



Confined Space Inventory and Compliance Audit

...the cornerstone to compliance with OSHA 1910.146 and a turn-key resource in the event of an emergency.

Unsafe and poorly prepared entries into confined spaces are the causes of hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries each year. Due to these unfortunate circumstances, OSHA developed standard 29 CFR 1910.146, Permit-Required Confined Spaces. Whether your operation is a public works agency, park district, school, commercial or manufacturing facility, you most likely have areas on your premises that meet OSHA's definition of a confined space. If work is performed in these areas, your organization is subject to the requirements of this standard.

A Confined Space Inventory is an essential resource for your organization and provides these advantages:

- Straightforward compliance with OSHA 1910.146
- Reduces ambiguity for the workforce (employees/contractors) who enter and perform tasks in confined spaces
- Serves as an inventory tool that employers/business owners can use to assess confined spaces located on their premises for compliance with OSHA requirements
- Provides valuable information for rescue agencies in the event of a confined space emergency

Three Components of OSHA's Confined Space Standard That Employers Need to Know:

1. As an employer, if you have employees who enter and perform work in confined spaces:

The employer must spell out what the employee will do while in the confined space.

START Group's Confined Space Inventory provides this information and reduces the ambiguity for your workers who enter and work in confined spaces.

2. As an employer, if you contract workers to enter and perform work in confined spaces:

Employers must share the details of the hazard, classification and history of the confined space(s) where the contractor will be working.

START Group's Confined Space Inventory meets this requirement. The employer simply copies the page containing the description of the confined space from the inventory and provides it to the contractor.

Employers must debrief with contractors at the conclusion of work performed in a confined space.

START Group's Confined Space Inventory closes this loop by including the information necessary to conduct a thorough debriefing, including copies of completed permits.

3. Employers/Business Owners must provide rescue if:

A worker (employee/contractor) becomes trapped, injured, etc., while working in a confined space, OSHA requires the employer/business owner to provide rescue services to deliver the worker from danger.

START Group encourages employers to share the Confined Space Inventory with rescue personnel such as local fire departments and confined space standby/rescue contractors. The inventory provides rescue agencies with a blueprint for fast and efficient response in an emergency situation.

The components of **START** Group's Confined Space Inventory include conducting a site review and compiling a written inventory with digital photographs.





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Step 1: Site Review

START Group will complete a site review of the representative confined spaces that workers/contractors enter, along with your organization's equipment, policies and permits regarding current compliance with OSHA 1910.146. The review will focus on, but is not limited to these areas:

- ✓ **Entry Permit Process and Space Classification**
- ✓ **Equipment for Atmospheric Testing and Monitoring**
- ✓ **Isolation of Spaces (Lockout/Tagout)**
- ✓ **Ventilation Equipment and Procedures**
- ✓ **Entry Procedures and Equipment Needs**
- ✓ **Labeling and Posting of Spaces**
- ✓ **Recordkeeping for Training, Permits and Equipment**
- ✓ **Rescue Capabilities and Performance**

Step 2: Written Inventory and Compliance Audit

Following the site review, **START** Group creates a written inventory that includes digital photographs and numerical listings for each representative confined space along with the name of the complex, building and location area. Each confined space is then described according to the following criteria:

- ✓ **Complex**
- ✓ **Building**
- ✓ **Location**
- ✓ **Space Number**
- ✓ **Type/Description**
- ✓ **Access**
- ✓ **Hazards**
- ✓ **Classification**
- ✓ **Special Comments**
- ✓ **Standby Rescue**

Step 3: Final Report

Along with the inventory, the final report includes a compliance audit that describes any areas of non-compliance with OSHA 1910.146. The final report is available in both PDF and Microsoft Word format so that your organization can make updates.

START Group is a leader in confined space training and rescue. Our personnel have a high level of expertise in OSHA compliance-related areas of confined space entry and non-entry rescue, respirator use, fall protection and prevention, hazardous materials and more.

Contact us today or visit our website at www.startgrouptraining.com to create a Confined Space Inventory, schedule training or learn more about our standby/rescue services.

SAMPLE CONFINED SPACE INVENTORY



Complex:	Oakland Industries
Building:	Main Plant
Location:	Glass Storage
Space Number:	OI-1
Type/Description:	Glass Recycle Hopper
Access:	Vertical
Hazards:	Isolation and Air Quality
Classification:	Permit-Required
Special Comments:	Fall protection needed
Standby Rescue:	Needed when welding operations are being completed



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