Confined Space Entry – No Permit Required for Municipalities Stats and Facts

FACTS

Confined spaces pose unique hazards and require specialized safety protocols to protect workers.

1. Confined spaces are defined as areas that are large enough for workers to enter and perform tasks but have limited means of entry or exit and are not designed for continuous occupancy.
2. Examples of confined spaces include storage tanks, tunnels, crawl spaces, and sewers.
3. Hazards in confined spaces can include lack of oxygen, toxic gases, flammable substances, excessive heat or cold, and physical hazards such as machinery or electrical equipment.
4. Before entering a confined space, workers should complete a hazard assessment and develop a written permit that outlines safety procedures, including the use of personal protective equipment and communication protocols.
5. Workers should always have a buddy or team member outside the confined space who is trained in rescue procedures and can provide assistance if an emergency arises.
6. Proper ventilation and atmospheric testing are essential for ensuring safe conditions in confined spaces.
7. Workers should never enter a confined space without proper training and equipment and should always follow established safety protocols to prevent accidents and injuries.

STATS

Findings of the NIOSH investigations of confined space incidents:

- 85% of the time a SUPERVISOR was present.
- 29% of the dead were SUPERVISORS.
- 31% had WRITTEN Confined Space Entry PROCEDURES.
- 0% used the WRITTEN PROCEDURES.
- 15% had Confined Space TRAINING.
- 0% had a RESCUE PLAN.
- 60% of “WOULD-BE” RESCUERS died.
- 95% were AUTHORIZED by supervision.
- 0% of the spaces were TESTED prior to entry.
- 0% were VENTILATED.