

# CONFINED SPACE

## PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The intent of this document is to eliminate or minimise the risks of fatalities, injuries and incidents arising from any works associated with confined spaces at Gamuda Australia (GA) projects / workplaces.

**HOLD POINT** – *Determine if the work space is deemed a confined space, can work in the space be eliminated, and where elimination is not possible, a review shall be undertaken to determine if the work can be completed without people entering the space.*

### CRITICAL CONTROLS

- Confined Space Entry is controlled by a permit system (refer to GA-CRS-18 Permit to Work)
- A specific risk assessment is conducted for each confined space.
- A standby person is in place at all times whilst there are people inside a confined space
- Workers, stand by person and supervisors are appropriately trained, certified, and competent (jurisdiction and task specific)
- Potentially hazardous systems and services are isolated and de-energised prior to any person entering the confined space
- Air monitoring program is in place (at the entry point and work area) and active at all times whilst personnel are in the confined space
- Emergency Plan is in place (retrieval system, communications, first aid and response)
- PPE and emergency equipment is available and has been checked prior to work commencing

**Note:** The above controls are to be read in conjunction with the Regulations, Standards and Codes listed below.

## OTHER CRITICAL CONSIDERATIONS

- At the design stage, risks including confined spaces must be eliminated and minimised as much as possible. Safety in Design (SiD) processes must be applied and completed to determine the following:
  - Confined spaces at the design stage are eliminated wherever possible
  - The need to enter a confined space is minimised
  - Risks to persons working in a confined space are minimised
  - Access points are of adequate size to permit rescue of persons
- Co-located activities or any other work in the vicinity has been risk assessed to ensure it cannot adversely affect personnel involved in the confined space work, including contaminants, including airborne gases, vapours and dusts, that may cause injury from fire or explosion, an atmosphere that does not have a safe oxygen level, harmful concentrations of any airborne contaminants, and/or engulfment.
- If required, purging or ventilation of any containment in the atmosphere of the space is carried out and further atmospheric testing and monitoring is to be carried out prior to entering the confined space

# INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

## CRITICAL RISK STANDARD

### CONFINED SPACE

- Confined spaces are identified within the Project Risk Assessment and warning signs are displayed at the entry of the confined space with a unique number. Confined space signage must be displayed whilst the work is set up, and through to completion
- All workers, supervisors, stand-by and/or rescue personnel involved in the Confined Space work, must be consulted and briefed on the permit conditions, access and egress arrangements and roles and responsibilities prior to work commencing.
- Emergency and rescue arrangements must be checked for adequacy prior to work commencing, preferably on site by the workers involved in the work, including checking that communication method with standby person can be maintained at all times. Continuous communication between personnel inside and from outside the confined space is established and maintained
- Eliminate hot works where practicable, if not, then other suitable controls are to be implemented to reduce risk of fire or explosion. Prohibit smoking, naked flames, plant and or equipment within the vicinity of the confined space work.
- Confined Spaces are signposted, barricaded, locked or suitable means of restricting access is adopted when not in use.

## REGULATIONS, STANDARDS AND CODES

- Work Health & Safety Regulation 2011 (QLD, ACT), 2012 (SA), 2017 (NSW, NT) and 2022 (WA), Part 4.3 Confined Space
- Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 2017 (VIC) Part 3.4 – Confined Spaces
- AS / NZS 2865 Confined Spaces
- SafeWork Australia Confined Spaces Code of Practice

## FORMS AND CHECKLISTS

- GA-FRM-HSE-131 Permit to Enter Confined Space