

Confined Space Entry Safeguards

When this applies

Any work in an enclosed or partially enclosed space that is:

- Not designed or intended primarily to be occupied by a person and is at normal atmospheric pressure when the person enters.
- Likely to be a health and safety risk due to any of the following:
 - Unsafe oxygen levels.
 - Contaminants that could cause a fire or explosion.
 - Harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants.
 - Engulfment.

Hazards

Working in a confined space is a high risk because:

- Restricted entry and exit limit airflow and make it hard to perform a rescue.
- Harmful contaminants and unsafe oxygen levels affect our ability to breathe normally and may cause long-term health impacts.
- The atmosphere may contain gasses, vapours or dusts that are explosive or flammable.
- Energy sources including liquids may be connected to the space and could enter without warning.
- Equipment and tasks performed inside the space could introduce new hazards.
- It can be hard to communicate with people inside a confined space.



Key Safeguards

Wherever possible, reduce risk by adopting the following safeguards:

- Avoid or minimise the need to enter confined spaces wherever possible.
- Isolate all energy sources and equipment connected to the space.
- Establish and maintain a safe atmosphere.
- Develop a confined space rescue plan before starting work.
- Make sure your entry has been authorised through the Permit to Work system.
- Make sure you have access control and a standby person in place.
- Make sure your team are trained in confined space entry, atmospheric testing or monitoring, using respiratory protection, and emergency response and rescue.

Did you know:

Entry into a confined space is when a person's head or upper body is within the confined space.

Confined Space Entry Safeguards

What you need to do

1. Ensure a **Significant Hazard Management Plan** is in place for the work activity and verify that the controls are implemented.
2. Develop a **Confined Space Risk Assessment & Rescue Plan** and locate all equipment required to enact a rescue.
3. Obtain authority to enter and plan the work with a **Work Permit** and **Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS)**. Note – a SWMS is a legislative requirement for any high risk construction work.
4. Ensure **positive isolation** standards have been met and **continually monitor gas levels**.
5. Assign a **stand-by person** to monitor entry and exit and maintain communication with those inside.
6. Ensure the team has the required **competencies** to take part in all aspects of the confined space entry.

Worker competencies required

Confined Space Entry

- MSMPER205 – Enter confined space, and
 - MSMPER200 – Work in accordance with an issued permit.
- or
- RIIWHS202D – Enter and work in confined spaces.

Gas Detection

- MSMWHS217 – Gas test atmospheres.

