

Confined space entry



minimum requirements

Scope

This guide sets out our minimum operational requirements and key safety steps for confined space entries.

A “Confined Space Entry” permit will be required when entering a confined space and consideration should be given to other risks such as working at height and the task at hand which may increase risk such as, hot works, use of chemicals etc.

All staff must be suitably trained and qualified in confined space entry and first aid.

Entries must always follow a “three staged” approach to rescue plans self-rescue, assisted rescue and emergency rescue.

Minimum PPE



Additional PPE (based on risk assessment controls)



Prestart checks

- Bump test your gas detector before use
- Carry out a visual inspection of your harness and safety equipment and ensure it is certified



Risk Assessment

- Complete Risk Control Plan
 - Identify non-routine hazards
- Complete confined space permit, including a rescue plan
- Consider upstream/downstream activities and network conditions (isolations and permission)
- Decide on communication method (verbal and visual)
- Assign trained entrant, stand-by person, and rescue responsibilities

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Carrying out entry

- Ensure isolation are in place
- Test the outside of the confined space opening
- Vent the space
- Complete pre-entry atmospheric testing (various depths)
- If safe to enter, practice your rescue plan before starting work
- Check communication method
- Start work
- Maintain communication with the entrant
- Every 30 minutes take readings from the entrant's gas detector and record them on the permit
- Record personnel entry and exit movements



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Adjusting to change

- If conditions change or gas detector alarms, stop work, exit the confined space and reassess the task outside of the confined space
- For more complex entries where you cannot see the entrant
E.g. around corners or a new hazard is introduced into the space such as chemicals or hot works, consider additional controls

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Additional controls

- Continually monitor the risks, review, and adjust the controls as needed for the duration of the works

Supporting documents

- Confined Space Entry permit



- Confined Space Process

