



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

**Safe system of work: Atmospheric
conditions**



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
Atmospheric testing equipment	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The types of atmospheric testing equipment • What the testing equipment in use can check the atmosphere for
When atmospheric testing and monitoring may be required	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environments and types of incidents that may require atmospheric testing and monitoring • That it may be necessary to request specialist advice or assistance for atmospheric testing and monitoring
Exposure limits	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workplace exposure limits
Testing and monitoring atmospheric conditions	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When atmospheric testing should be carried out • How atmospheric testing should be carried out • Who should carry out atmospheric testing • The need for regular atmospheric monitoring • The difference between active monitoring and passive monitoring of atmospheric conditions
Ventilation	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the use of ventilation may be beneficial • What types of ventilation can be used



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Removal of residues or materials	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the removal of residues or materials may be beneficial • The potential risks of removing residues or materials
Monitoring equipment alarm actuation	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the monitoring equipment functions • What actions to take if the monitoring equipment alarm actuates
Limited capability of atmospheric monitoring equipment	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The capabilities and limitations of atmospheric monitoring equipment • The regional detection, identification and monitoring (DIM) capability that is part of the National Resilience response

Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Carry out testing and monitoring of the atmosphere and use the results to inform the incident plan	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out testing and monitoring of the atmosphere • Use results of testing and monitoring of the atmosphere to inform the incident plan
Consider requesting specialist advice or assistance for atmospheric detection, identification and monitoring	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request appropriate specialist advice or assistance for atmospheric testing and monitoring
Consider ventilation to improve internal conditions	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determine the benefits of ventilation • Use the appropriate type of ventilation



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Isolate or limit all ignition sources before ventilating if flammable gases may be present

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Identify potential ignition sources
- Control identified ignition sources

Identify the presence of materials that may release gases in a confined space, especially if disturbed

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Consider whether there are substances present that may release gases
- Gather information to determine the potential impact of gases being released

Consider the controlled removal of materials, to reduce the quantity of gases being released

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Determine the benefits of removing residues or materials
- Risk assess the impact of removing residues or materials
- Remove residues or materials if this will improve the atmospheric conditions