



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PUADEF0H013B Enter confined space

Revision Number: 1

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Modification History

Not applicable.

Unit Descriptor

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers the competency required to plan and prepare to enter ***confined spaces***, to enter the confined space and to finalise egress at the conclusion of the task/s.

An individual undertakes this competency as part of a team in conjunction with other individuals who also have this competency.

It is expected that one or more of the team members, or a team member not working in the confined space, will hold a current, recognised, first aid certificate.

Application of the Unit

Application of the Unit

The application of this unit in the workplace - the environments, complexities and situations involved - will be written during Phase II of the Review of the PUA00 Public Safety Training Package.

This text will be useful for the purposes of job descriptions, recruitment advice or job analysis; where possible, it will not be too job specific to allow other industries to import it into other Training Packages, where feasible.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite Unit/s Nil

Employability Skills Information

Employability Skills This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements describe the essential outcomes of a Unit of Competency.

Performance Criteria describe the required performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. Where bold italicised text is used, further information is detailed in the Required Skills and Knowledge and/or the Range Statement. Assessment of performance is to be consistent with the Evidence Guide.

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

1. Prepare for confined space entry

- 1.1 Requirement for confined space entry is identified from work requests/instructions and is confirmed
- 1.2 **Duration of and limitations** on the **tasks** to be performed in the confined space are identified in accordance with organisational procedures
- 1.3 **Organisational policy and procedures** are reviewed to identify restrictions or requirements that apply to confined space entry
- 1.4 **Equipment and resources** required for the confined space entry are identified, acquired and prepared in accordance with organisational procedures
- 1.5 **Occupational health and safety (OH&S) requirements** including those contained in organisational procedures, are applied throughout the operation
- 1.6 Confined space is **prepared** for entry in accordance with organisational procedures
- 1.7 Team and individual roles and responsibilities within the team are confirmed and delegated in accordance with organisational procedures
- 1.8 **Pre-entry tests and checks** are conducted in accordance with organisational and manufacturers' requirements

2. Enter confined spaces

- 2.1 Entry/egress points are identified in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.2 Environmental conditions are monitored in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.3 **Communications** are maintained in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.4 Equipment and resources are operated and used in accordance with manufacturers' requirements and organisational procedures
- 2.5 Entry permit conditions are adhered to in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.6 All unexpected situations that require a quick and decisive response are recognised and responded to in accordance with organisational procedures
- 2.7 Task/s for which confined space entry was required are conducted in accordance with

3. Finalise confined space entry

organisational procedures

3.1 Confined space is exited in accordance with organisational procedures

3.2 Equipment is cleaned and refurbished in accordance with organisational procedures

3.3 **Documentation and reports** are completed in accordance with organisational procedures

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Required Skills

- access, read, interpret and apply information on confined spaces
- assess risks and apply effective risk control measures
- communicate effectively
- identify and report hazards
- identify stored energy sources
- operate any equipment pertinent to the confined space entry and task to be performed
- work in a confined space

Required Knowledge

- applicable organisational procedures and documents
- appropriate signage and protective barriers
- legislation, organisational policies and procedures relevant to confined spaces
- risk assessment procedures
- safety equipment operations
- work methods analysis

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE

Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit

Assessment must confirm the ability to observe and respond to changing circumstances and unusual situations in the workplace; to review relevant workplace documentation; to conduct a quality assurance check against previous recommendations; and to identify changes in workplace configurations.

Consistency in performance

Competency should be demonstrated over a range of confined space entries that could be expected in the workplace.

Context of and specific resources for assessment**Context of assessment**

Competency should be assessed in the workplace or in a simulated workplace environment.

Specific resources for assessment

Access to the organisational legislation, codes of practice, guidance material, policies/procedures and relevant equipment required to support a confined space entry.

Guidance information for assessment

Information that will assist or guide assessment will be written during Phase II of the Review of the PUA00 Public Safety Training Package.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT

The Range Statement relates to the Unit of Competency as a whole. It allows for different work environments and situations that may affect performance. ***Bold italicised*** wording in the Performance Criteria is detailed below.

