

Entry into Enclosed Space (EES)



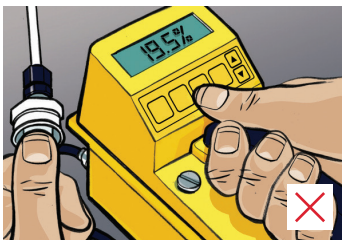
Before any planned entry into an enclosed space (EES) make sure the crew have been trained in the EES rescue plan and that training has been confirmed by a drill.



Make sure all spaces on board that could develop an atmosphere deficient in oxygen (or contain toxic gases) are marked with the correct warning signs. Before any planned EES make sure a permit to work has been completed.



The time limits on the permit to work must show the time needed to complete the job. This is an important control measure - if the job takes longer than planned, all personnel must leave the space - a new risk assessment and permit to work must be completed.



Always test the atmosphere as per procedures and beware of toxic gases. Remember for EES without breathing apparatus (SCBA) an oxygen level of at least 20% is required.



When completing a risk assessment remember the hazard of 'rushing in to help friends' - the consequences are almost always death. Sound the alarm and ask for the EES rescue team.

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Checklist

ENTRY INTO ENCLOSED SPACE (EES)

Use with onboard procedures, NORTH Enclosed Space entry permit checklist, and Chapter 15 of the UK Code of Safe Working Practices for Merchant Seafarers.

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Before EES (should include):

- The atmosphere of any enclosed or confined space is potentially dangerous – beware toxic gases...
- This list refers to EES without breathing apparatus (SCBA) and an oxygen level of at least 20%.....
- Access to and within the space should be adequate and well illuminated.....
- No source of ignition should be taken or put into the space.....
- Rescue and resuscitation equipment should be positioned ready for use at the entrance.....
- Equipment for hoisting an incapacitated person from the confined space may be required.....
- Is entry with breathing apparatus (SCBA) possible for EES rescue.....
- The number of personnel entering the space should be limited to essential personnel only.....
- Personnel entering the space should always wear a rescue harness to help speedy recovery.....
- Personnel entering the space should carry a personal O2 monitor or a multi-gas monitor.....
- A person must not be hoisted from a space by a lifeline.....
- Always have at least one attendant to remain at the entrance to the space whilst it is occupied.....
- System of communication – space and attendant/attendant and OOW – agreed and tested.....

During EES (should include):

- Ventilation must continue during the period that the space is occupied.....
- Ventilation must continue during temporary breaks.....
- If the ventilation system fails any personnel in the space should leave immediately.....
- Atmosphere must be tested regularly whilst the space is occupied.....
- If unforeseen difficulties or hazards develop the work in the space must be stopped.....
- Permits must be withdrawn and only re-issued after a new risk assessment has been completed.....
- Any personnel in the space feeling unwell should immediately leave the space.....
- If an emergency occurs sound the general alarm and ask for EES rescue team.....
- The attendant must not enter the space to help.....
- Once the rescue team reach the casualty – check/provide an air supply must be first priority.....
- Unless very seriously injured the casualty should be evacuated as quickly as possible.....

After EES (should include):

- All personnel must leave the space before the expiry time on the permit to work.....
- All personnel have left space and/or job finished – space secured or passed safe for normal entry.....

