

Part	OHS Code	Intent	P	C	Risk	Guideline Statement
PART 5 Confined Spaces						
Code of practice	<p>44(1) An employer must have a written code of practice governing the practices and procedures to be followed when workers enter and work in a confined space.</p> <p>44(2) The code of practice must</p> <p>(a) take into account and apply the requirements of this Part and of section 169,</p> <p>(b) be maintained and periodically reviewed, and</p> <p>(c) identify all existing and potential confined space work locations at a work site.</p> <p>44(3) A worker involved in any aspect of a confined space entry must comply with the requirements and procedures in the code of practice.</p>	A written Code of Practice which identifies all confined spaces on site and details practices and procedures will help reduce accidents in confined spaces and will help employees remain safe when working in confined spaces	H	M	M	<p>Employers must have a written Code of Practice detailing the practices and procedures for all confined on site work spaces and all workers involved in any way with these spaces must comply with the requirements in the code.</p> <p>AgSafe to develop code of practice or guide that determines which bins and storage are “confined spaces”.</p> <p>There should be training options for employees.</p>
Hazard assessment	<p>45 If a worker will enter a confined space or a restricted space to work, an employer must appoint a competent person to</p> <p>(a) identify and assess the hazards the worker is likely to be exposed to while in the confined space or restricted space,</p> <p>(b) specify the type and frequency of inspections and tests necessary to determine the likelihood of worker exposure to any of the identified hazards,</p> <p>(c) perform the inspections and tests specified,</p> <p>(d) specify the safety and personal protective equipment required to perform the work, and</p> <p>(e) identify the personal protective equipment and emergency equipment to be used by a worker who</p>	Proper identification and assessment of the potential hazards associated with confined or restricted spaces with outlined inspection testing protocols and required personal protection and emergency equipment needed for the site will help keep workers safe in confined spaces	H	H	H	<p>Employers must appoint a competent person to identify and assess hazards that workers entering a confined or restricted space will be exposed to.</p> <p>In addition, that appointed person must also specify the type and frequency of inspections and tests as well as perform the inspections and tests specified. The competent person must also specify the safety and personal protection equipment to be used to perform the work and to be used to perform any rescue operation.</p> <p>AgSafe to develop training and standards</p>

	undertakes rescue operations in the event of an accident or other emergency.					
Training	<p>46(1) An employer must ensure that a worker assigned duties related to confined space or restricted space entry is trained by a competent person in</p> <p>(a) recognizing hazards associated with working in confined spaces or restricted spaces, and</p> <p>(b) performing the worker's duties in a safe and healthy manner.</p> <p>46(2) An employer must keep records of the training given under subsection (1).</p> <p>46(3) An employer must ensure that competence in the following is represented in the workers responding to a confined space or restricted space emergency:</p> <p>(a) first aid;</p> <p>(b) the use of appropriate emergency response equipment;</p> <p>(c) procedures appropriate to the confined space or restricted space.</p>	Workers who are trained by a competent person and keep up to date with training will be safer when working in confined spaces	H	H	H	<p>Employers must ensure that workers entering a confined or restricted space have been trained by a competent person to recognize hazards associated with the work and how to perform their duties safely.</p> <p>The employer must also maintain training records and ensure workers responding to emergencies in the confined or restricted space are trained in first aid, use of appropriate response equipment and the work space procedures.</p>
Entry permit system	<p>47(1) A person must not enter a confined space at a work site without a valid entry permit.</p> <p>47(2) An employer must establish an entry permit system for a confined space that</p> <p>(a) lists the name of each worker who enters the confined space and the reason for their entry,</p> <p>(b) gives the location of the confined space,</p> <p>(c) specifies the time during which an entry permit is valid,</p>	An Entry Permit ensures an accounting of the workers entering the space, reason for entering, duties to be performed, location of the work space, timeframe work will be performed, and recognizes the code of practice requirements for entering, being in and leaving the confined space. The Entry Permit must be signed by a competent person before any work enters the confined or restricted space	M	M	M	Employers must establish a confined or restricted space entry document system that must be signed by a competent person ensuring there is a listing of workers entering the space, reason for being in the space, duties to be performed, timeframe work will be performed, and recognizes the stated code of practice requirements for entering, being in, and leaving the space.

