource"