

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
Definitions		
1. Confined Space:		
a. Large enough and so configured so that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work; and		
b. Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit; and		
c. Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.		
2. Hazardous Atmosphere:		
(1) Exposes employees to the risk of death, incapacitation, impairment of ability to self rescue, injury or acute illness from flammable gas >10 LFL; airborne dust >LFL; atmospheric oxygen <19.5 or >23.5; concentrations >PEL; or any other condition dangerous to life or health.		
3. Permit-Required Confined Space:		
a. Contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere.		
b. Contains a material that has the potential for engulfing an entrant.		
c. Has inwardly converging walls such that an occupant could be asphyxiated.		
d. Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazard.		
General Requirements		
1. Has the employer evaluated the workplace to determine if any spaces are permit-required confined spaces?		
2. Has the employer notified all potentially exposed employees by posting danger signs, or similar?		
a. Are all permit-required confined spaces posted?		
b. Is a sign used that reads "Danger - Permit-Required Confined Space, Do Not Enter" (recommended)?		
3. If workers are not to enter confined spaces, has the employer effectively prevented entry?		
a. Are all spaces posted?		
b. As necessary reevaluated hazards?		
c. Complied with requirements for contractor worker entry (see below)?		
4. If the employer has no entry permit system, can he/she demonstrate:		
a. that the only hazard posed by the permit space is an actual or potential hazardous atmosphere?		
b. that continuous forced air ventilation is sufficient to maintain the confined space safe for entry?		
c. that the employer has data to support the two above points?		
d. that the initial entry is accomplished under a permit system?		
e. that all supporting documentation is available to workers?		
5. If <u>all</u> above conditions are met, are entries conducted under the following conditions?		
a. Is the removal of an entrance cover made entirely safe prior to removal?		
b. Is the opening immediately guarded to prevent falling into the space and to prevent tools falling on workers inside?		

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
c. Is testing performed with a calibrated direct reading instrument?		
(1) on oxygen content first?		
(2) flammable gases next?		
(3) potential toxic air contaminants?		
d. Is continuous forced air used prior to entry?		
e. Is entry prohibited until the atmosphere is safe?		
f. Is the air supply from a clean source?		
g. Is the atmosphere in the space periodically tested?		
h. If a hazardous condition is detected, are the employees directed to leave the space immediately?		
i. Are conditions made safe prior to reentry?		
j. Has the employer certified that all the alternate entry requirements are met for each space covered?		
(1) Is the certification in writing, signed, and dated?		
(2) Is the certification made before entry and available to each worker?		
6. If changes are made in the hazard status of a confined space, are the spaces reclassified?		

Contract Employees

1. Have all contractors whose employees enter confined spaces been informed of the locations of confined spaces?		
2. Has the contractor been informed of the need to comply with the confined space entry program of the employer?		
3. Has the contractor been apprised of the hazardous conditions existing in confined spaces contractor workers may enter or be near?		
4. Has the contractor been apprised of all cautions and procedures to protect workers in or near confined spaces?		
5. Have the employer and contractor coordinated entry operations?		
6. Has the employer debriefed the contractor on the confined space entry program and any hazards or difficulties encountered?		

Permit-Required Confined Space Entry Program

1. Is there a written permit space program?		
2. Does it contain the following elements?		
a. Measures to prevent unauthorized entries?		
b. The identification and evaluation of hazards of permit spaces before entry?		
c. Procedures to safely enter permit spaces, including:		
(1) Acceptable entry conditions?		
(2) Isolation procedures?		
(3) Purging/inerting/flushing procedures?		
(4) Required barriers or guards?		
(5) Initial and periodic verification of safe conditions?		

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
3. Are the following provided by the employer (at no cost to the employees):		
a. Testing and monitoring equipment?		
b. Ventilating equipment?		
c. Communications equipment?		
d. Necessary PPE?		
e. Lighting equipment?		
f. Barriers/shields?		
g. Ladders or ropes for safe entry?		
h. Rescue equipment?		
4. Does the employer adequately evaluate permit space conditions:		
a. Prior to entry?		
b. Throughout entry?		
c. First for oxygen, then flammable vapor, then toxic gases?		
5. Is at least one attendant provided for the duration of the entry?		
6. Does the employer have an adequate contingency plan for attendants covering more than one confined space?		
7. Has the employer designated the roles of each employee involved in confined space entry?		
a. Has each person's roles and responsibilities been established?		
b. Has each person received required training?		
8. Have procedures for summoning assistance, emergency rescue, providing necessary emergency services and preventing unauthorized rescue?		
9. Is a system established for the management of entry permits?		
10. Are procedures established for coordinating entry operations between the employer and contractor?		
11. Have procedures been established for completing and concluding entries?		
12. Does the employer review procedures after entry if there is a reason to believe that procedures are inadequate?		
a. Are deficiencies corrected?		
13. Is the permit program reviewed at least annually using canceled permits?		
a. Are identified deficiencies corrected?		

