

Permit-Required Confined Space Entry

Guy's Construction
123 Main Street, Anytown, CA 90210

29 CFR 1926.1200-1213 (Subpart AA)

Effective Date: June 08, 2026

SAMPLE DOCUMENT - NOT FOR COMPLIANCE USE

JURISDICTION AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- completed before approval can be given to enter a permit-required confined space
- per OSHA 3789 (Confined Spaces in Sewer Systems): pre-entry atmospheric testing (O₂, LEL, H₂S, CO at minimum); continuous monitoring during entry; ventilation before and during entry; entry permit signed by supervisor; attendant at opening at all times; communication system; rescue plan and...

29 CFR 1926 Subpart AA (construction) or 29 CFR 1910.146 (GI) + OSHA Publication 3789

STATE-SPECIFIC: California has additional confined space requirements:

- the individual by name currently serving as entry supervisor with a space for the signature or initials
- terminate entry and cancel the entry permit when operations covered by the permit are completed or a condition not allowed under the permit arises
- the permit space to be entered
- the acceptable entry conditions
- sign the entry permit to authorize entry before entry begins
- assembly/disassembly work zone is adequate and access into the zone is controlled
- 14 specific topics for pesticide handlers including safe mixing/loading, spill cleanup, engineering controls, decontamination, emergency response

40 CFR 170.501

- fresh, pure, suitably cool drinking water provided to all agricultural workers; must be dispensed in single-use cups, not common containers

Cal/OSHA Title 8 Section 3457

- suggestions for correcting those findings, conclusions or terms
- the filing of any objections to the exceptions and any supporting reasons therefor
- hazardous atmosphere
- PRCS entry procedures in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.146
- isolation to control hazards
- rescue and emergency equipment
- PRCS by default
- third physician to conduct examinations, consultations, laboratory tests and discussions with prior physicians as necessary to resolve disagreement
- fiberboard box (4G) or fiber drum (1G) with plastic inner packaging not exceeding 5 kg (11 lbs) and maximum net mass not more than 25 kg (55 lbs)
- a diagrammatic sketch of the mechanical installation along with a detailed explanation of the flow, procedures and frequency of well tests, calibration/proving of metering devices and allocation formulas
- a list of interested parties (those with interests in the leases and/or units from which production is to be commingled for which the applicant has no existing commingling authority)
- the overall status of implementation of the provisions of this Part relating to the identification, inventory, and removal of underwater obstructions
- VOSH adopted federal 29 CFR 1926.1200+ (Confined Spaces in Construction) with Virginia enforcement and compliance assistance

16 VAC 25-175

- at least every two months for each employee covered under paragraphs (j)(1)(i) or (ii) whose last blood

sampling and analysis indicated a blood lead level at or above 40 µg/dl. This frequency shall continue until two consecutive blood samples and...

- at least every 2 months for the first 6 months and every 6 months thereafter (for each employee covered under paragraph (j)(1)(ii))
- adequate handwashing facilities for use by employees exposed to lead in accordance with 29 CFR 1926.51(f)
- hot and cold water feeding a common discharge line
- American Cancer Society address: 3340 Peachtree Road, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30026 with phone (404) 320-3333
- paragraph (c) through participation in a public service program such as a one-call system
- a maximum train speed and value of cant deficiency for revenue service normally within 45 days of receipt of all required information
- provisions for applying more restrictive criteria when conducting ECDA for the first time on a pipeline segment (direct examination)
- a report to FRA detailing all results of the qualification program (including simulation comparison if required)
- testing in accordance with Appendix B satisfies the requirements of (d)(5)
- atmospheric testing conducted in accordance with Appendix B
- atmospheric testing, ventilation, and rescue procedures
- appropriate eye or face protection when exposed to eye or face hazards from flying particles, molten metal, liquid chemicals, acids or caustic liquids, chemical gases or vapors, or potentially injurious light radiation
- 1000 feet during hours of darkness
- the authorized entrants within the permit space by name or other means enabling the attendant to determine quickly and accurately which authorized entrants are inside
- 30 CFR part 254
- failure to act in a timely way would result in derating or shutdown of a nuclear power plant, or in prevention of either resumption of operation or of increase in power output up to the plant's licensed power level
- shore or a designated area for disposal
- at least one attendant outside the permit space for the duration of entry operations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1.0 Purpose
- 2.0 CS vs PRCS
- 3.0 Common Confined Spaces
- 4.0 Why They Kill
- 5.0 Atmospheric Testing
- 6.0 The Entry Permit
- 7.0 Entry Procedures
- 8.0 Attendant Duties
- 9.0 Entrant Duties
- 10.0 Entry Supervisor
- 11.0 Ventilation
- 12.0 Rescue
- 13.0 Multi-Employer Coordination
- 14.0 Reclassification
- 15.0 Training
- 16.0 Recordkeeping
- Appendix A: Entry Permit
- Appendix B: Atmospheric Monitoring Log

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1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

Guy's Construction maintains this PRCS Entry Program for construction. Confined space entry is one of the most hazardous construction activities.

