

TOOL BOX TALKS

Confined Spaces Ventilation

All confined spaces have the potential for developing a hazardous atmosphere. As part of the overall confined space hazard evaluation, trained personnel must reasonably expect that a confined space will have atmosphere concerns. When a confined space has the potential for a hazardous atmosphere, the space must be purged or ventilated. Force clean air into the space, which clears the space of toxic and flammable contaminants, and provides adequate oxygen for workers to breathe.

WORKSAFE TIPS

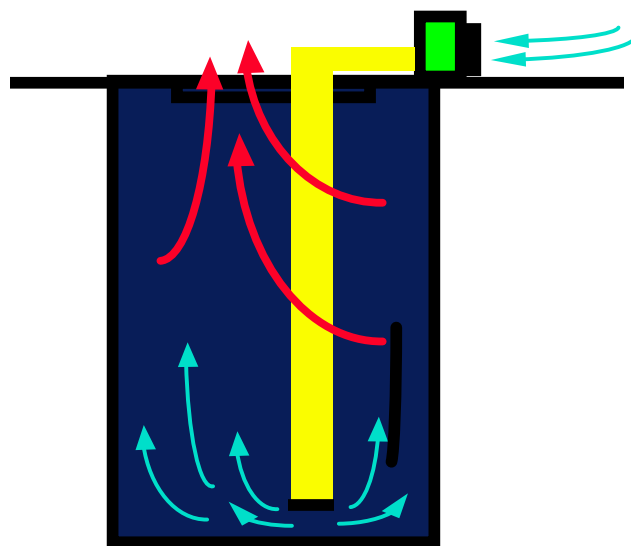
PREVENT CONFINED SPACE FATALITIES VENTILATION OF CONFINED SPACES

- Ventilation forces healthy, clean air with proper oxygen content into the space.
- Ventilation forces toxic or flammable airborne concentrations out of the space.
- Remember that by only forcing air into the entrance point is not sufficient: Outside air needs to be forced all the way to the bottom of the space.
- Remember STRATIFICATION: Some contaminants build at the top of spaces, some in the middle and some build at the bottom.
- Use extension hoses that will reach the bottom of the space.
- Also remember that gas-powered fans can suck carbon monoxide (exhaust gas) into them and force carbon monoxide into the space.
- Use an electric blower if carbon monoxide is a concern.
- Set up one or more blowers to provide adequate ventilation for the space.
- Ventilation must be force clean air into space (not exhausted out of the space).
- Ensure ventilation air supply is from clean source.
- Allow enough time for blowers to clear the space before entering. (Calculate Cubic Feet per Minute)
- Ensure that the blowers remain on during the entire entry procedure. If the blower fails, the Entrant must leave the space immediately
- Test for O₂, flammable gases/vapors and potential toxic air contaminants
- Set up ventilation (supply air taken from clean source)

VENTILATION forces non-hazardous, life-sustaining air into the confined space & pushes out dangerous & toxic contaminants.



BOTTOM'S UP! VENTILATE FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE SPACE UP!





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