



The University of Vermont

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL PLANT
TRAINING & COMPLIANCE OFFICE

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Date: November 1, 2019

To: All University of Vermont Contractors Entering Confined Spaces and
University of Vermont, Project Managers

From: Vince Brennan, Safety Programs Manager

RE: Clarification of University of Vermont (UVM) Physical Plant Department (PPD) Confined Space
Entry Rescue Team Responsibilities

It has come to my attention that there may be some confusion towards the role of the UVM, PPD's Confined Space Rescue Team. This memorandum is written to help clarify the Team's role and the responsibilities of any contractor entering one of the UVM's confined spaces. Also this memo is a reminder related to communication responsibilities of the UVM's Project Manager as the hiring manager of outside contractors performing work in confined spaces at UVM.

UVM, PPD's Confined Space Rescue Team has been established for conducting confined space rescue operations for PPD employees in compliance with OSHA 29CFR1910.146 and 29CFR1926 Subpart AA. UVM, PPD's Confined Space Rescue Team should **NOT** be looked upon as the primary rescue entity for any outside contractor doing work within a confined space at the UVM.

All known confined spaces that can be bodily entered, are not designed for occupancy and have limited entrance and egress that UVM PPD's personnel access have been identified. Each of these spaces has a profile that identifies: Space Characteristics, Atmospheric Hazards, Entry Information, Identified Hazards, Special Procedures, Emergency Services and Directions. These profiles are located on UVM's PPD, Training & Compliance Office website. Access is password protected to all trained PPD Personnel and Project Managers.

Project Managers are responsible as the host employer. Their primary responsibility is to provide the Confined Space Profile information to the General Contractor or the controlling contractor that is entering the space.

Contractors conducting confined space operations are responsible to comply with all applicable safety regulations. This applies to UVM confined spaces as well as any confined space that the contractor creates in the course of their work. The contractor must provide training to personnel acting as the Attendant, Entrant, and Entry Supervisor. In addition, the contractor is required to have a viable rescue plan and rescue team prior to a confined space entry. The contractor's rescue team is responsible for getting any would-be victim out of the confined space for emergency services to take over for additional care and/or transport to a medical facility. The contractor is also required to call Service Operations Support 656-2560, press 1 prior to entry to inform PPD personnel of the work and after work is completed and the permit is cancelled.

In the event a confined space is identified and there is not an existing profile, please contact my office so we can enter it into our inventory of Permitted and Non-Permitted Confined Spaces. If you have any questions about this memorandum or any other safety concerns regarding confined spaces feel free to contact [me](#) or [Stephen Znamierowski](#) at 656-7233.