2.0 CONFINED SPACE VS. PERMIT-REQUIRED

	Confined Space	Permit-Required CS
Definition	Large enough to enter, limited entry/exit, not for continuous occupancy	CS that ALSO has: hazardous atmosphere, engulfment potential, entrapment configuration, or other serious hazard
Permit?	No	YES - written permit before entry
Atm testing?	If hazard suspected	YES - before and continuous
Attendant?	No	YES - at entry at all times
Rescue plan?	Not required	YES - before entry

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3.0 COMMON CONFINED SPACES IN CONSTRUCTION

Space	Typical Hazards	Permit?
Manholes	Toxic gas (H2S, methane), O2 deficiency, engulfment, traffic	YES (almost always)
Vaults	O2 deficiency, electrical, toxic atmosphere, flooding	YES
Tanks	Flammable atmosphere, toxic residue, O2 deficiency, engulfment	YES
Large pipelines	O2 deficiency, toxic, flooding, collapse	YES
Excavations >4 ft	If atmospheric hazard exists (near landfills, gas lines)	Evaluate
Crawl spaces	O2 deficiency, biological, limited egress	Evaluate
Silos/hoppers	Engulfment (grain, sand), O2 deficiency, bridging	YES
Boilers/furnaces	LOTO required, O2 deficiency, toxic residue	YES

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4.0 WHY CONFINED SPACES KILL

60% of confined space fatalities are would-be rescuers who entered without testing the atmosphere or wearing respiratory protection. This is the confined space chain-of-death.

- Oxygen deficiency: <19.5% is deficient. <16%: impaired judgment. <12%: unconsciousness in seconds. <6%: death in minutes. CANNOT detect by smell.
- H₂S: deadens smell above 100 ppm. At 300+ ppm: rapid unconsciousness and death.
- CO: odorless and colorless at all concentrations.
- Flammable atmosphere: a single spark triggers explosion in methane/solvent vapor concentrations.
- Engulfment: once buried above the waist in grain/sand, extraction force exceeds human capability.

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5.0 ATMOSPHERIC TESTING

Test BEFORE entry. Order: (1) O2, (2) LEL, (3) toxic gases. Order matters: combustible sensors need O2 to work.

Hazard	Acceptable	Action Level	IDLH	Sensor
O2	19.5-23.5%	<19.5% or >23.5%: do not enter w/o SCBA	<16%	Electrochemical
LEL	0-10%	>10%: do not enter. Ventilate.	100% = explosive	Catalytic bead
H2S	0-10 ppm	>10 ppm: respiratory protection	100 ppm	Electrochemical
CO	0-25 ppm	>25 ppm: ventilate. >35: respiratory	1,200 ppm	Electrochemical

- Use calibrated 4-gas meter. Daily bump test + periodic span calibration.
- Test from outside first: lower sensor on sampling hose. Test top, middle, bottom (gases stratify).
- Continuous monitoring during entry. Any alarm: all entrants exit immediately.

6.0 THE ENTRY PERMIT

The permit (Appendix A) must include: space ID, purpose, date/duration, names (entrants, attendant, supervisor), hazards, controls (LOTO, ventilation, testing), acceptable conditions, atmospheric readings, rescue provisions, communication procedures, equipment, and additional permits.

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7.0 ENTRY PROCEDURES

- 1. Identify the space. CS or PRCS?
- 2. Isolate: LOTO all energy. Close/blank pipes.
- 3. Test atmosphere: O₂, LEL, H₂S, CO. Record readings.
- 4. Ventilate if not within limits. Continuous during entry.
- 5. Retest after ventilation.
- 6. Complete entry permit. All controls documented.
- 7. Entry supervisor signs permit. Posts at entry.
- 8. Attendant takes position. Maintains communication.
- 9. Entrants don PPE, attach retrieval, enter. Continuous monitoring.
- 10. Work performed. Attendant monitors. Alarm = exit immediately.
- 11. Entry complete. All exit. Headcount. Permit cancelled.

8.0 ATTENDANT DUTIES

The attendant does NOT enter the space under any circumstances. Entering makes the attendant another victim.

