

CONFINED SPACE RESCUE

CONFINED SPACE DEFINED:

- Large enough and so configured that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work, **AND**
- Limited means for entry or exit, **AND**
- Not designed for continuous employee occupancy
- **A Confined Space Permit is required in any Confined Space when:**
 - Contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere
 - Contains a material that has the potential for engulfing an entrant
 - Has an internal configuration such that an entrant could be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor which slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross-section
 - Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazard

SIZE-UP

- Unit designator / on scene / crew strength
- Incident location
- Type & size of space (**ALL Confined Spaces have IDLH atmospheres until proven otherwise**)
- Number of victims
- Victim profile: who (name, age, gender), what were they doing, where was victim's last known location, where in the space, when were they last seen, were there any rescue actions taken prior to F.D. arrival
- Haz-Mat threat (collect SDS and / or permits if available)
- Request Confined Space Response and any additional resources based on incident type

INITIAL ACTIONS

- Determine if incident is a rescue or body recovery
- **Get all personnel (including firefighters) out of confined spaces**
- Determine entry portals
- Define operational area
- Establish zones of site control (**hot, warm, cold**)
- Obtain SDS & permits from job site supervisor
- Obtain Maps / blueprints
- Assist in crowd control (co-workers)
- Ensure all equipment is **LOCKED-OUT / TAGGED OUT**
- **Develop Site Safety Plan (ICS Form 208)**

CONFINED SPACE RESCUE (con't)

OSHA ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- Monitor atmosphere in confined spaces (toxic, explosive, oxygen deficient)
- Ventilate if necessary
- Establish entrant retrieval system
- Entry and back-up / RIC Teams must be USAR Technicians
- Proper PPE (including communications)
- Incident Commander
- Safety Officer
- Site Safety Plan / Entry Permit
- Ensure positions are filled with qualified Confined Space Rescue Technicians

LOCK-OUT / TAG-OUT / SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- Shut down non-essential equipment
- Park / bleed off hydraulic equipment if it poses a threat to rescuers
- Secure any equipment that may move through gravity or momentum
- Ensure electrical equipment is de-energized. Lock it and tag it, or post a guard