



Virginia's Confined Space Standard

16VAC25-140-10 et. Seq.

Confined Space is a space:

- ⇒ Not intended for continuous employee occupancy, **and**
 - ⇒ Has a limited means of egress, **and**
 - ⇒ Is subject to either the accumulation of an actual or potentially hazardous atmosphere
- OR**
- ⇒ A potential for engulfment.

Hazardous Atmosphere presents a potential for death, disablement, injury, or acute illness from one or more of the following:

- ⇒ A flammable gas, vapor, or mist in excess of 10% of the lower explosion limit (LEL) **or**
- ⇒ Oxygen levels below 19.5% by volume or above 23% by volume **or**
- ⇒ Levels of toxic substance that exceed the permissible exposure limit of any substance listed in Subpart Z of 29 CFR 1910 **or**
- ⇒ A condition immediately dangerous to life and health.

Qualified Person who is trained in the hazards and control measures applicable to confined spaces must conduct the testing and issue the permits.

Atmospheric Testing Required:

- ⇒ Prior to entry into any space that is by definition a confined space.

Permits Required:

- ⇒ Where entry is made into any space that meets the confined space definition.

Non-attendant entry is allowed:

- ⇒ If there is no potential for engulfment or IDLH atmospheres, and the potential for a hazardous atmosphere is very low.
- ⇒ Provided at least one entrant wears a continuous monitoring device.

Use of tripods & harness required:

- ⇒ Existence of an IDLH atmosphere
- ⇒ Existence of a hazardous atmosphere
- ⇒ Potential for engulfment

