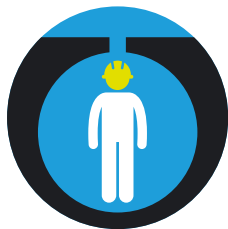


Hazards of working in confined spaces



A confined space, such as a vessel, tank, pipe, cellar, or excavation, can contain explosive gas, toxic or asphyxiating atmosphere or other dangers such as energy releases, lack of oxygen, exposure to hazardous chemicals, things that can fall on you or crush you, or that you can fall from.

Organisations should determine if any work, including those involving excavations or trenches, creates confined space conditions and ensure necessary work authorisation and controls.

Confined Space

Obtain authorisation before entering a confined space



- I confirm energy sources are isolated
- I confirm the atmosphere has been tested and is monitored
- I check and use my breathing apparatus when required
- I confirm there is an attendant standing by
- I confirm a rescue plan is in place
- I obtain authorisation to enter

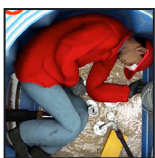
Source: IOGP, Report 459 IOGP Life-Saving Rules

Here are some incidents that have happened to people working in confined spaces:



Person found unconscious in confined space

During commissioning activities, a commissioning engineer was found unconscious inside a gas valve unit (GVU). He received CPR and regained consciousness before being transported to the hospital.



Incident during confined space entry

This video presents the incorrect and correct methods of removing rainwater from a manhole in a service station. The worker descended in the manhole despite the hazardous atmosphere warning...



Agitator started moving during mud tank cleaning, injuring a worker

An agitator in a mud tank started moving unexpectedly while a worker was in the tank. The worker was hit by the agitator paddle and fell to the tank floor.



Confined spaces

During tank cleaning, a technician jumped inside a kerosene tank to scoop out remaining product. His colleagues jumped in to rescue him. One technician died, the other was rescued by the supervisor.



Attendant loses consciousness in a product tank manhole chamber

Serious accidents including fatality of service station staff have occurred during intervention in the chambers of tank manholes. The accidents generally occurred while staff were conducting water draining operations...

