



CONFINED SPACE RESPONSE ACTION GUIDE

This action guide provides a list of considerations for first responders to review when responding to a confined space incident. For more information on NFPA® 350, *Guide for Safe Confined Space Entry and Work*, view the complete document at nfpa.org/350.

ENTRY CONDITIONS

Identify:

- If a confined space permit exists
- Entry supervisor
- Number of entrants within the confined space
- Whether response includes rescue or recovery

COMMUNICATION

How will communication be maintained?

- Verbal (line of sight only)
- Radio
- Hardline (PTT/VOX)

HAZARDS

Are there any atmospheric hazards? How are they being mitigated?

Check if:

- Continuous monitoring is required
- Oxygen content is between 19.5% and 22%
- Flammable gas levels are >10% of lower explosive limit
- Carbon monoxide levels >25 ppm
- Hydrogen sulfide present >5 ppm
- Another atmospheric hazard is present

Are there any inherent, introduced, or adjacent hazards? How are they being mitigated?

Check for:

- Mechanical energy (springs, elevated parts, etc.)
- Electrical energy (electric >50 volts, motors, agitators, etc.)
- Pneumatic and/or hydraulic energy (lifts, agitators, hydraulic, pneumatic etc.)
- Physical engulfment by material
- Chemical/biological/atmospheric
- Fluids/gases (CIP lines, nitrogen, steam, hydraulic, pneumatic, etc.)
- Unauthorized entry of personnel
- Noise >85 dB
- Excessive heat or cold
- Falling objects
- Hot work
- Line break
- Lockout/tagout (LOTO)
- Live electrical work

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Which of the following are required?

- Respiratory protection (SCBA, SAR, etc.)
- Hearing protection
- Hard hat(s)
- Boots
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Goggles
- Disposal coveralls
- Face shield(s)
- Other

RESCUE EQUIPMENT

Which of the following will be used?

- Full body harness with "D" ring
- Tripod/retrieval system
- Fall-arresting equipment
- Lifelines and safety or wrist harness
- Emergency escape retrieval equipment
- Air monitoring equipment



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