	<p>(d) takes into account the work being done in the confined space, and</p> <p>(e) takes into account the code of practice requirements for entering, being in and leaving a confined space.</p> <p>47(3) An employer must ensure that, before a worker enters a confined space, an entry permit is properly completed, signed by a competent person and a copy kept readily available.</p> <p>47(4) Based on a review of similar confined spaces, an employer may issue an entry permit that can be used for a number of similar confined spaces.</p>					
Safety and protection — generally	<p>48(1) An employer must ensure that</p> <p>(a) if a lifeline is required in a confined space or a restricted space, it is used in a manner that does not create an additional hazard,</p> <p>(b) the safety and personal protective equipment required under this Code is available to workers entering a confined space or a restricted space,</p> <p>(c) a worker who enters, occupies or leaves a confined space or restricted space uses the safety and personal protective equipment,</p> <p>(d) the personal protective equipment and emergency equipment required under this Code is available to workers undertaking rescue operations in a confined space or restricted space,</p> <p>(e) equipment appropriate to the confined space or restricted space, including personal protective equipment, is available to perform a timely rescue, and</p>	Proper personal protection and safety equipment that is inspected regularly will ensure all workers and rescuers entering a confined or restricted space will be as safe as possible.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure that lifelines used in confined or restricted space do not create additional hazard, that personal protection equipment is available to workers entering the space, personal protection and emergency equipment is available to rescue workers, and a communication system is provided to workers in the space. The employer must ensure a competent person inspects all personal protection and emergency equipment to ensure it is in good working order before workers enter the confined or restricted space and that a record of inspection is maintained.

	<p>(f) a communication system is established that is readily available to workers in a confined space or a restricted space and is appropriate to the hazards.</p> <p>48(2) An employer must ensure that all personal protective equipment and emergency equipment required for use in a confined space or a restricted space is inspected by a competent person to ensure the equipment is in good working order before workers enter the confined space or the restricted space.</p> <p>48(3) An employer must ensure that written records of the inspections required by subsection (2) are retained as required by section 58.</p>					
Protection — hazardous substances and energy	<p>49(1) An employer must ensure that workers within a confined space are protected against the release of hazardous substances or energy that could harm them.</p> <p>49(2) An employer must ensure that a worker does not enter a confined space unless adequate precautions are in place to protect a worker from drowning, engulfment or entrapment.</p> <p>49(3) An employer must ensure that any hazardous energy in a restricted space is controlled in accordance with Part 15.</p>	Workers in confined or restricted spaces must be protected from hazardous substances and energy, and adequate precautions are in place to protect workers from drowning, engulfment or entrapment.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure workers are protected from the release of hazardous substances and energy sources, and that adequate precautions are taken to protect workers from drowning, engulfment or entrapment. Hazardous energy sources in a restricted space must be controlled to prevent accidental use or movement without the workers knowledge.
Unauthorized entry	<p>50 An employer must ensure that persons who are not authorized by the employer to enter a confined space or a restricted space are prevented from entering.</p>	It isn't safe for unauthorized people to enter into confined or restricted spaces.	H	H	H	Prevent unauthorized people from entering confined or restricted spaces. AgSafe to create online store for standardized signage, guides, templates etc.

