

APPENDIX A

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions used throughout this College Confined Space Entry Plan are based on College terms and the OSHA CFR 1910.146 Permit Required Confined Space Entry Regulation definitions.

Associate Manager—means the designated FMS Associate Manager. See the College's [Organizational Guide](#).

College—means the Portland Community College District or PCC.

Confined Space—means a space that:

- Is large enough and is so configured that an Entrant can bodily enter and perform assigned work;
- Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (e.g., tank, manhole, pit or sump, storage bin, cooling tower, vault); and
- Is not designed for continuous Entrant occupancy.

Employee—means an individual employed by Portland Community College.

Engulfment—means the surrounding and effective capture of an individual by a liquid or finely divided solid substance that can be aspirated to cause death by filling or plugging the respiratory system or that can exert enough force on the body to cause death by strangulation, constriction or crushing.

Entrant—means an employee or contractor entering into a confined space.

Entry—means the entry into a confined space that occurs as soon as any part of the Entrant's body breaks the plane of an opening into that space.

Entry Permit—means the written permit defining the conditions under which the confined space may be entered.

Entry Supervisor—means the person (e.g., employer, foreman, or crew chief) responsible for determining if acceptable entry conditions are present at a permit space where entry is planned; for authorizing entry and overseeing entry operations, and for terminating entry as required by this Plan.

NOTE - An Entry Supervisor may serve as an Attendant or as an authorized Entrant, as long as that person is trained and equipped as required by this Plan for each role he/she fills. Also, the duties of the Entry Supervisor may be passed from one individual to another during the course of the entry operation.

FMS—means the College's **Facilities Management Service** that is a centralized, College-

wide department that has the responsibility for maintaining a healthy and safe physical environment through its maintenance, custodial, and grounds operations.

Hazardous Atmosphere—means an atmosphere that may expose an individual to a risk of acute illness, injury, incapacitation or death from one or more of the following causes:

- A flammable gas, vapor, or mist in excess of 10% of its lower flammable limit (LFL).
- An atmospheric oxygen concentration below 19.5% or above 23.5%.
- A combustible dust environment.
- An atmospheric concentration of any substance for which an employee's exposure would exceed the permissible exposure limit (PEL).
- Any atmospheric condition recognized as immediately dangerous to life or health.

HVAC—means **Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning System**, the ventilating systems designed primarily to control temperature, humidity, odors, and air quality.

IDLH—means **Immediately Dangerous to Life or Health**:

- Any condition that poses an immediate threat of loss of life; or
- Any condition that could impair escape from the confined space and may result in irreversible or immediate and severe health effects.

Incapacitation—means to deprive an individual of power, force, or effectiveness.

Non-Permit Space—means a confined space that does not contain or, with respect to atmospheric hazards, have the potential to contain any hazard capable of causing IDLH or engulfment hazard, and where all other serious hazards have been controlled, e.g., vented vault, motor control cabinet, and dropped ceiling (these spaces generally have natural or permanent mechanical ventilation to prevent the accumulation of a hazardous atmosphere).

OR-OSHA—means the State of Oregon's Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

PEL—means **Permissible Exposure Limits**, an airborne chemical exposure limit established by OR-OSHA that cannot be exceeded without proper respiratory protection and the implementation of feasible engineering controls.

Permit Required Space—means a confined space that has one or more of the following characteristics:

1. Contains or has a potential to contain hazardous atmosphere which exposes an Entrant to a risk of death, incapacitation, injury or acute illness from one or more of the following causes:
 - Flammable or combustible gas;
 - Oxygen deficient or enriched atmosphere;
 - Toxic atmosphere; or
 - Engulfment or other serious physical hazard.
2. Has an internal configuration such that an Entrant could be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor which slopes downward and tapers to a smaller

cross-section:

- Space that has limited or restricted means for entry or exit;
- Space that is not designed for continuous employee occupancy, e.g., tank, vessel, silo, storage bin, hopper, vault, pit and diked area.

3. Contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazard.

Permit Required Space with Alternative Procedures—is an alternative process for entering a confined space under very specific conditions. NOTE: The space remains a Permit Required Confined Space even when entered using an Alternate Procedure Entry.

PCC—means the Portland Community College District or the College.

Safety & Risk Services—a.k.a. **Risk Management and its Manager**. This department is designated by amended PCC Board Policy B-507 to “...*maintain a high standard of service and accountability through the development and implementation of programs to improve the health, safety, and well-being of the College’s workforce, students, and the community . . . through effective and innovative risk management techniques and practices.*”

Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)—means the equipment used in a Permit-Required Confined Space.

Standby Attendant—means an employee trained in Emergency Rescue procedures and assigned to remain on the outside of a confined space and be in communications with an Entrant working inside a confined space.