

## EUSCS04

### Overseeing work in confined spaces



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#### Overview

This unit is about the duties of a safety attendant (top-man/woman) which does not require entries into confined spaces. It is about controlling the pre-entry procedures and entry into and out of the confined space, maintaining communications, and initiating and controlling emergency procedures.

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### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

#### **Prepare to act as safety attendant for teams working in confined spaces**

- P1 interpret the work plan and arrange for the necessary equipment to be available
- P2 arrange for all required equipment to be available prior to entering the site
- P3 determine work team activities
- P4 put together a competent work team
- P5 allocate activities to each team role
- P6 confirm all team members know and understand their roles
- P7 brief the work team on the nature of the specific confined space
- P8 carry out a real-time risk assessment before starting work
- P9 organize and maintain a safety zone around the work site
- P10 confirm communications systems are set up, tested, and are working before team move away from the entry point

#### **Oversee the safe entry and exit to confined spaces**

- P11 check atmospheric conditions are safe before the work team enters the confined space
- P12 oversee and check the work team enter and exit in line with procedures
- P13 make sure procedures regarding the carrying and use of breathing apparatus are followed
- P14 make sure the work team use the detection equipment and entry equipment correctly
- P15 remedy any incorrect activities with the team member
- P16 oversee recovery of equipment and tools from site when work is finished

#### **Monitor the work team to ensure procedures are followed**

- P17 control access of people and vehicles around the entry point
- P18 resolve any problems connected to the work or team members with the designated personnel
- P19 act immediately to remedy any unsafe activity, equipment, and environmental conditions
- P20 monitor continuously the work team and ensure compliance with procedures
- P21 monitor environmental readings regularly and respond to information from monitoring equipment
- P22 communicate regularly with the work team at all stages of the work
- P23 initiate site hygiene procedures
- P24 close down and make the work area safe when work is finished
- P25 make reports and complete all documentation and deposit them with the designated people

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### **Deal with emergencies**

- P26 confirm the emergency arrangements, procedures and communications systems are in place and working properly
- P27 make the emergency arrangements known to all work team, support personnel, and off-site personnel
- P28 get all rescue equipment on site as specified in emergency procedures
- P29 set up exclusion zones to prevent entry by unauthorised people following emergency situations
- P30 arrange for rescue equipment to be in place before allowing entry to confined space
- P31 start emergency procedures immediately a dangerous situation arises
- P32 supervise exit procedures
- P33 maintain control over work team members during an emergency
- P34 supervise the use of emergency equipment
- P35 follow and maintain emergency procedures throughout the incident
- P36 record and report the emergency incident and its circumstances
- P37 arrange for basic first aid to be available to recovered surface casualties
- P38 maintain emergency communications
- P39 hand-over to emergency services
- P40 secure and maintain sites for post-rescue investigations

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### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

#### **General**

##### **Confined spaces and their environment**

- K1 an appreciation of the main principles of health and safety and environmental legislation and regulations
- K2 Industrial Standards
- K3 working knowledge of the approved codes of practice and guidance for working safely in confined spaces”
- K4 definition of confined spaces and their nature and characteristics
- K5 definitions of hazardous situations and different types and categories of hazards
- K6 awareness of how emergency situations can arise in a confined space

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

- K7 manufacturers' instructions relating to the use of equipment, tools, and breathing apparatus
- K8 manufacturers' instructions relating to the use of PPE
- K9 legislation and approved codes of practice and guidelines for safe use of breathing apparatus
- K10 the limitations for using rescue equipment

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

- K11 working as a member of a team

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

- K12 roles and responsibilities
- K13 injuries to personnel and the general public
- K14 dealing with irregularities and abnormal situations
- K15 types and categories of emergency situation

##### **Confined Spaces working environment**

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

- K16 classification schemes
- K17 hazards, substances, and situations associated with contaminated atmospheres
- K18 entry procedures for different types and risk levels of confined spaces environments

##### **Working safely**

- K19 carrying out real-time assessment of risks and hazards
- K20 using work authorizations and permits
- K21 procedures and methods of working suitable to the risk level and local

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conditions

- K22 minimizing the risks and hazards for the work to be carried out
- K23 using ventilation systems
- K24 reducing risk and injury
- K25 understanding and using local procedures
- K26 monitoring of conditions and work activity
- K27 decontamination procedures
- K28 communications methods which are suitable for the site and its conditions
- K29 resolving problems speedily and with the designated personnel

### **Equipment and tools**

- K30 following manufacturers' instructions for using equipment
- K31 preparing and checking equipment
- K32 ensuring equipment and tools are fit-for-purpose and how to use them safely
- K33 methods and techniques for using and wearing PPE
- K34 preparing and using escape breathing apparatus
- K35 preparing and using self-contained breathing apparatus

### **Working with others**

- K36 responsibilities of a rescue team and its individual members
- K37 responsibilities of managing work teams
- K38 reporting systems for routine work activities and resolving problems

### **Dealing with emergencies**

- K39 procedures for dealing with emergencies
- K40 rescue and recovery procedures
- K41 communications and reporting systems for emergency situations

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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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