

# Confined Space



**If you are working in a confined space and you feel dizzy, light headed or the gas detector has gone into alarm, leave the space IMMEDIATELY!**

## What is a Confined Space?

A 'confined space' means an enclosed or partially enclosed space that:

- is not designed or intended primarily to be occupied by a person; and
- is, or is designed or intended to be, at normal atmospheric pressure whilst any person is in the space; and
- is or is likely to be a risk to health and safety from an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level; or
- contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion; or
- harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants; or
- engulfment.

## How do I work in a confined space safely?

- **NEVER** enter a confined space unless you are trained, have been deemed competent, and are authorised to do so;
- Ask your Supervisor for an "Entry Permit", before entering a confined space;
- Conduct a Risk Assessment before entering the confined space;
- Test the atmosphere every time before you enter;
- Always monitor the atmosphere while working in the space;
- Always ensure adequate ventilation while working in the space;
- Make sure that the electrical services are isolated. Whoever enters the confined space must check to ensure that it is isolated;
- Always wear a safety harness and life line while working in the confined space;
- Make sure another suitable qualified person is present in close proximity to the entrance of the confined space acting as an observer and standby rescue person;
- Sign the Entry Permit;
- **NEVER** smoke in a confined space;
- If you are required to wear a breathing apparatus, **NEVER** remove it in the confined space;
- Always wear the Personal Protective Equipment provided;
- If an alarm is activated, get out immediately;
- Re-test the atmosphere before entering;
- On completion of work, always restore the confined space to normal; and
- Maintain all confined space equipment and record it in a logbook.

