

# WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

## FP&M Safety Talk - **CONFINED SPACE AWARENESS**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Trainer: \_\_\_\_\_

Certain areas within WSU have been designated as confined spaces, meaning that only authorized and trained personnel are qualified to enter those spaces. This safety talk is not intended to serve as training to enter confined spaces; it is provided as awareness information for people who work around confined spaces. Designating an area as a confined space can be a confusing matter because multiple confined space classifications exist, and many confined spaces can change from one type to another type depending on hazards being introduced or hazards being controlled or eliminated. In general, a confined space is an area that is large enough to enter, but the means of exiting the space is limited.

Non-Permit Confined Space - If no recognized hazards (for example, atmospheric, mechanical, engulfment, or other hazards) exist in the space and no hazards will be introduced into the confined space while someone is in it, it is classified as a *non-permit* confined space. As the name implies, non-permit confined spaces can be entered without a permit, but if a hazard is introduced into the space (for example, by welding, cutting, or solvent use), the space becomes a *Permit Required* Confined Space. Permit Required Confined Spaces are confined spaces where any recognized hazard is present or will be introduced while the space is occupied.

Reclassification from Permit Required Confined Space to non permit confined space - If the recognized hazards can be eliminated prior to entry (for example, locking out a mechanical hazard), the space can be reclassified to a non permit confined space, provided that the reclassification procedure is properly documented (contact OEHS for assistance).

Alternate Entry Procedures - If an atmospheric hazard is the only hazard potentially present, and OEHS determines that the atmospheric hazard can be controlled using forced-air ventilation, the space can be entered without a permit using alternate entry procedures, provided that adequate ventilation is used and the alternate entry procedure is properly documented.

Permit Required Confined Space Entry - If all of hazards can't be eliminated without entering the confined space, a confined space entry permit is required. Entrants, attendants, entry supervisor, and rescue personnel are required to participate and each must be properly trained and qualified. Currently, WSU employees do not enter Permit Required Confined Spaces. All permit entries are performed by qualified contractors.

I have received this information:

Print Name	WSU ID	Initials



Facilities Planning & Management  
Facilities Operations

