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HEALTH AND SAFETY AT WORK - POWER SYSTEM SERVICES LTD

Policy and Procedures Pertaining to Confined Space Entry

The Purpose of this document is to ensure that works that involve entry into a Confined Space are managed safely and that the roles and responsibilities of all parties are clearly understood and comply with Legislation. In particular the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and the Confined Spaces regulations 1997

Definition-

A confined Space such as a chamber, Tank, Silo, Pit, Trench, Pipeline, Sewer, Flue, Well or similar space, in by virtue of its enclosed nature there arises a foreseeable Risk. This Risk can include but not limited to Hazards like; Impeded access and Egress, Oxygen Starvation, Chemical Asphyxiation, Drowning, Explosion and Entrapment.

Duties-

Power System Services Limited (The Employer)

- Ensure Compliance with the provisions of the Confined Space Regulations in respect of any works carried out by employees or by others.
- Provide a safe system of work compliant with these regulations
- Provide Instruction and Training
- Provide well maintained control plant and equipment.
- Ensure Escape and Rescue Plan is in place.

The Employee

- Ensure Compliance with the provisions of the Confined Space Regulations in respect of any works they undertake.
- Comply with the Safe System of works and their Controls.
- Execute the Roles and responsibilities given to them responsibly and ensure that they inform others if they cannot.

Rule 1- Entry

No Person shall enter a defined Confined space unless the Task has been thoroughly assessed. Such assessments include but not limited to the following;

- 1) Safety From the system has been achieved. This could be locking off devices, gas Detection and will likely be confirmed by a permit to work.
- 2) Safe Working Procedure and Controls are in place with emergency plans in the event that conditions change during the course of the work.
- 3) Personnel have adequate training and appropriate equipment for the task in hand.
- 4) Correct PPE is available, Inspected regularly and findings recorded and fits.
- 5) First aid and Emergency medical teams are available in the event that an incident occurs.
- 6) Establishment of full understanding of the safe system of work, emergency arrangements and the individual role within the team needs to be understood and team members sign documents to confirm this.

Rule 2- Ongoing Control

- 1) Measures are to be in place to ensure that the environment remains stable. This may include but not limited to Gas Detection and monitoring equipment.
- 2) Persons working in the confined space shall be monitored by a Door Person who controls access into the area and records entry.
- 3) In the event that key controls such as the Door Person has to leave their position, then all of the Working Party shall leave the confined space until such time that this control is back in place.
- 4) Should the situation or work involved change in its method or scope then all shall leave the confined space pending reassessment of the task.
- 5) Ensure that Escape plan if required can constantly be instigated.
- 6) Ensure communications between confined space coordinator, door person and operatives is maintained.
- 7) If any member of the team feels unable to perform their role for whatever reason, then they should be removed, re-trained or replaced.

Each confined space entry task has different control measures that shall be outlined in the Safe working procedures and controls as far as is reasonably practicable. Failure to comply with procedures and controls could result in serious injury or fatality.

If in doubt ask.



P. Beauchamp:
Managing Director

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