Confined spaces may include

Any compartment or area with limited opening for access and no escape route, and with limited natural ventilation or an atmosphere containing more than 23.5% or less than 19.5% oxygen, and the capability of accumulating a toxic, flammable or explosive atmosphere, or of being flooded

Examples of confined spaces may include:

- fuel tanks (diesoline, gasoline, kerosene, AVCAT) or any other liquid or gaseous fuel
- water tanks (feed, fresh, ballast), void spaces, cofferdams, double bottoms/wing compartments, sewage
- treatment tanks (CHT system)
- oil tanks (sludge oil, lubricating, hydraulic), cable lockers (anchor cable stowage)
- open-topped spaces such as pits or degreasers, pipes, sewers, shafts, ducts and similar structures
- boiler drums, steam turbine casing, main condensers, gas turbine rotor casing, piston engine enclosed
- crankcase, main circulating water inlet and discharge pipes, pressure vessels

Duration of and limitations on tasks may include

Climbing equipment or ladders

Lifelines

Limitations associated with either the task or the environment that require limited time to reduce the exposure risk, or are imposed because of equipment limitations (e.g. breathing apparatus limitations)

obstructions that limit access to or from areas within the confined space

Requirements for special breathing apparatus

Restrictions on activities that may be undertaken without specific action such as exhausting volatile gases before welding

Working at heights

RANGE STATEMENT

	Slippery surfaces
	Special clothing
	Time limit on exposure necessitating rotation of personnel through confined space in order to complete the task that initiated the entry requirement
Tasks may include	Any activity that is to be performed inside the confined space
Organisational policy and procedures may include	Any established contingency plan or any plan formed specifically to counter ill effects of any likely occurrence
	Australian or international standards
	Confined space entry permit/permits to work
	Equipment manufacturers' specifications
	Exposure standards
	Job Safety Analysis (JSA)
	Legislation, including state/territory/commonwealth OH&S acts, regulations, codes of practice and guidance material relating to hazards present in the workplace and industry, and associated with entry to confined space including legislation specific to confined space work
	Lockout and isolation procedures
	Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
	Organisational policies and procedures
	Risk assessments
	Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs)
	Task analysis
Equipment and resources may include	Detection/monitoring equipment such as used to detect gases, radiation
	Equipment which is intrinsically safe
	Personal protective equipment (PPE) such as safety helmets, eye protection, hearing protection, skin protection, belts, special boots
	Ropes, lifelines, ladders, karabiners
	Safety equipment such as breathing apparatus
Preparation of equipment	Confined space work permit completed and issued

RANGE STATEMENT**and resources may include**

Forced ventilation set-up

Recharging air bottles

Occupational health and safety requirements pertain to all relevant OH&S legislation and include

General duty of care under OH&S legislation and common law

Provisions relating to health and safety representatives and/or OH&S committees

Provisions relating to OH&S issue resolution

State/territory/commonwealth OH&S Acts, regulations, codes of practice and guidance material relating to hazards present in the workplace and the industry

Preparing a confined space for entry may include

Cooling

Emptying

Heating

Installing appropriate signage and protective barriers

Isolation

Lockout

Ventilating

Pre-entry tests or checks may include

Testing confined space atmosphere

Testing equipment for safe operation (confidence testing) prescribed by manufacturer

Testing equipment for serviceability

Monitoring environmental conditions may include

Maintaining testing regime while in confined space, be it continuous or periodic, in accordance with entry plan and work permit

Monitoring in response to risk assessment

Monitoring in response to work being undertaken in the space

Maintaining communications may include

Continuous or periodic verbal and/or visual and/or electronic communication in accordance with work permit/entry plan

Emergency response procedures

Cleaning and refurbishing equipment may include

Decontamination procedures

Disposal of PPE

RANGE STATEMENT**Documentation and reports
may include**

Drying harnesses, ropes and safety lines
Inspecting, servicing and cleaning equipment ready for
re-use or storage
Recharging of batteries, air bottles, gas bottles
Equipment usage reports/logs
Reports to OH&S officer
Reports to tasking officer
Work permit completion after exit
Written reports required by organisation

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Corequisite Unit/s

Co-requisite Unit/s Nil