

# Oakland University Confined Spaces Program

## Permit Space Entry by Contractors

### Oakland University Responsibilities

From time to time, various departments at Oakland University (host employer) will be involved in projects that may involve permit space entry by outside contractors. In these instances, the responsible individual or department (Oakland University Project Contact) is required to do the following:

- Ascertain whether the contractor will be performing assigned work that involves permit space entry. Ideally, this will happen in the project pre-planning phase. **NOTE: Utilize the Regulatory Standard, Confines Space Entry Training Guide or contact EH&S for assistance in making this determination.**
- Inform the contractor that the workplace contains permit spaces and that permit space entry is allowed only through compliance with a permit space program meeting the requirements of 1910.146. **NOTE: Contact EH&S for assistance in reviewing a contractors permit space program.**
- Apprise the contractor of the elements, including the hazards identified and Oakland University's experience with the space, that make the space in question a permit space. This may require that you contact other departments and/or personnel.
- Apprise the contractor of any precautions or procedures that Oakland University has implemented for the protection of employees in or near permit spaces where contractor personnel will be working. Again, this may require that you contact other departments and/or personnel.
- All relevant Oakland University individuals/departments should coordinate entry operations (through the OU Project Contact) with the contractor when both OU employees and contractor employees will be working in or near permit spaces.
- OU Project Contacts should debrief the contractor at the conclusion of the entry operations regarding the permit space program followed and regarding any hazards confronted or created in a permit space(s) during entry operations. This information should be provided to all relevant OU individuals/departments and will be valuable for any future projects involving similar permit space entries.
- The OU Project Contact is responsible for ensuring that **Contractor Responsibilities** (page 2) are met.

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Confined Spaces Program**

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**Contractor Responsibilities**

In addition to complying with state and federal regulatory guidelines relative to permit space entry that apply to ALL employers, contractors are required to:

- Obtain any available information regarding permit space hazards and entry operations from their Oakland University Project Contact.
- Coordinate entry operations with relevant OU Individuals/Departments (through their Oakland University Project Contact) when both OU employees and contractor personnel will be working in or near permit spaces.
- Inform the Oakland University Project Contact of the permit space program that they and their employees will follow and of any hazards confronted or created in a permit spaces, either through a debriefing or during the entry operation.