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### Overview

This unit is about working in confined space environments where there is a medium risk that a specified hazard may be present. It will require the use of escape breathing apparatus. It will involve the presence of one or more people - positioned outside the confined space - who have designated responsibilities for controlling the entry and dealing with emergencies (see national occupational standards units for overseeing work in confined spaces or emergency rescue and recovery of casualties from confined spaces).

Entry to the confined space may involve:

1. vertical entry normally using a ladder or man-riding winch, both requiring fall protection and means of assisted rescue such as a rescue winch
2. horizontal entry such as walking or climbing into the confined space or working away from the bottom of a vertical entry, with limited use of a rescue line. Such types of entry may involve more than one person entering the confined space.

# EUSCS02

## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

#### **Prepare to enter and work safely in medium risk confined spaces**

- P1 prepare and check all equipment is in good order and electrical equipment is fully charged before entering the work site
- P2 obtain authorization for entry and relevant health and safety information from designated personnel
- P3 carry out a real-time risk assessment before starting work
- P4 put in place and confirm isolation of any connecting services
- P5 set up and put monitoring equipment in place
- P6 set up, test, and confirm communications systems are working before moving away from the entry point
- P7 confirm all team members know and understand their roles
- P8 check all team members are in place before entry begins

#### **Enter and exit confined spaces safely**

- P9 check atmospheric conditions are safe
- P10 set up and check access equipment is safe
- P11 resolve any problems of work or team members with the designated personnel
- P12 use special hoists and safety lines as set down in procedures
- P13 enter and exit the space in line with procedures for working in a medium risk confined space

#### **Prepare and use escape breathing apparatus in accordance with manufacturers' specifications**

- P14 adhere to all procedures regarding the carrying and use of escape breathing apparatus
- P15 confirm the suitability of the escape breathing apparatus for the job
- P16 examine the breathing apparatus prior to starting work and replace if it is defective
- P17 resolve any problems with the escape breathing apparatus and report non-conformities
- P18 don the escape breathing apparatus to escape in an emergency
- P19 carry after use checks on the apparatus after a safe exit and confirm it conforms to specification before storing it in the designated storage ready for the next job

#### **Use equipment and tools safely and in accordance with manufacturers' specifications**

- P20 check all equipment and tools are suitable for the job before using them
- P21 check all personal protective equipment (PPE) is suitable before using it
- P22 resolve any problems with equipment and tools before and during their

# EUSCS02

## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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use

- P23 use the specified method to introduce equipment and tools into the confined space
- P24 recover and remove equipment and tools when work is finished
- P25 follow manufacturers and employers instructions for after-use checks and storage

### **Follow procedures and work safely**

- P26 use different methods of communication which suit the work situation
- P27 control access of people and vehicles around the entry point
- P28 resolve any problems connected to the work with the designated personnel
- P29 follow employers' safe working procedures and equipment manufacturers' instructions
- P30 act immediately to remedy any unsafe activity, equipment, and environmental conditions
- P31 regularly monitor atmospheric conditions within the confined space
- P32 control risks adequately which arise during working
- P33 respond to information from monitoring equipment
- P34 communicate regularly with the work team at all stages of the work
- P35 close down and make the work area safe when work is finished
- P36 Make reports and complete all documentation and deposit them with the designated people

### **Deal with emergencies**

- P37 Start emergency exit procedures immediately a dangerous situation arises
- P38 Exit self safely
- P39 Record and report the emergency incident and its circumstances
- P40 Maintain emergency communications

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## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **General**

##### **Legislation - confined spaces and their environment**

- K1 an appreciation of the main principles of health and safety and environmental legislation and regulations
- K2 working knowledge of approved codes of practice and guidance for working safely in confined spaces
- K3 definition of confined spaces and their nature and characteristics
- K4 Definitions of hazardous situations and different types and categories of hazards
- K5 5. Awareness of how emergency situations can arise in a confined space

##### **Equipment and tools**

- K6 manufacturers' instructions relating to the use of equipment and tools
- K7 manufacturers' instructions relating to the use of escape breathing apparatus

##### **Working with others**

- K8 working as a member of a team

##### **Dealing with emergencies**

- K9 roles and responsibilities
- K10 injuries to personnel and the general public
- K11 dealing with irregularities and abnormal situations
- K12 types and categories of emergency situation

##### **Confined Spaces medium risk working environment**

###### **Confined spaces and their environments**

- K13 classification schemes and how to identify the confined space classification
- K14 hazards, substances, and situations associated with medium risk confined spaces
- K15 entry procedures for medium risk confined spaces

###### **Working safely**

- K16 carrying out real-time assessment of risks and hazards
- K17 using work authorizations and permits
- K18 procedures and methods of working suitable to local conditions
- K19 minimizing the risks and hazards for the work to be carried out
- K20 using ventilation systems
- K21 reducing risk and injury

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## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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- K22 understanding and using local site procedures
- K23 monitoring of conditions and work activity
- K24 communications methods which are suitable for use in medium risk confined spaces
- K25 resolving problems speedily and with the designated personnel

### **Equipment and tools**

- K26 following manufacturers' instructions for using equipment and tools
- K27 preparing and checking equipment
- K28 ensuring equipment and tools are fit-for-purpose and how to use them safely
- K29 methods and techniques for using and wearing PPE
- K30 preparing and using escape breathing apparatus

### **Working with others**

- K31 reporting systems for routine work activities and resolving problems

### **Dealing with emergencies**

- K32 procedures for dealing with emergencies
- K33 Communications and reporting systems for emergency situations

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## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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### Additional information

#### Behaviours

You work in a manner which:

1. is vigilant to possible risks and hazards

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## Working in medium risk confined spaces

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<b>Developed by</b>	Energy and Utility Skills
<b>Version number</b>	1
<b>Date approved</b>	January 2006
<b>Indicative review date</b>	January 2012
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating organisation</b>	Energy and Utility Skills
<b>Original URN</b>	CS02
<b>Relevant occupations</b>	Engineering and manufacturing technologies, Construction, planning and the built environment
<b>Suite</b>	Confined Spaces
<b>Key words</b>	Rescue, escape, breathing apparatus, emergency situations, exclusion zones