Permit System

1. Are written permits used?		
2. Does the permit certify that all safe entry requirements are met?		
3. Does the entry supervisor sign the permit prior to entry to authorize entry?		
4. Is the entry permit available to all authorized entrants by being posted near the point of entry?		
5. Is the duration of the permit limited to the time needed to do the job?		
6. Does the entry supervisor terminate entry when:		
a. all requirements are completed? or		
b. unsafe conditions arise?		
7. Are all canceled entry permits retained for at least one year?		
8. Are problems encountered routinely noted on the permit?		

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
Entry Permit		
1. Do all permits identify:		
a. the space to be entered?		
b. the purpose of the entry?		
c. the date and authorized duration of the entry permit?		
d. the names of the authorized entrants actually in the permit space?		
e. the names of all attendants?		
f. the name of the entry supervisor who authorized entry?		
g. the hazards of the entry space?		
h. hazard control measures?		
i. acceptable entry conditions?		
j. testing results - initial and periodic?		
k. the means to identify person(s) of testers (initials O.K.)?		
l. rescue and emergency services and equipment available?		
m. the methods of communication necessary to maintain contact during entry?		
n. a listing of all equipment necessary for safe entry and worker protection?		
o. any additional information or permits necessary to ensure employee safety?		
p. any associated work permits?		
Training		
1. Does the employer provide training on confined space entry?		
2. Is training provided:		
a. to workers prior to first assignment to duties involving confined space entry?		
b. to workers before there is a change in duties?		
c. whenever a hazard is to be encountered about which an employee has not been trained?		
d. whenever the employer perceives serious deviations in procedures or a lack of understanding on the part of any employee?		
3. Does the training establish proficiency in performing confined space entry?		
4. Has the employer certified that training has been conducted?		
5. Does the certification contain:		
a. Each employees name?		
b. The signatures or initials of the trainers?		
c. The dates of training?		
Duties of Authorized Entrants		
1. Has the employer ensured that all authorized entrants:		
a. Know the hazards faced during entry?		
b. Can recognize the symptoms of exposure, alert the attendant and exit whenever symptoms are recognized?		
c. Can use all required equipment properly and safely?		
d. Communicate adequately with the at all times attendant during entry?		
e. Can recognize prohibited conditions, alert the attendant, and exit as quickly as possible?		
f. Can exit the space quickly whenever directed by the attendant?		
g. Can exit when an evacuation alarm is sounded?		

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
--	------	---------------

Duties of Attendants

1. Has the employer ensured that each attendant:		
a. Knows and understands the hazards that may be faced during entry?		
b. Knows the signs and symptoms of exposure to hazardous atmospheres?		
c. Is instructed in the requirement and means to account for all employees in the space?		
d. Knows of the duty to remain outside of the confined space until relieved by another attendant?		
e. Knows that he/she must communicate with all entrants periodically to monitor entrant status and to apprise entrants of the need to leave the space?		
f. Knows that he/she must initiate an evacuation if a prohibited condition is detected?		
g. Knows that he/she must initiate an evacuation if unable to perform attendant's duties?		
h. Knows that he/she must initiate an evacuation if the signs of exposure to hazardous atmospheres are detected in any entrant?		
i. Knows that he/she must initiate an evacuation if outside conditions develop that may endanger entrants?		
2. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows how to summon rescue and other emergency services in the event of an emergency?		
3. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows of the duty to warn unauthorized persons to keep away from the confined space?		
4. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows of the duty to instruct unauthorized persons to exit confined spaces immediately?		
5. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows of the duty to warn unauthorized persons to keep away from the confined space?		
6. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows of the duty to notify entrants and the Entry Supervisor if unauthorized persons enter the space?		
7. Does the employer ensure that the attendant knows of the duty not to allow any activity that interferes with the ability to monitor and protect the entrants?		

Duties of Entry Supervisors

1. Does the employer ensure that each entry supervisor:		
a. Knows the hazards and symptoms of exposure associated with the entry?		
b. Knows of the responsibility to verify that all required monitoring has been completed and all required equipment and procedures are in place prior to permitting any entries?		
c. Knows that all requirements must be met prior to signing an entry permit?		
d. Knows the reasons for terminating an entry and canceling a permit?		
e. Knows to verify the availability of all rescue services?		
f. Verifies that the means to summon assistance are operable?		
g. Removes all unauthorized personnel who attempt to enter a confined space?		
h. Is responsible for the proper transfer of authority during shift changes, etc., so that the level of safety is maintained?		

OSHA Compliance Checklist

Permit-Required Confined Space (1910.146)

	O.K.	Action Needed
Rescue and Emergency Services		
1. Does the employer provide their own emergency services (info only)?		
2. If self-provided, does the employer ensure:		
a. The emergency service is properly trained and equipped?		
b. That the emergency service receives Authorized Entrants training?		
c. That emergency service members actually practice permit space entries each year?		
d. Each emergency service member is properly trained on CPR?		