

NAES STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Public Safety Department (OSH Division)

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1.0 PURPOSE

To establish emergency rescue procedures from confined spaces in the event that personnel become incapacitated within confined spaces.

2.0 APPLICATION

This Standard Operating procedure applies to all Navy Lakehurst facilities and departments operating on the base. As a condition of employment, Lakehurst workers may be required to enter and work in confined spaces. Testing the confined spaces prior to entry and maintaining good work practices may not prevent workers from becoming disabled due to unforeseen circumstances. This procedure ensures that a standard method is used to rescue workers who become incapacitated. Reference (a) is a federal regulation established to ensure the safety of employees.

3.0 REFERENCES

- a. OPNAVINST 5100.23E
- b. 29 CFR 1910.146

4.0 PROCEDURES

1. The following is a list of the primary responsibilities with regard to rescue from confined space.
 - a. Public Safety Director, Code 8.4 shall be responsible for overall technical direction of the rescue plan.
 - b. Fire Department, Code 8.4.2 shall:
 - (1) Ensure the properly trained and equipped personnel are available at all times, for rescues from confined spaces from all areas under the protection of the Fire Department. The Fire Department shall be in overall charge of all rescue operations.
 - (2) Have the Gas Free Engineer/Confined Space Program Manager notified of all emergencies, which require rescue from a confined space.
 - (3) Be responsible to perform audits on the rescue procedure to ensure its proper operation and identify problems that may affect its operation.
 - c. Shop Superintendents shall:
 - (1) Ensure that supervisors are aware of the rescue procedures.
 - (2) Ensure that all of their employees whose work involves entry into confined space are aware of rescue procedures.
 - (3) Ensure that employees adhere to the requirements of this instruction.
2. Methods of Rescue
 - a. No workers will enter a confined space without a dedicated attendant and without having the confined space certified as safe to enter by the appropriate gas free personnel.
 - b. In case of an emergency:

- (1) The attendant will establish the best method of alerting the Fire Department's rescue team in case of an emergency before assuming the top watch duties. This may be accomplished by telephone, radio or alarm.
- (2) The attendant will summon help and sound alarm, if the person in the confined space becomes incapacitated.
- (3) If entry into the confined space is necessary for rescue, **NO ATTENDANT WILL TRY TO RESCUE PEOPLE IN THE CONFINED SPACE.**
- (4) The rescue team of the Fire Department will respond to the distress call. They will also notify the Branch Clinic.
- (5) If an alarm or telephone is used, the attendant will remain available to direct the rescue team.
- (6) All rescuers entering a confined space to perform a rescue of personnel will assume the atmosphere is in the immediately dangerous to life and health range and wear appropriate safety equipment.