Traffic hazards	<p>51 An employer must ensure that workers in a confined space or a restricted space are protected from hazards created by traffic in the vicinity of the confined space or restricted space.</p>	Workers in a confined space must be protected from nearby traffic that might endanger the worker.	H	M	H	Employers must ensure that workers in confined or restricted spaces are protected from traffic in the vicinity of the work space.
Testing the atmosphere	<p>52(1) If the hazard assessment identifies a potential atmospheric hazard and a worker is required or authorized by an employer to enter the confined space, the employer must ensure that a competent worker performs a pre-entry atmospheric test of the confined space to</p> <p>(a) verify that the oxygen content is between 19.5 percent and 23.0 percent by volume, and</p> <p>(b) identify the amount of toxic, flammable or explosive substance that may be present.</p> <p>52(2) The employer must ensure that the testing required by subsection (1) is performed using calibrated test instruments appropriate for the atmosphere being tested and the instruments are used in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications.</p> <p>52(3) The employer must ensure that as often as necessary after the first time a worker enters the confined space, a competent worker</p> <p>(a) performs the tests specified in subsection (1), and</p> <p>(b) identifies and records any additional hazards.</p> <p>52(3.1) The employer must ensure that if there is a potential for the atmosphere to change unpredictably after a worker enters the confined space, the atmosphere is continuously monitored in</p>	Atmospheric hazards in a confined space are particularly dangerous to workers. Unknown or disregarded atmospheric hazards (gases or other) can cause serious injury or death.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure a competent person performs an atmospheric test using properly calibrated instruments prior to a worker entering a confined or restricted space if a hazard assessment identifies a potential atmospheric hazard. The employer must ensure continuous monitoring is performed if the atmosphere is unpredictable. All testing must be recorded and maintained.

	<p>accordance with subsection (2).</p> <p>52(4) If tests identify additional hazards, the employer must deal with the identified hazards in accordance with this Code.</p> <p>52(5) The employer must ensure that the procedures and practices put in place under subsection (4) are included in the code of practice.</p> <p>52(6) The employer must ensure that the results of tests required by this section are recorded.</p>					
Ventilation and purging	<p>53(1) If the atmospheric testing under section 52 identifies that a hazardous atmosphere exists or is likely to exist in a confined space, an employer must ensure that the confined space is ventilated, purged or both before a worker enters the confined space.</p> <p>53(2) If ventilating or purging a confined space is impractical or ineffective in eliminating a hazardous atmosphere, the employer must ensure that a worker who enters the confined space uses personal protective equipment appropriate for the conditions within the confined space.</p> <p>53(3) If mechanical ventilation is needed to maintain a safe atmosphere in a confined space during the work process, an employer must ensure it is provided and operated as needed.</p> <p>53(4) If mechanical ventilation is required to maintain a safe atmosphere in the confined space, the employer must ensure that</p>	Proper ventilation and purging and/or personal protection equipment will help reduce the risk of harm to a worker from an existing hazardous atmosphere in a confined space.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure a confined space is properly ventilated, purged or both if a hazardous atmosphere exists. If mechanical methods are required to ventilate the confined space warning systems need to be in place to allow workers to safely exit the space or alternative protection equipment must be provided

	<p>(a) the ventilation system incorporates a method of alerting workers to a failure of the system so that workers have sufficient time to safely leave the confined space, and</p> <p>(b) all workers within the confined space have received training in the evacuation procedures to be used in the event of a ventilation system failure.</p> <p>53(5) All workers must evacuate a confined space or use an alternative means of protection if a ventilation system fails.</p>					
Inerting	<p>54(1) An employer must ensure that a confined space is inerted if it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate an explosive or flammable atmosphere within the confined space through another means.</p> <p>54(2) If a confined space is inerted, an employer must ensure that</p> <p>(a) every worker entering the confined space is equipped with supplied air respiratory protection equipment that complies with Part 18,</p> <p>(b) all ignition sources are controlled, and</p> <p>(c) the atmosphere within the confined space stays inerted while workers are inside.</p>	Explosive and flammable atmospheres pose a significant danger. When a confined space is inerted, workers entering the space must be supplied with air respiratory protection equipment, all ignition sources must be controlled and the atmosphere must stay inerted while workers are in the confined space.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure that a confined space is inerted if not reasonably practicable to eliminate an explosive or flammable atmosphere within a confined space. When the confined space is inerted, workers must be supplied with air respiratory protection equipment, all ignition sources are controlled and the confined space stays inerted.
Emergency response	<p>55(1) An employer must ensure that a worker does not enter or remain in a confined space or a restricted space unless an effective rescue can be carried out.</p> <p>55(2) A worker must not enter or stay in a confined space or restricted space unless an effective rescue can be carried out.</p>	It is important to have an effective plan in place to implement an emergency rescue for workers in a confined space or restricted area.	H	H	H	No one may enter a confined space or restricted area unless an effective emergency rescue can be undertaken.

