


HAZARD / WORK ACTIVITY ASSESSED	Working in Confined Spaces
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Hazard (something with the potential to cause harm)	Risk rating prior to control			Who may be harmed					Control Measures	Risk rating after control		
	Severity	Probability	Risk	Operator	Employee	Visitor	Public	Sub-cont		Severity	Probability	Risk
Poisoning from toxic gases	4	2	8	x	x				Detection equipment must be present prior to and for the duration of the works. Only personnel trained in confined space entry to undertake works. Where possible adequate ventilation should be arranged. Use of documented entry system must be undertaken.	4	1	4
Lack of oxygen - asphyxiation	5	2	10	x	x				Oxygen levels to be monitored with an alarmed system and portable breathing apparatus escape kit to be provided.	2	1	2
Explosion	5	2	10	x	x				Continual monitoring of atmosphere to be undertaken to highlight any build up of hazardous gases. Ventilation to be arranged to remove potential build up. No smoking signs should be posted 6m away from manhole/access point.	5	1	5
Fire	4	2	8	x	x				As above.	4	1	4
Excessive heat	2	2	4	x					Assessment of exposure to excessive heat must be made by the operative. If levels are unsuitable to work in then steps need to be taken to reduce the temp artificially or length of cooling time will need to be identified. If there is any doubt do not enter the space and call your supervisor.	2	1	2
Flooding - drowning	5	2	10	x					Flood potential to be assessed and isolation systems checked and emergency procedures developed prior to works commencing.	5	1	5
Sewage – contact with	2	3	6	x					All necessary PPE must be worn including disposable overalls. Operatives to have had all relevant jabs.	2	1	2

SAFETY METHOD STATEMENT

1. Eliminate need for entry or use of hazardous materials by selection of alternative methods of work.
2. Assess ventilation available and local exhaust ventilation requirements, potential presence of hazardous gases / atmosphere, process by-products, hygiene/ welfare facilities.
3. Only trained personnel to carry out works. Minimum of 2 persons on site.
4. Inform rescue services of activities and where necessary inform rescue services of activity, request advice or inspection.
5. Documented entry system to apply, permit to work to be completed prior to entry.
6. Adequate ventilation to be present or arranged.
7. Detection equipment must be present before entry to check on levels of oxygen and presence of toxic or explosive substances.
8. The area will be tested before entry and continually during the presence of persons in the confined space.
9. Emergency breathing apparatus and rescue harnesses to be provided.
10. A communication system with those in the confined space to be established.
11. Precautions for safe use of any plant or heavier-than-air gases in the confined space must be established before entry.
12. Necessary PPE and hygiene facilities to be provided for those entering sewers.
13. The management role is to decide on the nature of the confined space and to put a safe system into operation, including checking the above and verifying Company Procedures.
14. Flood potential and isolations must be checked.
15. Emergency procedures must be fully developed prior to entry.

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Severity	Probability	Risk Rating		
1 No Injury, property damage	1 Very Unlikely	Severity X Probability = 1 to 5	Low	Y – acceptable risk, work can start
2 Minor Injury	2 Unlikely	Severity X Probability = 6 to 14	Med	Y or N – may need further consideration
3 +3 Day Absence	3 Likely			
4 Major Injury	4 Very Likely	Severity X Probability = 15 to 25	High	N – Unacceptable risk Do not start work
5 Death	5 Virtually Certain			