Many workplaces contain areas that are considered “confined spaces” because while they are not necessarily designed for people, they are large enough for workers to enter and perform certain jobs. A confined space also has limited or restricted means for entry and is not designed for continuous occupancy. Confined spaces include, but are not limited to, tanks, vessels, storage bins, vaults, pits, manholes, tunnels, equipment housings, etc.

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1. Flammable gas, vapors, or mists in excess of ten percent of the lower flammable limit (LFL).

Any condition in a permit space that is not allowed by the permit during the period when entry is authorized.

The process by which the hazards that may confront entrants are identified and evaluated. This term includes the specification of tests that are to be performed in the permit space.

Safety and Risk Management has the primary responsibility for the implementation and enforcement of the CSEP and is responsible for the following:

Develop the University's written Confined Space Entry Program and update when necessary.
Provide guidance in the selection of air monitoring equipment, maintenance, field calibration, and training of its use.
Assist in the evaluation and identification of confined spaces.
Perform air monitoring or testing of confined space wor

Require the contractor to eliminate any temporary hazards created by the work, or notify the supervisor

Contractors are responsible for the following:

Obtain and use the available information provided.

The entry supervisor shall notify any employees near or affected by entry.

If employees shall enter the space with contractor employees, the entry supervisor shall ensure that entry operations are coordinated with the contractor or designee to assure that

- All entrants of both employees can be accounted for during the entry.
- The work of one employer does not endanger the employeTc 0 Tw 1.511 07.3 ( )10 ete u ac ath emploor

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Confined Space Reclassification

If a permit space poses no actual or potential atmospheric hazards and if all hazards within the space are eliminated without entry into the space, the permit space may be reclassified as non-permit confined space as long as the non-atmospheric conditions remain eliminated.

If it is necessary to enter the permit space to eliminate hazards, such entry shall be performed according to confined space entry procedures. If testing and inspection during that entry demonstrate that the hazards within the permit space have been eliminated, the permit space may be reclassified as a non-permit confined space as long as the hazards remain eliminated.

A certification is documented showing the hazards were eliminated. See Appendix B. If the hazards arise within a permit space that has been declassified to a non-permit space, each employee must exit the space and the space is reevaluated to determine if it must be reclassified as a permit space.

Note

The Safety and Risk Management Office and department supervisors shall perform a workplace risk assessment to identify confined spaces, the hazards in or around the spaces, and the potential for hazards to develop in or around the spaces. The assessment shall identify all known permit required confined spaces (PRCS's), along with all energy sources, moving equipment, and pipe inlets which must be controlled before entering the space.

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2. Use a Multi-Gas Monitor that has been calibrated within the past month and bump tested on the day of use. A copy of the manufacturer's operating instructions shall accompany the equipment.

3. In a clean atmosphere, perform equipment check-out procedure or operational check as stated in the operating instructions.

4. If possible, draw an air sample through a hole leading to the space before opening the entry port. Otherwise, open the entry port and start sampling every 4 feet in the direction of travel and from side to side. It is recommended that the sampling time be twice (2 x) the response time of the equipment.

5. Test atmosphere parameters in the following order: 1. Oxygen 2. Flammability 3. Toxic Compare sampling results to the following acceptable entry conditions:

