



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

**Confined space: Supervision,
resourcing and communication**



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



Contents

Control measure - Confined space: Supervision, resourcing and communication 3



Control measure - Confined space: Supervision, resourcing and communication

TRAINING SPECIFICATION

Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Supervision

Understand:

- The need for competent supervision during a confined space incident
- The role of a confined space supervisor
- The role of dedicated safety officers at a confined space incident
- The need for appropriate breathing apparatus (BA) entry control supervision for a confined space incident

Competent personnel

Understand:

- The necessary safeguards for confined space incidents, including:
 - Deploying only competent personnel
 - Using appropriate equipment
 - Having appropriate supervision
 - Using appropriate PPE



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Communications	<p>Understand:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for an effective communication system at a confined space incident • The need for fallback arrangements for communications failure at a confined space incident • The impact on communications of other equipment being used in a confined space • The need for appropriate communication equipment if there is a risk of explosive atmospheres in a confined space • What alternative equipment can be use for communications in a confined space incident
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Practical application

Control measure element

Learning outcome

Use only communications equipment that meets the appropriate ATEX classification when personnel enter any potentially explosive atmosphere	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that only communications equipment that meets the appropriate ATEX classification is used in a potentially explosive atmosphere; this could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire and rescue service communications equipment - Communications equipment that belongs to other organisations - Personal communications equipment
Conduct regular checks to ensure communication equipment continues to function	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check the functionality of communications equipment at appropriate intervals
Implement fallback arrangements if there is a failure in the communications equipment	<p>Demonstrate the ability to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement fallback arrangements if communications equipment fails



Control measure element

Learning outcome

Consider requesting and appointing a confined space supervisor

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate supervision and safety precautions during confined space work

Apply the most appropriate level of BA entry control supervision for a confined space incident

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Establish appropriate BA entry control supervision

Commit competent personnel to work in a confined space only following a risk assessment

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Carry out a risk assessment before committing competent personnel to work in a confined space

Commit competent personnel to work in a confined space only following a risk assessment

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Carry out a risk assessment before committing competent personnel to work in a confined space

Confined space supervisors should:
Liaise with the incident commander to establish or verify the safe system of work

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Liaise with the incident commander to establish or verify the safe system of work

Confined space supervisors should:
• Ensure an analytical risk assessment is carried out

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Review the risk assessment and safe system of work at appropriate intervals

Confined space supervisors should:
Regularly update the incident commander of progress or concerns

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Provide the incident commander with updates on progress or concerns at appropriate intervals