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Sample General Safe Work Practice for Confined Spaces

Potential Health and Safety Hazards

- Chemical hazards; gases, vapours, dust, solvents, fumes and mists.
- Physical hazards; noise, temperature, air quality and illumination.
- Biological hazards; fungus, molds and parasites.
- Ergonomic hazards; awkward postures.
- Machine hazards; moving machinery parts and hot parts.
- Energy hazards; electricity, heat, gravity and kinetic.
- Confined space hazards; restricted entry/exit and hazardous atmosphere.
- Work practice hazards; following established safe work practices and procedures.

Safe Work Practices

- ✓ Only workers who have completed a confined space entry program are permitted to work in a confined space.
- ✓ Refer to the Confined Space Entry Procedure for additional information.
- ✓ A confined space should be considered hazardous unless determined otherwise by a comprehensive hazard assessment.
- ✓ Workers who have to work in confined spaces must be advised of the existence of and dangers posed by confined spaces.
- ✓ Workers are not permitted to enter or remain in a confined space that contains or is likely to contain an explosive or flammable gas or vapour unless measures are put in place to control these hazards.
- × Do not enter a confined space without reviewing the safe work procedure for confined space entry.
- × Do not enter a confined space without applicable training as detailed in the confined space safe work procedure.
- × Do not enter a confined space if a new hazard is present that was not identified by the initial hazard assessment.
- × Do not create an obstruction by storing materials near or adjacent to a confined space access/egress.

Please note: This document is for information purposes only as a guide. The safe job procedures (SJP) and safe work practices (SWP) created for your workplace should reflect your organizations processes, equipment and hazards as identified by a hazard analysis. Construction Safety Nova Scotia does not assume responsibility for the use of information in this document. If assistance is needed to complete a SWP and SJP for your organization please contact CSNS member services at constructionsafetyns.ca or 1.800.971.3888.