PERMIT-REQUIRED CONFINED SPACE DECISION FLOW CHART

Does the workplace contain Confined Spaces as defined by §1910.146(b)?

Yes

Consult other applicable OSHA standards

STOP

No

Does the workplace contain Permit-required Confined Spaces as defined by §1910.146(b)?

Yes

Inform employees as required by §1910.146(o)(2).

No

Prevent employee entry as required by §1910.146(o)(3). Do task from outside of space.

Will permit spaces be entered?

Yes

Task will be done by contractors’ employees. Inform contractor as required by §1910.146(c)(8)(i), (ii) and (iii). Contractor obtains information required by §1910.146(a)(10)(i), (ii) and (iii) from host.

No

Both contractors and host employees will enter the space?

Yes

Coordinate entry operations as required by §1910.146(c)(8)(iv) and (d)(11). Prevent unauthorized entry.

No

Prevent unauthorized entry. Stop

Will contractors enter?

Yes

No

Will host employees enter to perform entry tasks?

Yes

No

Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

Does space have known or potential hazards?

Yes

No

Not a permit-required confined space. §1910.148 does not apply. Consult other OSHA standards.

Can the hazards be eliminated?

Yes

Employer may choose to reclassify space to non-permit required confined space using §1910.148(c)(7).

No

Can the space be maintained in a condition safe to enter by continuous forced air ventilation only?

Yes

Space may be entered under §1910.148(c)(5).

Stop 1

No

Prepare for entry via permit procedures.

Verify acceptable entry conditions (Test results recorded, space isolated if needed, rescuer/means to summon available, entrants properly equipped, etc.).

Yes

Permit issued by authorizing signature. Acceptable entry conditions maintained throughout entry.

No

Emergency exists (prohibited condition). Entrants evacuated entry aborts. (Call rescuers if needed.) Permit is void. Re-evaluate program to correct/prevent prohibited condition. Occurrence of emergency (usually) is proof of deficient program. No re-entry until program (and permit) is amended. (May require new program.)

Entry tasks completed. Permit returned and canceled.

Audit permit program and permit based on evaluation of entry by entrants, attendants, testers and preparers, etc.

Yes

No

Continue

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Audit permit program and permit based on evaluation of entry by entrants, attendants, testers and preparers, etc.

Yes

No

Continue

1 Spaces may have to be evacuated and re-evaluated if hazards arise during entry.

If you have questions about this process, contact the Safety & Health Manager via e-mail or by phone 503-947-6062.