Operating Breathing Apparatus

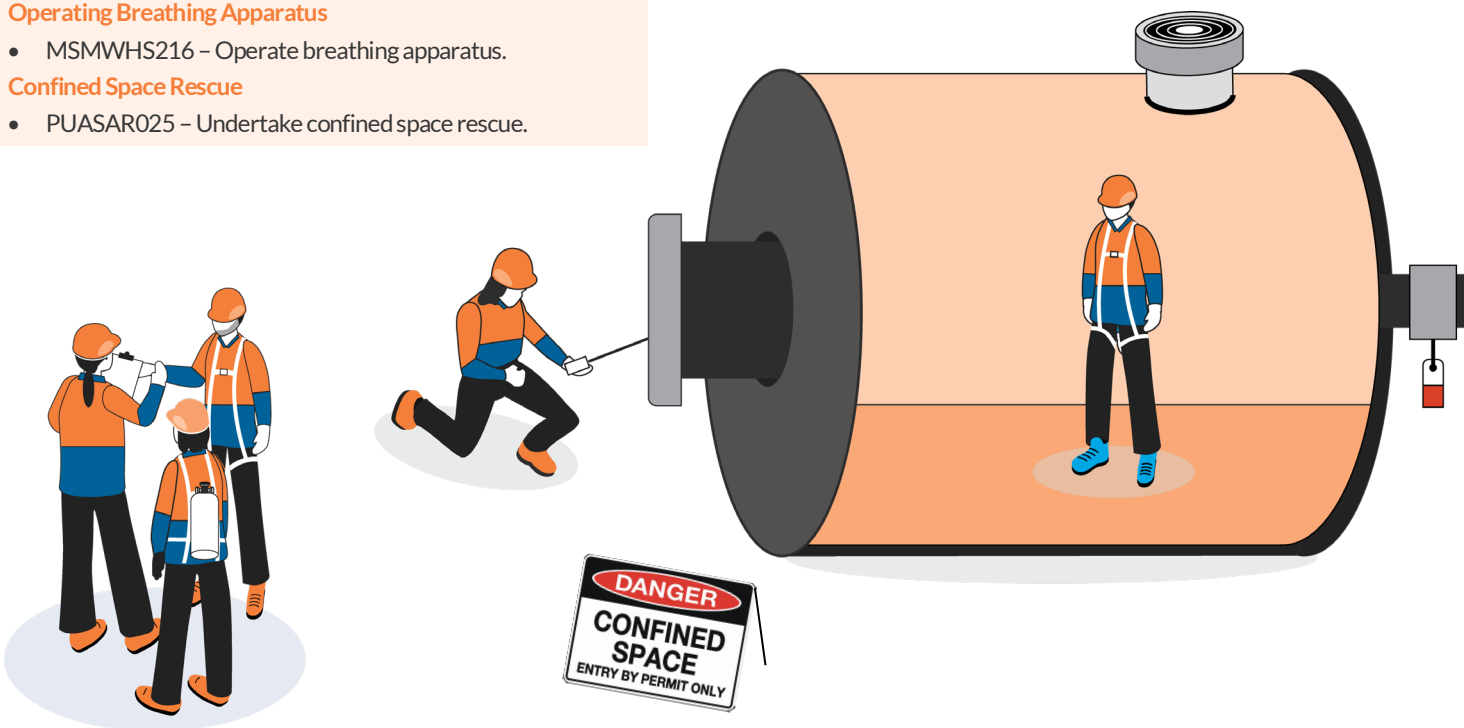
- MSMWHS216 – Operate breathing apparatus.

Confined Space Rescue

- PUASAR025 – Undertake confined space rescue.

Additional resources

- Confined Spaces Code of Practice
- Confined Space Risk Assessment & Rescue Plan Template SENEX-CORP-HS-TEM-017
- Permit to Work Procedure SENEX-CORP-HS-PRC-005
- Isolation Procedure SENEX-CORP-HS-PRC-034



If you have any questions or need any support, speak to your Supervisor.

Confined Space Entry Safeguards

Complete this checklist before starting work.

START HERE
Have you considered other methods that don't require you to work in a confined space?
 Yes

Have you completed a Confined Space Risk Assessment specific to this job?
 Yes

Have you completed a Confined Space Work Permit, and does everyone in the work party understand it?
 Yes

Has the space been positively isolated from all energy sources and connected equipment?
 Yes

Is rescue equipment available at the entry site?
 Yes

Has the atmosphere been tested to confirm it is safe to enter and is there a plan for continuous monitoring?
 Yes

Are there suitable emergency response and confined space rescue plans in place?
 Yes

Is the stand-by person appointed and do they understand their role and responsibilities?
 Yes

Do you have clear signage displaying: "Confined Space - Entry by Permit Only"?
 Yes

Can everyone safely access and exit the area?
 Yes

Do you have a ventilation plan in place, if needed?
 Yes

Scan for more



If you can't achieve all applicable controls in this safeguard, STOP work, review and update the SWMS (and Work Permit where required) with your Supervisor and ensure hazards are controlled.

CHECKLIST
SENEX-CORP-HS-CTL-003

Confined Space Entry Safeguards

Did the task have any challenges or complications?
If yes, how were they managed?

Yes No

Were there any controls on the safeguard which could not be achieved?
If so, why not and how was this managed?

Yes No

Did you improve the safeguards during verification?
If yes, how did you improve it?

Yes No

Do you have any feedback on this safeguard document or the controls?
If yes, please detail below.

Yes No

Name: Role:

Site: