
 <p>HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM</p>	Section 8.4: Confined Space Rescue Plan		
	APPROVED BY: Sarhan Abu-Kwiek	COR Elements: 11	
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CONFINED SPACE RESCUE PLAN

As part of the confined space entry permit J-AAR’s Confined Space Rescue Plan should also be completed prior to entry. The completion of this sheet ensures that all potentially required rescue equipment is available on site, it has been inspected by the emergency rescue team, and everyone involved knows their roles and means of summoning. At this point those on the ERT should also review the entry permit to make themselves aware of any potential hazards before an emergency situation may occur.

In the event a confined space rescue is required ensure these four general rules are always followed:

1. Call 911 immediately
2. The attendant is never to enter the space. They should summon the ERT at the first signs of a problem
3. Always chose the rescue option which exposes members of the ERT to the least amount of risk
4. Always assess the situation for cause of injury and any actual or potential hazards. Never put yourself at an unnecessary level of risk

With three in mind the following means of rescue are listed in order of priority:

Self-Rescue

Determine the cause of the injury and any potential or actual hazards to the worker and the ERT. If the entrant is alert and mobile have them try to exit the space on their own. The ERT will help guide the entrant from the space. Once they are out the ERT will help them get to a safe, comfortable space and give them a full assessment. Provide first-aid if necessary and wait with the entrant for EMS to arrive. The entrant should be monitored and made as comfortable as possible during this time.



Non-Entry Rescue

If the entrant is non-responsive or cannot physically exit the space themselves non-entry rescue should considered. If non-entry rescue is the plan, then it is important to note that the entrant must never remove their lifeline/harness while in the space and they must remain in a location where they can be retrieved by the retrieval system. Otherwise, this is not a viable rescue plan.

Assess the situation for any actual or potential hazards. The Attendant/ERT should attempt to use the external retrieval system to remove the entrant from the space. Once the entrant is out of the space bring them to a safe, comfortable place. They should be assessed and given first aid if required; members of the ERT should monitor the entrant and wait with them for EMS to arrive.

Simple Rescue

If the entrant is unable to be retrieved externally then a member of the ERT is going to have to enter the space to assist them. Before entering the space, the rescuer will don a full body rescue harness and lifeline. If there is a potential fall hazard a fall arrest system must be in place. Once inside the rescuer will assess the situation and attempt to free the entrant from any obstacles and prevent any further injury. If there is an atmospheric hazard – first aid/stabilization of the entrant should not be done at all in the space. Time spent in these conditions poses a greater hazard than trying to move the entrant without stabilization. If there are not atmospheric hazards at this time, then an assessment and stabilization should be carried out prior to moving the entrant. The rescuer will attach the rescue lifeline to the entrant and inform the attendant/member of ERT to begin extraction. The rescuer

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will guide the entrant around any obstacles which may impede/redirect extraction. Temporary carabiners may be required. Once the entrant has exited the space they should be brought to a safe, comfortable place. They should be assessed and given first aid if required; members of the ERT should monitor the entrant and wait with them for EMS to arrive.

Complex Rescue

Complex rescue procedures follow simple rescue procedures, but with additional considerations. A complex rescue requires two rescuers entering the space to retrieve the entrant.

This is likely due to:

- Entrant being in a space within a space – multiple rooms, corridors, etc.
- One rescuer is not enough to guide the entrant out through obstacles
- If multiple redirects are required
- If communication concerns are present. If the space does not allow for radio use and there is no clear line of sight for visual options.