

CONFINED SPACE RISK SCORE – DECISION TREE

Instructions: A Job Safety Analysis (JSA) and/or approved SOP must be completed for confined space entries.

1. Circle the raw risk score of the risks identified in the confined space.
2. Determine the residual risk score based upon planned controls.
3. A Permit to Work must be completed where the residual risk score is 2 or more.
4. Where a Permit to Work is not required, the planned controls must effectively reduce the risk score to 1.

Important: Every confined space entry must record atmospheric test results, entrants sign-in and sign-out, emergency plan and other relevant details occurring during the confined space entry period.

Confined Space Risk (circle the potential risks identified in the confined space)	Raw Risk	Residual Risk Score	Verified Risk Score	Risk level	Required Action	Watercare Permit Required
Realistic potential for engulfment likely to cause drowning, by fluids or flow rates from a pipe or channel greater than 400mm in diameter	5			5	Unsafe to enter confined space in an uncontrolled state. Immediate action required to reduce risk to a tolerable level. Examples include a flammable or toxic atmosphere. Work to remain prohibited until the risk level is reduced. NO ENTRY PERMITTED in flammable atmosphere even with BA. Monitor risk and controls to ensure the risk remains at a tolerable level.	Yes
Hydrogen Sulphide Present (10ppm or greater)	5					
Flammable gases present (at alarm levels - >10% LEL)	5					
Toxic VOC gases present (at alarm levels)	5					
Oxygen levels below 19.5% or above 22%	5					
Emergency work in a wastewater confined space(s) during either wet weather high flow conditions or during diurnal peak flow period.	5			4	Unsafe to enter confined space in an uncontrolled state. Suspend work until controls are applied that reduce the risk. Examples include a toxic atmosphere. Work to remain prohibited until the risk level is reduced. (e.g. ventilated or BA used). Monitor risk and controls to ensure the risk remains at a tolerable level.	Yes
Hydrogen Sulphide present (5ppm to 10ppm)	4					
Heat inside confined space at or above 40C, either before entry or due to work activities	4					
Task-related activities have the potential to elevate risk levels (e.g. painting, cleaning, vapours, welding, etc.)	4			3	Where ever practicable identify and apply controls that reduce the risk to as low as practicable. Monitor the controls to ensure the risk level remains at the managed level or lower.	Yes
Any traverse activity, of 15 metres or more, which requires an entry party to disconnect from the safety line.	3					
Any alarm activation prior to entry (after atmospheric environment stabilisation)	3					
Working in static fluid (i.e. not live or flowing) where the depth is greater than 1.0 m	3					
Loss of clear line of sight or communications with safety standby person.	3					
Where it is evident that other incompatible work is occurring in the vicinity (e.g. hot work, refuelling, excavations near point of entry)	2			2	Where ever practicable identify and apply controls that reduce the risk further. Only tolerate a risk at this level where it is not practicable to apply additional controls.	Yes
Wastewater pump station dry wells/(above or below ground structures) with a common air space with the wet well.	2					
Any other enclosed or partially enclosed space, where hazards are introduced into the space through the task to be performed, and those hazards may realistically create one or more of the following risks; oxygen outside the safe range, fire, explosion, engulfment, drowning, suffocation, an airborne contaminant that may cause impairment, loss of consciousness or asphyxiation.	1			1	This level of risk is considered tolerable. Proceed with implementation of controls and work activity. Monitor the controls to ensure the risk level remains at this level.	No
A Permit to Work is required if the highest residual risk score for the confined space entry is a 2 or above						

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