

5-minute talk for **Confined space**

Use this 5-minute talk in team discussions, like start of shift, morning, or pre-tower meetings, to help bring the Life Saving Rules to life. First, review the rule briefly with the team, then use the prompts to engage the group and start a discussion, or share a personal example of how you've experienced the rule.

Confined Space



Obtain authorisation before entering a confined space

- I confirm energy sources are isolated
- I confirm the atmosphere has been tested and is monitored
- I check and use my breathing apparatus when required
- I confirm there is an attendant standing by
- I confirm a rescue plan is in place
- I obtain authorisation to enter



Case Study

Two Welders were working together to repair an external weld on a vertically orientated pipe spool. Following the completion of the repair, one of the welders placed a ladder inside the pipe spool and entered the pipe to inspect the weld repair. Upon entering the pipe they collapsed. The other welder went to try to rescue his colleague, entered the pipe and also collapsed. Both welders died.

Discussion prompts

What is stopping a similar incident (confined space) from happening at our site?

Facilitator background notes

Confined spaces are enclosed or partially enclosed spaces that are not designed or constructed for continuous human occupancy, have limited or restricted means for entry or exit, and where there is risk of injury or illness from hazardous substances or conditions, such as explosive gas, toxic or asphyxiating atmosphere or other dangers such: as energy releases, lack of oxygen, exposure to hazardous chemicals, things that can fall on you or crush you, or that you can fall from.

Confined spaces include, but are not limited to, underground vaults, tanks, storage bins, manholes, pits, silos, process vessels, pipes and tubulars.

Constant vigilance is required during construction to recognize and manage new confined spaces which may be created, including entering tubulars/piping for testing or inspection.