   oxygen level is below 19.5%
   oxygen level above 23.5%

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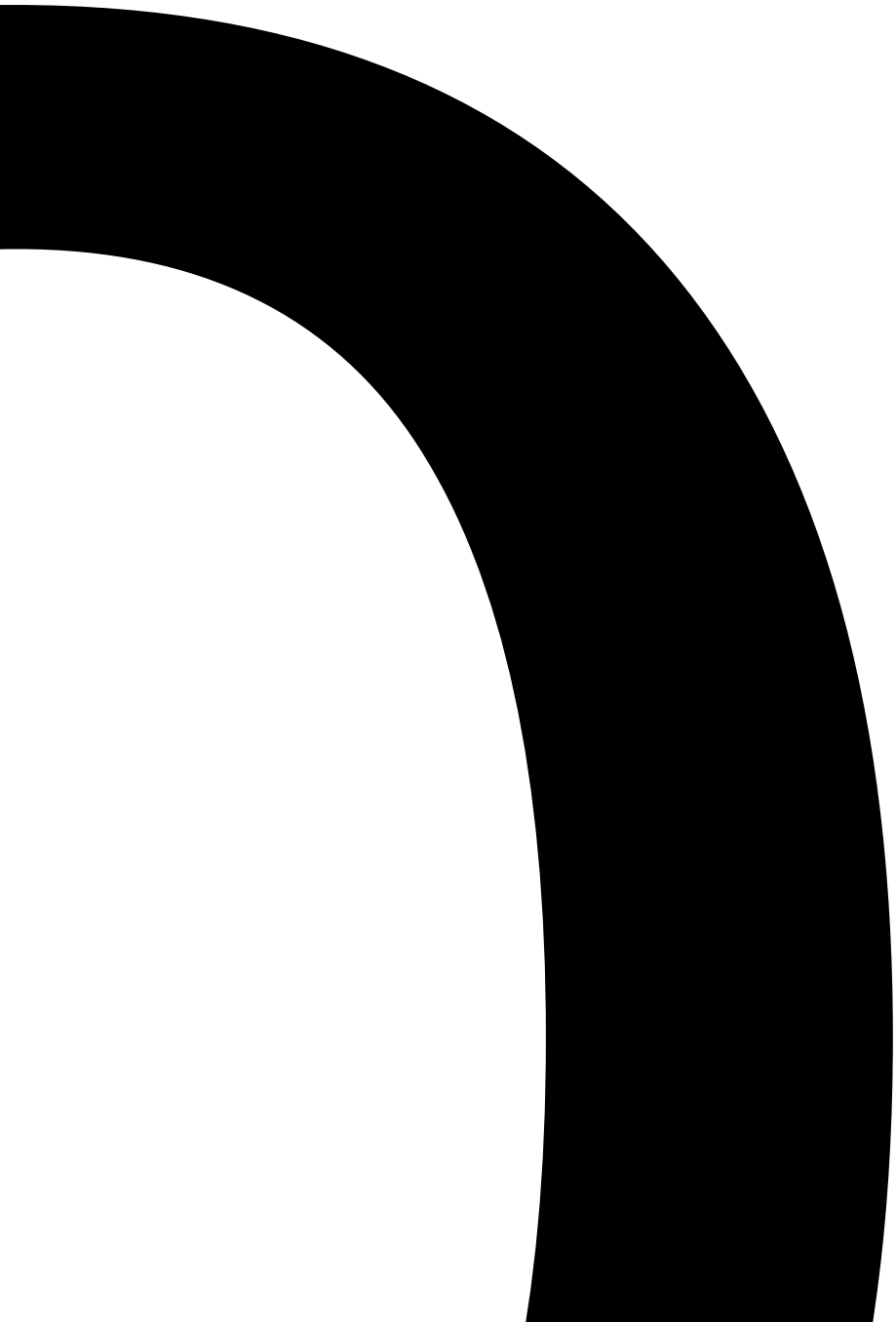

Personal air monitoring equipment

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6. Perform initial atmospheric testing.
7. Ventilate the space for a minimum of 5 minutes.
8. Resample atmospheric conditions. Confirm that acceptable entry conditions are present. If conditions are not acceptable, entry is not allowed.
9. Continually ventilate the space by pushing air so that a positive pressure changes the atmosphere over several times every hour.
10. The atmosphere within the space shall be periodically tested as necessary to ensure that the continuous forced air ventilation is preventing the accumulation of a hazardous atmosphere.
11. Prior to entry into a confined space, an entry permit form shall be completed.
12. Identity required equipment and PPE for entry.
13. Assemble all equipment that is required for entry.
14. Erect barriers around opening, if necessary.
15. Provide Traffic control, if necessary.
16. Enter space and check for hazards that may not have been detected.
17. Under the following conditions, entrants must exit the confined space, re-evaluate hazards and modify entry procedures:
    A hazardous atmosphere is detected after entry.
    If any health or safety hazards develops which was not anticipated.
    The attendant cannot effectively perform their duties.
    The entrants are experiencing symptoms from heat stress or over exposure to atmospheric conditions.
18. When work is completed, return the space to original condition.

Rescue and Emergency Services

Under no circumstances shall unauthorized personnel enter a confined space to attempt a rescue. At the present time there are no university employees authorized to perform a confined space rescue.

The Cullowhee Voluntary Fire Department will be dispatched to provide assistance on confined space rescue. Jackson County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is responsible for providing emergency medical treatment.

In case of an emergency, contact WCU Emergency Services by one of the following methods:

Campus: 828-227-8911
Campus: 911
Radio: call Facilities Management base station and declare an emergency and assistance is needed

To facilitate non-entry rescue, retrieval systems or methods shall be used whenever an authorized entrant enters a permit space, unless the retrieval equipment would increase the overall risk of entry or would not contribute to the rescue of the entrant.

Each entrant shall use a body harness with a retrieval line attached. The other end of the retrieval line shall be attached to a mechanical device for any vertical permit-required space more than 5 feet deep.

Attachment B: Reclassifying Confined Space Form
