



Confined space

1. INTENT

This standard identifies the controls required to manage the risks associated with personnel entering and/or working in a confined space.

2. APPLICATION

- This Standard applies to all Perenti Group projects and Contractors working directly under Perenti supervision.
- A confined space for the purpose of this standard is defined as spaces that are enclosed or partially enclosed, are not intended for continuous occupancy and have the potential during entry, occupancy or exit for one or more of the following:
 - A hazardous atmosphere as a result of:
 - Deficiency or excess of oxygen;
 - Flammable or explosive material, or
 - Dust, fume, mist, vapour, gas or other contaminants that exceed an occupational exposure limit.
 - Engulfment from free-flowing solids or liquids, and
 - Entrapment due to restricted entry or exit.

Entry is defined as whenever a person's whole body, upper body or head is within the confined space.

3. REQUIREMENTS

3.1 PEOPLE

- All persons who are required to issue a confined space permit, enter a confined space, or act as a standby person must be deemed competent and authorised.
- All persons conducting atmospheric testing must be deemed competent in the use of the specific testing equipment used for that testing and must understand the controls and treatment of the contaminants being monitored.
- All persons must comply with any reasonable instructions given relating to confined space entry permits, risk control measures and emergency procedures, and should carry out work in a confined space in accordance with any relevant information and training provided to them.
- Site Emergency Response Team members must be trained in extracting personnel from confined spaces.

3.2 SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES

- The risks associated with all confined spaces considering the inherent hazards of the space itself, the tasks to be performed, oxygen and atmospheric contaminant levels, temperature, humidity, flammable substances, potential engulfment sources and any other foreseeable hazards must be assessed and evaluated.

- Projects must:
 - Identify all confined spaces and maintain this information in Confined Space Register including the location, type, unique identification (ID) number and risk assessment status;
 - Maintain a confined space risk assessment for each confined space identifying the potential contaminants / exposures and the required critical controls;
 - Ensure that each confined space is permanently signposted or labelled to warn of the confined space entry requirements;
 - Ensure that each confined space is secured against unauthorised entry; and
 - Identify the rescue plan for each confined space.
- Entry to a confined space is only permitted when a confined space entry permit has been issued by a competent and authorised person.
- The confined space entry permit must be displayed at the entry to the confined space and must include the following:
 - A documented risk assessment;
 - Atmospheric testing results and ongoing testing requirements for each level or defined area of the confined space;
 - Requirements to clean down / wash down prior to entry;
 - Requirements for natural ventilation or forced ventilation to obtain and maintain a safe working environment;
 - Safety specification of equipment to be taken into the confined space;
 - Standby person role and responsibilities;
 - Entry / exit log of all persons entering / exiting the confined space;
 - Communication process and equipment to be used between the standby person and those in the confined space, and between the standby person and emergency response when raising the alarm;
 - An approved rescue / emergency response plan specific for the confined space;
 - A handover process for oncoming shifts;
 - Verification that equipment is safe to return to service, i.e., personal clear of the confined space, personal lock and tag removed from the isolation points; and
 - A completion sign-off to close the permit when the work is completed.
- A standby person(s) must be appointed and must:
 - Have no other duties assigned;
 - Not enter the confined space;



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- Monitor all persons entering and exiting the confined space;
- Remain positioned immediately outside the confined space at the entry point at all times when people are in the confined space; and,
- Be capable of continuous communication with the persons inside the confined space;
- Hold a current First Aid ticket that includes CPR.
- There must be a procedure developed and implemented for the monitoring of gases and atmospheric contaminants in a confined space, that include as a minimum, requirements for:
 - Defined safe ranges for confined space atmospheres;
 - Type and model specification of monitoring equipment;
 - Procurement requirements for monitoring equipment;
 - Bump testing of monitoring equipment prior to use;
 - The calibration requirements for the monitoring equipment, including method and frequency of calibration, as specified by the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM);
 - Availability of current and valid calibration certification; and,
 - Competency requirements of personnel conducting the gas test.
- Isolation procedures or protocols must be developed and implemented that include as a minimum, requirements for:
 - The identification of all applicable energies;
 - The methods of isolation;
 - All isolation points and the devices to be used for isolations;
 - Sequence of the isolation steps;
 - Roles and responsibilities with isolations to be performed by a competent and authorised person;
 - The verification of zero energy and the safe methods to achieve this;
 - Verification of the isolation by each member of the work team entering the confined space;
 - Each member of the work team to apply their personal lock and tag;
 - Permits, communication and coordination of the isolations, including over multiple shifts;
 - Isolation exclusion zones including barriers and barricading.

3.3 PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

- Each confined space on site must be permanently signposted or labelled to warn of the confined space entry requirements.
- Equipment used for the testing and monitoring of atmospheric conditions within confined spaces must be serviced, maintained and calibrated as per the OEM requirements.