	<p>55(3) An employer must ensure that the emergency response plan includes the emergency procedures to be followed if there is an accident or other emergency, including procedures in place to evacuate the confined space or restricted space immediately</p> <p>(a) when an alarm is activated,</p> <p>(b) if the concentration of oxygen inside the confined space drops below 19.5 percent by volume or exceeds 23.0 percent by volume, or</p> <p>(c) if there is a significant change in the amount of hazardous substances inside the confined space.</p>					
Tending worker	<p>56(1) For every confined space or restricted space entry, an employer must designate a competent worker to be in communication with a worker in the confined space or restricted space.</p> <p>56(2) An employer must ensure that the designated worker under subsection (1) has a suitable system for summoning assistance.</p> <p>56(3) An employer must ensure that a competent worker trained in the evacuation procedures in the emergency response plan is present outside a confined space, at or near the entrance, if</p> <p>(a) the oxygen content of the atmosphere inside the confined space is less than 19.5 percent by volume,</p> <p>(b) the oxygen content of the atmosphere inside the confined space is greater than 23.0 percent by volume,</p> <p>(c) the concentration of a substance listed in Schedule</p>	A competent support worker must be available to assist workers in the confined or restricted space should a problem occur.	H	H	H	Employers must ensure a competent person is on site and in ready communication with workers in confined or restricted spaces should assistance be required. In the case of specific hazardous exposure conditions such as oxygen levels below 19% or above 23%, conditions listed in Schedule 1 Table 2, or where the hazard can not be eliminated or effectively controlled a competent person trained in emergency evaluation procedures must be present at or near the confined space entrance. In addition, the attending person must record workers entering and leaving the space, be in constant communication with the workers in the space, and have a suitable method to

	<p>1, Table 2 inside the confined space is greater than 50 percent of its occupational exposure limit, or</p> <p>(d) a hazard other than one listed in clauses (a), (b) or (c) is identified by the hazard assessment and the hazard cannot be eliminated or effectively controlled.</p> <p>56(4) An employer must ensure that the tending worker under subsection (3) (a) keeps track at all times of the number of workers inside the confined space, (b) is in constant communication with the workers inside the confined space, and (c) has a suitable system for summoning assistance.</p> <p>56(5) A tending worker must not leave the area until all workers have left the confined space or another tending worker is in place.</p>					<p>summon addition assistance. The attending person may not leave their post unless another attending person is in place.</p>
Entry and exit	<p>57 An employer must ensure that a safe means of entry and exit is available to all workers required to work in a confined space or a restricted space and to all rescue personnel attending to the workers.</p>	<p>Workers and rescuers must be able to easily move in and out of the confined or restricted work space.</p>	H	H	H	<p>Employers must ensure a safe means of entry and exit is available to all involved with confined or restricted space.</p>
Retaining records	<p>58 An employer must ensure that all records respecting entry and work in a confined space, including entry permits and testing under this Part, are retained for not less than</p> <p>(a) one year if no incident or unplanned event occurred during the entry,</p> <p>or</p> <p>(b) two years if an incident or unplanned event occurred during the entry.</p>	<p>Maintaining entry and work records into confined spaces will be helpful in the event there is an employee health incident.</p>	L	L	L	<p>Employers must ensure the required records are retained for one year if no incidents had occurred or two years if an incident occurred.</p>