

Confined Space Rescue Types Chart & Compliance Guide

OSHA 1910.146 & 1926-Subpart AA



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OSHA's permit
required confined
space regulation
requires
employers to
provide rescue
services when
employees must
enter permit
spaces.

OSHA 1910.146



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Rescue Practice from Representative Spaces

1910.146 Appendix F

Teams may practice in representative spaces that are “worst case” or most restrictive with respect to internal configuration, elevation, and portal size. The following characteristics of a practice space should be considered when deciding whether a space is truly representative of an actual permit space:

Internal Configuration

- Open: No obstacles, barriers, or obstructions within the space.
- Obstructed: Contains some type of obstruction that a rescuer would need to maneuver around.

Elevation

- Elevated: Entrance portal or opening is above grade by 4 feet or more, which usually requires high angle rescue capabilities to package and transport patient to ground level.
- Non-elevated: Entrance portal located less than 4 feet above grade.

Portal Size

- Restricted: 24 inches or less, which is too small for SCBA and normal spinal immobilization. Note: Round openings are usually the most difficult when maneuvering a patient.
- Unrestricted: Greater than 24 inches, which allows relatively free movement.

Space Access

- Horizontal: Portal is located on the side; use of retrieval lines could be difficult.
- Vertical: Portal is located on the top (of vessel), so rescuers must climb down; or the bottom (of vessel), so rescuers must climb up. Vertical portals may require knowledge of rope techniques, or special patient packaging to safely retrieve a downed entrant.

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ROCO CONFINED SPACE TYPES CHART

TYPE 1

Side Portal
Restricted
24 inches or less



TYPE 2

Side Portal
Unrestricted
Greater than 24 inches



TYPE 3

Top Portal
Restricted
24 inches or less



TYPE 4

Top Portal
Unrestricted
Greater than 24 inches



TYPE 5

Bottom Portal
Restricted
24 inches or less



TYPE 6

Bottom Portal
Unrestricted
Greater than 24 inches



Confined space scenarios photographed at the Roco Training Center (RTC) in Baton Rouge, LA.



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OSHA Permit Required Confined Spaces

1910.146

Employer Requirements (k)(1) and (k)(2)

Evaluate the rescue service:

- Ability to respond in a timely manner considering the hazards identified.
- Proficiency with rescue-related tasks and equipment.
- Ability to function appropriately while rescuing entrants from types of permit spaces identified.

Select a rescue service:

- Capable of reaching the victim(s) in a timely manner appropriate for the hazards identified.
- Equipped and proficient in performing the needed rescue services.

Facilitate the rescue service:

- Inform the rescuers of potential hazards.
- Provide access to all permitted spaces for rescue planning and practice.

Provide for employee rescuers:

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and training to proficiency.
- Training to perform assigned rescue duties and as authorized entrant.
- Training in basic first-aid and CPR with at least one member certified.
- Rescue practice at least once every 12 months from actual or representative types of permit spaces.

*Notice: Proper training is required!
It is important to review all regulations in their entirety.*

RESCUE TEAM EVALUATION CRITERIA (APPENDIX F)

Non-Mandatory Appendix F provides accepted methods for complying with mandatory requirements of 1910.146.

A. INITIAL EVALUATION

Used to determine if a rescue service is adequately trained and equipped to perform permit space rescues relevant to the site, and if the rescue service can respond in a timely manner.

- What are the employer's needs with regard to response time considering the hazards within the space?
- What is the response time for the rescue team or service? (from notification until rescue entry)
- What is the availability of the rescue service?
- If the service becomes unavailable, does it have the capability to provide notification so the entry can be aborted?
- Does the rescue service meet all requirements of paragraph (k)(2)? If not, how soon will it be fully capable?
- Is the off-site rescue service willing to perform rescues at the employer's workplace?
- Is there an adequate, timely method of communication available between the attendant, employer, and prospective rescue service?
- How soon after notification can the rescue service be dispatched to the entry site?
- If breathing air equipment is required, does the rescue service have an ample supply?
- Is the rescue service properly trained and equipped to perform entry rescue in relevant spaces?
- Does the rescue service have the technical knowledge and equipment to perform elevated rope rescue?
- Does the rescue service have the necessary skills in medical evaluation, patient packaging, and emergency response?

B. PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

- Have all team members been trained as authorized entrants minimally, including training in potential hazards of all permit spaces?
- Can team members recognize the signs and symptoms of exposure to any potential atmospheric hazards?
- Is every team member outfitted and trained in use of required PPE for permit spaces?
- Is every team member properly trained on the skills and equipment to provide the required rescue functions safely?
- Are team members trained in first-aid and medical skills needed to treat victims based on relevant hazards?
- Do all team members perform their functions safely and efficiently?
- Do rescuers focus on their own safety before considering the safety of the victim?
- Can the rescue service properly test the atmosphere to determine if it is IDLH, as required?
- Can the rescue personnel identify information pertinent to the rescue from entry permits, hot work permits, and MSDS (SDS)?
- Has the rescue service been informed of any hazards that may arise from outside the space?
- Can the rescue service properly package and retrieve victims from:
 - Limited size opening? (Less than 24 in./60.9 cm in diameter)
 - Limited internal space?
 - Internal obstacles or hazards?
- Can the rescue service safely perform an elevated (high angle) rescue, if needed?
- Does the rescue service have a rescue plan for each type of permit space or kind of rescue operation (permit space and high angle)?



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OSHA Confined Spaces in Construction

1926-Subpart AA

Competent person must evaluate worksite and identify confined spaces, including permit spaces.

Confined space activities must be coordinated when multiple employers are on site.

Continuous atmospheric monitoring is required, whenever possible.

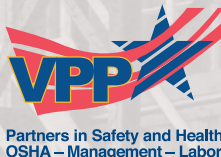
Continuous monitoring with early warning is required for engulfment hazards.

Permits can be suspended vs. cancelled.

Employer must confirm that emergency assistance is available in the event that non-entry rescue fails.

Employer must evaluate and select a rescue team or service that:

- Has the capability to reach the victim(s) within a time frame appropriate for the hazard(s) identified.
- Is equipped for, and proficient in, performing the needed rescue services.
- Agrees to notify the employer immediately if the rescue service becomes unavailable.



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