

Site Safety

This information is mostly from OSHA and is informational. Check local jurisdiction for detailed information.

- Confined space
- Fall hazards
- Trench safety
- Electrical

Confined Space

Varies with jurisdiction and industry.

- In general, confined space requirements take place at the plane of the opening
- Limited entry/exit
 - not just size, ladder required, secondary openings
- Large enough for entry to perform tasks
- Not designed for continuous occupation

Permit-required confined spaces

- any space that includes one or more of the above 3 and one of the following
 - Hazardous gases
 - contains materials with the potential to engulf entrant
 - Has internal configuration that might trap the entrant
 - secondary openings, sloped floor, tapered walls
 - contains a recognized safety or health hazard.
 - high heat potential or loud noise
- Written program outlining the entire project
- Entry permit through OSHA
- List of attendees and entrants

- Ensure means of rescue
 - trained and equipped confined space rescue team “within reasonable response”

Equipment

- respirator/external air supply
- harness and lifting equipment
- face masks/shield/eye protection
- ear protection

Fall Hazard

Varies with jurisdiction and industry.

- In general fall protection is required at 4'
 - off of something or into something
- If someone can fall into a hazard, fall protection is required at any height
 - confined space
 - machinery, equipment
 - gasses
 - someplace they could get stuck or engulfed
- Equipment
 - guard or handrails
 - hole covers
 - safety harness and anchor line
 - safety net

Trench Safety

Varies with jurisdiction and industry.

- at 4' deep there must be a safe means of egress no further than 25' away
 - Ladder, ramp, steps
- at 5' deep there must be trench wall shoring. Trench box
 - sloping or benching trench wall
 - soil conditions
 - moisture
 - soil type
- Other considerations
 - 4' where fall safety starts
 - is a trench considered confined space? Broad answer is no, but there may be other factors.
- Equipment
 - Rails blockades
 - Block trench with equipment
 - Caution tape

Electrical safety

Extreme variations depending on jurisdiction and industry.

- difficult to find information on this specific industry
- ALWAYS double check to make sure you know the status of power
- Troubleshooting
 - usually faster with power on
 - always safer with power off
 - continuity testing
- If the breaker in the panel is off, you are still considered to have a hot panel
- Touch safe panels
 - Recessed screws. Still possible to get injured.
- Beware of flooded splice boxes. Water is a conductor.
 - TRUE Pure water is an insulator because it does not contain ions.

Equipment

- Multimeter
- Tools with insulated handles
- safety glasses