

Toolbox Talk Details	
Title	D13 - Confined spaces
Reason	A confined space can be a hazardous environment. Workers can become trapped or overcome by fumes, vapours, or explosive or poisonous gases; this can lead to people dying.
Outline	This talk covers hazards, before entry, work in confined spaces and emergency procedures.
Hazards	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oxygen-depleted or enriched environments and suffocating, toxic or flammable atmospheres.</li> <li>Actual or potentially hostile environments (inside plant).</li> <li>Biological hazards, such as leptospirosis (Weil's disease) from rats' urine.</li> </ol>	
Before entering	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your employer should avoid the need for workers to enter confined spaces where possible. An example is the use of remote-controlled equipment to carry out inspection work.</li> <li>Make sure a risk assessment has been carried out by a competent person. You should be briefed on the contents of the risk assessment and the control measures to be followed and used.</li> <li>Your employer should use a permit system for most types of confined space work.</li> <li>Check for flammable or toxic gases and oxygen content. The risk assessment should identify all potential hazards (such as the different types of gas which may be present).</li> <li>If breathing apparatus is required, do not enter until you have been face-fit tested and trained to use it.</li> <li>Obey permits to work and check communications and monitoring equipment.</li> </ol>	
Working in confined spaces	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work will be controlled by a permit to work, which will include arrangements for rescue. No rescue plan – no entry!</li> <li>Wear the protective equipment and clothing provided and continuously monitor the air quality.</li> <li>Only use intrinsically safe electrical equipment where flammable gases may be present.</li> </ol>	
Working in confined spaces	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first duty of any rescuer is to ensure their own safety.</li> <li>Do not attempt a rescue unless you are part of a trained rescue team.</li> <li>Leave a confined space immediately if told to do so.</li> <li>Remember to always follow the rescue plan.</li> <li>Make sure the recovery winch and apparatus are working.</li> </ol>	

6. Locate the position of the nearest telephone and understand the emergency procedure.

Revision Date	Assessed By	Signature
January 2021	Michael Reddan	