

NAVSEA
STANDARD ITEM

FY-28

ITEM NO: 009-007
DATE: 01 OCT 2025
CATEGORY: I

1. SCOPE:

1.1 Title: Confined Space Entry, and Certification; accomplish

2. REFERENCES:

- 2.1 29 CFR Part 1915, Occupational Safety and Health Standards for Shipyard Employment
- 2.2 29 CFR Part 1910.134, Occupational Safety and Health Standards, Respiratory Protection
- 2.3 NFPA Standard 312, Standard for Fire Protection of Vessels During Construction, Repair, and Lay-up
- 2.4 American Conference of Government Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) Threshold Limit Values for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents

3. REQUIREMENTS:

3.1 Comply with the requirements of 2.1 through 2.3 and this item to determine whether or not an explosive or other dangerous atmosphere exists in tanks, spaces, and associated piping, including adjacent tanks, spaces, and piping aboard the ship and control hot work and entry to those spaces to preclude damage to the ship or injury to personnel during the accomplishment of this Job Order.

3.1.1 Submit one legible copy, in approved transferrable media, of a list of tanks or spaces to be opened or certified to the SUPERVISOR at least one day prior to opening the tank or void.

3.1.1.1 Comply with additional requirements of NAVSEA Standard Items when accomplishing work in Collection, Holding and Transfer (CHT) and Motor Gasoline (MOGAS) tanks, spaces, or associated piping.

3.1.1.2 For fuel tanks or spaces that contain or have contained fuel, including F-76 and JP-5, in addition to the atmospheric testing required by 2.1, test for diesel fuel (CAS No. 68334-30-5; 68476-30-2; 68476-31-3; 68476-34-6, 77650-28-3) as total hydrocarbons in accordance with 2.4, and record total hydrocarbon test results on the Marine Chemist Certificate (MCC) or competent person's test/inspection record.

3.1.2 Provide initial and annual update training for Competent Persons by utilizing a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Certified Marine Chemist or NFPA Instructor.

Initial training must be completed in person, for annual update training either in person or virtual live session are acceptable. ***The length of the initial training class must be at least 24 hours. Annual update training must be at least 8 hours.*** (SEE NOTE 4.6 and 4.7)

3.1.2.1 Maintain a current roster of designated Competent Person(s) and copies of certificates of completion for the training required in 3.1.2 for reference by the SUPERVISOR. Submit one legible copy, in approved transferrable media, of the specific documents when requested by the SUPERVISOR.

3.1.3 Post a copy of the Marine Chemist Certificate, Certified Industrial Hygienist's test/inspection record, or Competent Person's test/inspection record at each access to the affected space while work in the space is in progress. When requested, a copy of the MCC or test/inspection record must also be delivered to a location designated by the SUPERVISOR. In the event that the space is identified to be NOT SAFE FOR WORKERS or NOT SAFE FOR HOT WORK, the space must be posted accordingly and other affected contractors, the SUPERVISOR and Ship's Force must be notified immediately. The posted copy must be clearly visible and legible.

3.1.3.1 Initial certification of spaces that require a Certified MCC or Certified Industrial Hygienist's test/inspection record in support of work operations must be effective until conditions change which would void the certificate or test/inspection record. A Competent Person must conduct the same atmospheric testing as required on the MCC or Certified Industrial Hygienist's test/inspection record.

3.1.3.2 For those certified spaces which employees will enter, a Competent Person must visually inspect, test and record each space certified as ENTER WITH RESTRICTIONS or SAFE FOR WORKERS as often as necessary, and as a minimum, prior to entry by employees on a daily basis. If a space is not to be entered on any given day, it is not required to be inspected and tested by a Competent Person. The initial MCC remains valid if conditions have not changed, unless noted on the MCC.

3.1.3.3 For those certified spaces affected by hot work, a Competent Person must visually inspect, test, and record each space certified as SAFE FOR HOT WORK as often as necessary and, as a minimum, daily prior to commencement of hot work to ensure that conditions established by the certificate are maintained. When hot work is continuous, the affected spaces must be visually inspected, tested, and recorded on a daily basis to maintain the SAFE FOR HOT WORK certification.

3.1.3.4 If a Competent Person finds that the conditions within a certified space fail to meet the applicable requirements for which it was certified, work in the space must be stopped and may not be resumed until the space has been recertified by a Marine Chemist.

3.1.3.5 For those spaces where only Competent Person tests and inspections are required in accordance with 2.1, a Competent Person must visually inspect and test each space as often as necessary and, as a minimum, daily prior to entry or commencement of hot work to ensure that conditions are safe.

3.1.3.6 After the Competent Person has determined initially that a space is safe for entry and finds subsequently that the conditions within the tested space fail to meet the requirements of 2.1, work must be stopped until the conditions in the tested space are corrected, the space is retested, reinspected, and a new record of tests/inspections is recorded and posted.

3.1.3.7 Calibrate or bump test per manufacturer instructions, Competent Person test equipment before each shift's use. Retain records for a minimum of three months after the completion of the availability and provide copies to the SUPERVISOR upon request.

3.1.3.8 Allow Navy civilian and military personnel to enter under the certificate or test / inspection record for inspection purposes.

3.1.4 Tank cleaning personnel must be trained annually on safety practices to include a discussion of safety information identified in Subparts A, B, and Section 1915.152 of Subpart I of 2.1. ***Submit one legible copy, in approved transferrable media, of the specific documents when requested by the SUPERVISOR.***

3.1.5 Maintain a current roster of the names of the Shipyard/Plant Rescue Team Members, along with contractor certification that training requirements of Subpart B of 2.1 have been accomplished and are current for each Rescue Team Member, or documentation of arrangements made for an outside rescue team to respond promptly to a request for rescue service in a contractor facility. Submit one legible copy, in approved transferrable media, of the specific documents when requested by the SUPERVISOR.

3.1.5.1 At a naval facility, the Navy will respond.

3.1.6 Spaces that are determined to contain Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health (IDLH) atmospheres must never be entered except for emergency rescue or for short duration for installation of ventilation equipment in accordance with 2.1 and 2.2. When entering IDLH spaces for the purpose of installing ventilation, notify the SUPERVISOR prior to entry. Notifications of rescue must be made as soon as management becomes aware of such an event.

3.1.7 Confirm that all personnel have exited the space prior to closure of tanks, voids, and cofferdams. Designate one person to account for all personnel who may have entered the space.

4. NOTES:

4.1 In addition to CHT and MOGAS tanks, Hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) may be found in AFFF, seawater, and firemain systems.

4.2 Booklet of General Plans and Tank Sounding Tables are available for review at the office of the SUPERVISOR.

4.3 A "quick disconnect" is a coupling or connecting device/system designed to permit easy and immediate separation of lines without the use of tools and to ensure the contents do not escape.

4.4 Paragraph 3.1.3.7 does not alter the respective responsibilities and liabilities of the government and contractor.

4.5 The Fire Safety Council (FSC) must concur on mitigation actions. FSC must ensure a means of access/egress is maintained via the other required brow(s)/gangway(s).

4.6 Initial Shipyard Competent Persons (SYCP) training taken on or after 05 December 2023 ***must*** comply with the requirement of 3.1.2.

4.7 The term "annual" means once a year, not-to-exceed 12 months.