







# EHS Guidance Notes



## GN # 16 – Confined Space Entry

Environment, Health and Safety  
Ports, Customs & Free Zone Corporation

		
<p align="center"><b>RISK ASSESSMENT &amp; ENTRY PERMIT</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>TESTING &amp; MONITORING OF ATMOSPHERE</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>COMMUNICATION &amp; USE OF PPE</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure that Risk Assessment (RA) is done and precautions are taken accordingly.</li> <li>▪ Confined space entry permit to be obtained before entering &amp; carrying out work in a confined space.</li> <li>▪ Main contractor must ensure that the permit to work procedures &amp; working procedures are regularly checked &amp; audited.</li> <li>▪ Confined space shall be certified by a competent person based on the test carried out by him self.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish testing of atmosphere prior to entry where identified in the risk assessment.</li> <li>▪ Also carry out ongoing monitoring of the atmosphere whilst work is being carried out.</li> <li>▪ Isolation &amp; lock off procedure must be followed to prevent gases, liquids or other free flowing materials entering the confined space.</li> <li>▪ Flameproof electrical equipment shall be used in case of possible flammable gas atmosphere.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure that there is an agreed means of communication between those in the confined space &amp; the person(s) appointed as the look out.</li> <li>▪ Use PPE as prescribed in the Risk Assessment.</li> <li>▪ Escape set breathing apparatus to be provided where there is a risk of a hazardous atmosphere developing.</li> <li>▪ All persons entering a confined space must wear safety harnesses to facilitate rescue in an emergency situation.</li> </ul>
		
<p align="center"><b>SAFE ACCESS / EGRESS &amp; DISPLAY OF NOTICES</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>TRAINING, SUPERVISION &amp; EMERGENCY PROCEDURE</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>VENTILATION &amp; AIR QUALITY</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ensure that safe access &amp; egress are provided into and out of the confined space.</li> <li>▪ Display appropriate warning signs &amp; notices in languages that are easily understood by the work force.</li> <li>▪ Before using open flames in a confined space, combustible gases or liquids must be removed if present.</li> <li>▪ Manholes used for access should be rectangular, oval or circular in shape &amp; be not less than 450mmX407mm or 457mm diameter.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide adequate trained supervision for the confined space working.</li> <li>▪ Maintain a tally of people with name, number &amp; time of entry &amp; exit from the confined space for any emergency purposes.</li> <li>▪ Establish &amp; communicate an emergency procedure to deal with rescue or recovery of any workers who become injured or dehydrated.</li> <li>▪ Practice the evacuation drills on regular basis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide good ventilation in the confined space to prevent stale air &amp; ensure that the air quality remains breathable.</li> <li>▪ Remove any residue that may be present &amp; may give rise to risk to workers working in confined spaces.</li> <li>▪ In case of an excessive temperature reduce the time of working shifts and give frequent breaks.</li> <li>▪ Make arrangements to ensure that workers do not become dehydrated whilst working in excessive temperatures.</li> </ul>