



# Permit required Confined Spaces

Permit required confined spaces are extremely dangerous due to the fact that it can be difficult to rescue someone who has been injured or incapacitated. Permit required confined spaces are similar to a regular confined space, but include additional criteria. These include, hazardous atmospheres, potential to engulf, converging walls, sloping floors, or other hazards.

## Common Hazards of Permit Spaces

- Flammable atmosphere
- Toxic atmosphere
- Oxygen-deficient atmosphere
- Mechanical hazards (equipment must be locked out to prevent accidental start up)
- Physical hazards (temperature, noise, vibrations, radiation, fatigue, etc.)
- Engulfment hazards (liquids or large quantity of grain or similar material)



## Superintendent Responsibilities

- Ensure that all spaces on your site, that could be considered confined spaces by the criteria above, are evaluated, assessed, and properly labeled by a Competent Person.
- Collect and review documents from subcontractors:
- Ensure unauthorized employees and contractors do not enter into confined spaces.
- When confined space entry is to occur, collect all entry permits and documentation from the authorized contractor.
- Issue a notice to stop work, or remove a specific employee, if you find confined space entry procedures are not being followed.

## Subcontractor Responsibilities

Before operations begin, proper communication about the task being performed should be taken. Discussions of known hazards should also be made along with addressing any additional information that may be associated with the permitted space.

- Identify Competent person for the task
- Provide documentation of employee training
- Conduct appropriate monitoring prior to entry
- Inspect rescue equipment before each use

Final Word:

Proper assessment of confined spaces can lead to a better understanding of the possible hazards that are associated with them. Having a better understanding of confined spaces can lead to all necessary procedures and equipment being in place to assist in the event of an emergency .