- Know hazards and exposure symptoms
- Maintain accurate entrant count at all times
- Continuous communication with entrants
- Monitor conditions outside the space
- Order evacuation if: prohibited condition detected, exposure symptoms observed, cannot communicate, emergency outside
- Summon rescue if needed
- Prevent unauthorized entry
- Operate retrieval system (non-entry rescue)
- No other duties that interfere with monitoring

9.0 ENTRANT DUTIES

- Know hazards and symptoms
- Use equipment properly (monitor, PPE, harness, comms)
- Maintain communication with attendant
- Alert attendant of hazards or symptoms
- Exit immediately when ordered or when alarm sounds
- Wear retrieval harness when non-entry rescue feasible

10.0 ENTRY SUPERVISOR DUTIES

- Verify all permit conditions met before authorizing entry
- Verify rescue provisions in place
- Cancel permit when entry complete or conditions change
- Remove unauthorized persons
- May serve as attendant or entrant if can perform both without compromise

11.0 VENTILATION

- Forced mechanical ventilation required in most construction CS entries
- Supply fresh air into the space (positive pressure). Air source must be clean.
- Run continuously during entry. Do not shut off while entrants inside.
- Duct air to the work area, not just the entry point.

12.0 RESCUE

Rescue provisions must be in place BEFORE entry begins.

12.1 Non-Entry Rescue (Preferred)

- Mechanical retrieval system (tripod, davit, winch) extracts entrant without anyone entering
- Preferred when space configuration allows (vertical entry, straight-line path)
- Retrieval line to dorsal D-ring (or chest/wristlet if dorsal creates snag)

12.2 Entry Rescue

- When non-entry not feasible. Trained rescue team required.
- Team: in-house, fire dept (verify CS capability), or third-party service
- Must respond within timeframe appropriate to hazards. IDLH = minutes.
- Practice from representative space at least annually

13.0 MULTI-EMPLOYER COORDINATION

- Controlling contractor: identify all CS on site, inform all employers
- Before entry: coordinate procedures, rescue, hazard info between entry employer and GC
- Coordinate to prevent nearby activities from affecting entrants
- Entry employer reports new hazards discovered to controlling contractor

29 CFR 1926.1208

14.0 RECLASSIFICATION TO NON-PERMIT SPACE

A PRCS may be reclassified as non-permit IF all hazards are ELIMINATED (not controlled) without entry:

- Ventilation = control (stops = hazard returns). Not elimination.
- Example: sewer line physically disconnected and blanked, atmosphere tested safe = elimination.
- Document: space ID, hazards present, how eliminated, atmospheric results, person making determination.

29 CFR 1926.1203(g)

15.0 TRAINING

- All entrants: hazard recognition, atmospheric testing, entry procedures, equipment, emergency
- Attendants: all attendant duties, communication, symptom recognition, retrieval operation, DO NOT ENTER rule
- Entry supervisors: permit verification, hazard assessment, cancel authority
- Rescue team: CS rescue, CPR/First Aid, equipment, practice rescue from representative space
- Before first assignment, when duties change, when new hazard introduced, or performance deficiency observed

16.0 RECORDKEEPING

- Entry permits: retain 1 year minimum (retain cancelled permits)
- Atmospheric monitoring logs: project duration + 3 years
- Training records: duration of employment
- Rescue service evaluations: annual, retain 3 years
- Reclassification documentation: life of the space determination

California STATE-SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

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APPENDIX A: CONFINED SPACE ENTRY PERMIT

Date: _____ Permit #: _____
 Space ID/Location: _____ Purpose of Entry: _____
 Entry Supervisor: _____ Duration: ___ to ___

Authorized Entrants: _____

Authorized Attendant(s): _____

Hazards of This Space

O2 deficiency Toxic atmosphere Flammable atmosphere Engulfment Entrapment Electrical Mechanical Other: _____

Controls in Place

LOTO (all energy sources isolated) Pipes blanked/disconnected Ventilation running Atmospheric testing completed

Atmospheric Readings (before entry)

Time	O2 %	LEL %	H2S ppm	CO ppm	Other	Tester	Acceptable?

Rescue Provisions

Non-entry retrieval (tripod/winch + retrieval line) Entry rescue team on standby: _____

Rescue contact: _____ Phone: _____

Communication

Method: Voice Radio (channel: _____) Signal line Visual

Equipment Required

4-gas meter Ventilation fan Retrieval system SCBA/SAR Lighting PPE: _____

Additional permits: Hot work LOTO Other: _____

Entry authorized: Yes No (reason: _____)

Entry Supervisor: _____ Date: _____

Permit cancelled: Time ___ Date ___ By: _____

