



Confined Space Entry

What this Safety Talk Covers:

The “Dos” and “Don’ts” for safely entering and working in confined spaces at the worksite.

Discussion Notes:

Discuss the outcomes of the “Dos” and “Don’ts.”

- Do**
 - ✓ Test the atmosphere before entry and continuously while inside. Many confined spaces like separators, tanks, and pits, can contain hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), methane, or other flammable/toxic gases.
 - ✓ Follow the permit system and verify it is current and specific to the space you’re entering. Conditions can change quickly, so be sure the permit is tailored to the exact space and task before you begin.
 - ✓ Use explosion-proof lighting and non-sparking tools. Always assume a flammable atmosphere is possible unless proven otherwise.
 - ✓ Maintain constant communication with the attendant. Reliable communication with a spotter or attendant outside the space is your lifeline in an emergency.
 - ✓ Include a properly fitted rescue harness in your PPE.
- Don’t**
 - ✗ Enter a confined space without proper gas detection equipment—even for a “quick check.” Many serious incidents involving confined spaces have happened during what was supposed to be a two-minute inspection.
 - ✗ Assume that because a space was safe yesterday, it’s safe today. Conditions can change quickly in the oilfield due to process changes, leaks, or incomplete draining of tanks and vessels.
 - ✗ Bypass the attendant or act without informing your team. The oilfield and other worksites can have workers spread across large areas. It’s important to know who’s in the space and when.
 - ✗ Ignore signs of H₂S exposure or dizziness. Symptoms can be subtle at first. If you feel lightheaded or have a headache, exit immediately and report it.
 - ✗ Bring any ignition sources into the space. Even electronics like cell phones or regular flashlights can create sparks. Use only intrinsically safe or explosion-proof gear.
 - ✗ Attempt a rescue without proper training and equipment. Many fatalities occur when untrained workers try to rescue someone. Always wait for the trained rescue team unless you are equipped and authorized.



TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION SAFETY TALKS

an initiative of the **TXOGA** Workers' Compensation Safety Group

Employee Quiz Confined Space Entry

Employee Name: _____

Circle the correct answer below.

1. Which of the following gases is commonly found in oilfield confined spaces and poses a deadly risk?
 - a. Oxygen
 - b. Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S)
 - c. Carbon Dioxide
 - d. Nitrogen
2. What is the purpose of using a permit for confined space entry?
 - a. To ensure the space has been evaluated and all safety steps are in place
 - b. To satisfy insurance requirements
 - c. To save time during entry
 - d. To document who is working in the office
3. Before entering a confined space, you must:
 - a. Knock loudly and wait
 - b. Spray water to remove fumes
 - c. Call your supervisor
 - d. Test the atmosphere and complete lockout/tagout procedures
4. Which of the following is NOT recommended inside a confined space in the oilfield?
 - a. Explosion-proof lighting
 - b. Non-sparking tools
 - c. Cell phones and standard flashlights
 - d. A properly fitted rescue harness
5. H₂S exposure can cause symptoms like dizziness or headaches and should never be ignored.
 - a. True
 - b. False

Training record: Date: _____ Jobsite/Facility: _____
Trainer: _____ Title: _____

TXOGA Safety Talks are provided for the benefit of Texas Oil & Gas Association members participating in the TXOGA Workers' Comp. Safety Group with Texas Mutual Insurance Company.