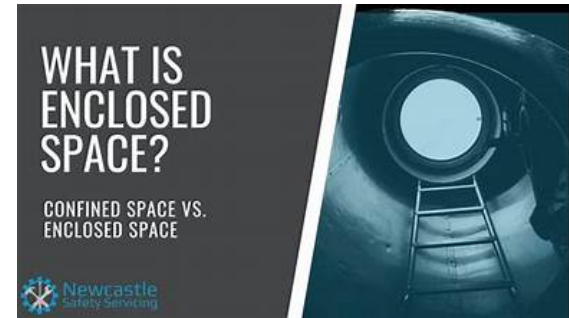




Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Enclosed and Confined Spaces Safety Message

A confined or enclosed space can come in the form of a manhole, splice vault, tunnel or pit, and all of these are similar. **The exception is that an enclosed space only contains an electrical hazard and is considered enclosed for routine entry. A space can't be classified as enclosed if any other hazard or abnormal condition is identified.** Proper inspection and testing procedures required by the OSHA standards are the only acceptable methods that can be used to reclassify the space as enclosed.

Per 1910.146(b), "confined space" means a space that:

1. Is large enough and so configured that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work; and
2. Has limited or restricted means for entry or exit (for example, tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults and pits are spaces that may have limited means of entry); and
3. Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

29 CFR 1910.269(e), Enclosed spaces

29 CFR 1910.146, Permit-required confined spaces

APPA Safety Manual Page 49 Section 201