



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

Confined space: Isolation of hazards



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Control the confined space environment	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for awareness of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The environment - Any processes that may affect the confined space - Any ingress of substances that could be hazardous to people in the confined space - How to gather information about substances present
Isolation from gases, liquids, and other flowing materials	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Methods for controlling ingress of substances into the confined space • Methods for removing or diverting liquids from the confined space • The limitations of and precautions to apply when using these methods



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Isolation from electrical or mechanical equipment

- Understand:
- Methods for controlling:
 - Electrical equipment
 - Mechanical equipment
 - Power sources
 - The impact of stored energy that may activate equipment
 - Why it may be beneficial to not isolate power sources
 - How to secure isolation of power sources
 - That it may be necessary to request specialist advice or assistance to isolate hazards

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Refer to information provided by SSRI, site working plan or the responsible person, about the storage or use of gases, liquids or flowing materials in confined spaces

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Obtain and consider information about the presence of gases, liquids or flowing materials in the confined space provided by the:
 - SSRI
 - Site working plan
 - Responsible person

Investigate the possibility of ingress from gas, liquids or flowing materials into the confined space, including surface water

- Demonstrate the ability to:
- Gather information about all potential sources of gas, liquids or flowing materials that may affect the confined space
 - Consider the potential impact of rainwater, water supplies and sewerage systems on the confined space



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Isolate the confined space or sources to prevent the ingress of gas, liquids or flowing materials

If isolation or removal of electrical or mechanical equipment is possible, ensure that it occurs before personnel are committed to the confined space

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Investigate the possible ingress of substances into a confined space
- Establish appropriate actions to prevent ingress of a substance into a confined space

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Determine if it is appropriate to isolate or remove electrical or mechanical equipment
- Use appropriate methods to isolate or remove electrical or mechanical equipment
- Ensure there is no stored energy that could activate equipment
- Use appropriate safeguards to prevent reactivation of isolated electrical or mechanical equipment