CLOSE
Risk management • Confined space

irsst

Name/Type of confined space: _____ **Internal reference no.:** _____

Company: _____ Date: _____

Completed by: _____ Collaboration: _____

MODULE 1: DESCRIBE THE CONFINED SPACE

The space must meet the definition of article 1 of the Regulation Respecting Occupational Health and Safety (ROHS) to be considered a confined space. Note that even if the space studied does not entirely meet the definition of a confined space, the risk analysis exercise proposed in modules 1 to 3 can still be useful for reflection.

General information on the confined space

Purpose/Use: _____

Shape: _____ Interior volume: _____ Dimensions: _____

Location (address, building): _____

Configuration of confined space (*Fill in, no matter what type of work is to be done)*

1. Is the confined space stationary or mobile? ○ Stationary ○ Mobile
2. Is the confined space partially enclosed (e.g., basin, pit, ditch) or completely enclosed?

   ○ Partially enclosed ○ Completely enclosed
   - Walls are made of: ○ Concrete ○ Steel ○ Stainless steel ○ Other:
   - Thickness of walls: _____

3. How many entrances are there to the confined space? What are the dimensions of each entrance?

○ 1 ○ 2 ○ 3

(Complete according to the number of entries in the confined space)

Entrance no. 1: ○ Round ○ Rectangular ○ Square ○ Oval

Is its diameter or smallest side less than 610 mm (24 in.)? ○ Yes ○ No

Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal?

○ Vertical

- Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal? _____
- Means of access: ○ Fixed ladder ○ Ladder rungs ○ Other, specify: _____
- Condition of means of access: ○ Good ○ Poor ○ Very poor

○ Horizontal

Entrance no. 2: ○ Round ○ Rectangular ○ Square ○ Oval

Is its diameter or smallest side less than 610 mm (24 in.)? ○ Yes ○ No

Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal?

○ Vertical

- Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal? _____
- Means of access: ○ Fixed ladder ○ Ladder rungs ○ Other, specify: _____
- Condition of means of access: ○ Good ○ Poor ○ Very poor

○ Horizontal

Entrance no. 3: ○ Round ○ Rectangular ○ Square ○ Oval

Is its diameter or smallest side less than 610 mm (24 in.)? ○ Yes ○ No

Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal?

○ Vertical

- Is access to the confined space vertical or horizontal? _____
- Means of access: ○ Fixed ladder ○ Ladder rungs ○ Other, specify: _____
- Condition of means of access: ○ Good ○ Poor ○ Very poor

○ Horizontal

4. Does the design of the confined space entail one or more of the following hazardous situations? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Inadequate natural or mechanical ventilation
- ☐ Restricted interior volume, limiting possible movements in the space (e.g., low ceiling, narrow section)
- ☐ Moving around is difficult because of obstacles (on ground or at height), converging walls, curved floor, compartments, different levels or a noticeable slope
- ☐ Structural weaknesses such as cracks, collapse, corrosion, deformation
- ☐ Presence of sharp, pointed structural features
- ☐ Insufficient light
- ☐ Extreme temperature/humidity (see Schedule V of the ROHS)
- ☐ High noise level (without work)
- ☐ None of the above

5. Does the content or general use of the confined space entail one or more of the following risk factors? (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Simple asphyxiant (e.g., methane, carbon dioxide) or chemical (e.g., carbon monoxide). Specify: _____
- ☐ Flammable or explosive material, or combustible dust. Specify: _____
- ☐ Toxic substance. Specify: _____
- ☐ Irritant (e.g., gas causing irritation). Specify: _____
- ☐ Corrosive (e.g., acid, alkaline). Specify: _____
- ☐ Carcinogen (e.g., radioactive substance). Specify: _____
- ☐ Decomposition products, sediments, residues, slow oxidation, biological pathogens, allergens. Specify: _____
- ☐ Animals or insects. Specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

6. Is the confined space connected to pipes, drains or a tank (e.g., risk of uncontrolled introduction or return of products, risk of drowning, equipment upstream/downstream)?

Yes No If yes, specify the possible risk factors: (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Simple asphyxiant (e.g., methane, carbon dioxide) or chemical (e.g., carbon monoxide). Specify: _____
- ☐ Flammable or explosive material, or combustible dust. Specify: _____
- ☐ Toxic substance. Specify: _____
- ☐ Irritant (e.g., gas causing irritation). Specify: _____
- ☐ Corrosive (e.g., acid, alkaline). Specify: _____
- ☐ Carcinogen (e.g., radioactive substance). Specify: _____
- ☐ Decomposition products, sediments, residues, biological pathogens, allergens or possibility of slow oxidation. Specify: _____
- ☐ Drowning. Specify: _____
- ☐ None of the above

7. Is any equipment (e.g., pump) permanently installed?

Yes No If yes, specify: _____

8. Does the confined space contain any free-flowing materials (e.g., grain, sand, flour) that expose workers to a risk of being engulfed?

Yes No If yes, specify: _____

Environment of the confined space

9. Is the access to the confined space... (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Isolated (e.g., far from another structure, hard to reach by vehicle)?
- ☐ Difficult (e.g., at height, at end of narrow stairwell, on unstable ground)?
- ☐ In another confined space or in a hazardous restricted access room?
- ☐ None of the above

10. Is the work area around the entrance... (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Exposed to road traffic or to a roadway within a facility?
- ☐ In another work area (e.g., workstation with operating stationary machinery)?
- ☐ Poorly set up (e.g., very little room, slope, ragweed, mud)?
- ☐ None of the above

11. Are there other risk factors nearby that could affect the conditions in the confined space (e.g., work nearby, gas migration through walls, introduction of exhaust gases)?

○ Yes ○ No If yes, specify the type of effect possible (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Change in atmospheric conditions
- ☐ Introduction of chemicals
- ☐ Weakened structural strength
- ☐ Change in surface temperatures
- ☐ None of the above