

The Confined Space Entry Permit

Confined spaces can be very dangerous because of what they may contain, their shape and how difficult it is to get out of them.

Some confined spaces are so dangerous that only specially trained people are allowed to enter them. Facilities with such spaces must create a Permit Space Entry Program for these types of confined spaces.

If a confined space is identified as a permit-required space, a written entry permit is required before a worker can go into the space. This permit will include:

- ✓ the **space** to be entered.
- ✓ the **reason** for entering the space.
- ✓ the **date** of the entry.
- ✓ the **duration** of the entry.
- ✓ **acceptable** entry **conditions**.
- ✓ the **hazards** of the space and ways to **control** or **remove** them.
- ✓ the **names of workers** entering the space, as well as the **attendants** and **entry supervisors**.
- ✓ information about **atmospheric testing** done on the space.
- ✓ appropriate **communication procedures**.
- ✓ information about **rescue** and **emergency services**.
- ✓ information about necessary **equipment** when entering the space.
- ✓ whether **additional permits**, such as for hot work, are needed for the work in the space.

If work must be done in the space, an entry supervisor must fill out and sign the permit before any entry activity can begin. It's also a good idea to have the entrant and attendant sign this permit.

If problems happen during the work in the space, they must be recorded on the permit. Permits must be kept on file for at least one year.

Warning signs must be posted at entrances to all permit-required spaces to let you know a written permit is needed before entry.