



# MATHERS SAFETY SNAPSHOT

Each week the Mathers Safety Team meets to review on site incidents and track trends across the company in an effort to increase transparency and to develop proactive plans to mitigate reportable incidents.

## **CONFINED SPACE: PERMIT-REQUIRED VS. NON-PERMIT REQUIRED**

### **OSHA Defines a Confined Space as:**

1. Large enough and configured so an employee can enter and perform assigned work.
2. Has limited or restricted means of entry or exit. Some examples include vessels, tanks, storage bins, silos, hoppers, vaults, and pits.
3. Is not designed for continuous human occupancy.

### **Main Difference Between Permit Required and Non-Permit Required**

- Permit-Required Confined Space: This is a space where the hazards to employees are controlled but still present. These spaces are usually IDLH (immediately dangerous to life and health).
- Non-Permit Required Confined Space: This is a space where the hazards are "eliminated."

### **Permit-Required Confined Space (OSHA Standard 1910.146)**

- A permit-required confined space is defined by having any of the following:
- Contains or potentially contains a hazardous atmosphere
- Contains a material that has the possibility of engulfing someone
- Has a configuration where someone could get trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross-section.
- Contains any other recognized serious safety and health hazard

### **Confined Space Hazards include**

- Mechanical Entrapment
- Engulfment Atmospheric
- Gas Temperature Extremes
- Dust Excessive Noise
- Slick or Wet Surfaces Falling Objects
- Falling Hazards Electrical Shock
- Poor Lighting or Work Created Hazards

