



**Confined Space**

**HazMat or Technical Rescue?**

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- Graduate Crystal Coast Fire Academy
  - Certified Safety Professional
  - HazMat Technician (Instructor)
- Technical Rescue Qualified (General)
  - Industrial Rescue (Instructor)
    - EMT 1 (Basic)
    - SAR Tech II

**How Does Your  
Department Handle  
Confined Space Rescue  
Calls?**



# Back to Basics – What is a Confined Space?

**1.**

Large enough for a human being to enter and perform work

**2.**

Not designed for continuous human occupancy

**3.**

Limited means of ingress/egress







KUR







**What makes a  
confined space  
permit required?**















# Who Classifies the Space?



**Does NFPA or  
ANSI Differentiate  
between CS and  
PRCS?**



# OSHA Requirements for Confined Space Operations – 29 CFR 1910.146



**1.**

Written Plan

**2.**

Appropriately trained  
personnel (Entrant,  
Attendant, Supervisor,  
Rescue)

**3.**

Monitoring/Testing

**4.**

Rescue Plan/Retrieval  
System

**Are there  
exceptions for  
Emergency  
Services?**



# How do Emergency Services Meet Written Planning Requirements?



# How Many People Are Required on A Rescue Team?



# What is “Appropriate Training”?



# OSHA Training Requirements

The employer shall provide training so that all employees whose work is regulated by this section acquire the understanding, knowledge, and skills necessary for the safe performance of the duties assigned under this section.

The training shall establish employee proficiency in the duties required by this section and shall introduce new or revised procedures, as necessary, for compliance with this section.

## Standards incorporated by reference

- 1910.120 (Training Curriculum)
- 1910.134 (IDLH Rescue)



RESCUE PERSONNEL  
MUST FIRST RECEIVE  
ENTRY TRAINING

# NFPA Performance Requirements

- Initiate a search
- Incident Size Up
- Hazard Monitoring \*
- Assess the Incident
- Control Hazards
- Apply SCBA to a victim
- Spinal Stabilization
- Horizontal and Vertical Entry
- Patient Packaging
- Anchor Point Selection and Set up
- Patient Removal
- Incident Termination

\* Conduct monitoring of the environment given monitoring equipment reference material, PPE, a properly monitoring and detection equipment, and size up information, so that a representative sample of the space is obtained, accurate readings are made, readings are documented, and effects of ventilation in determining atmospheric conditions of the space have been determined for exposures to existing or potential environmental hazards

# US Consensus Standards



# US Consensus Standards for Confined Space

**1.**

**NFPA 350  
Standard for Entry**

**2.**

**NFPA 2500  
(Previously  
1670/1958/1983)  
Technical Rescue  
Program Standards**

**3.**

**NFPA 1006  
Technical Rescue Job  
Performance  
Requirements**

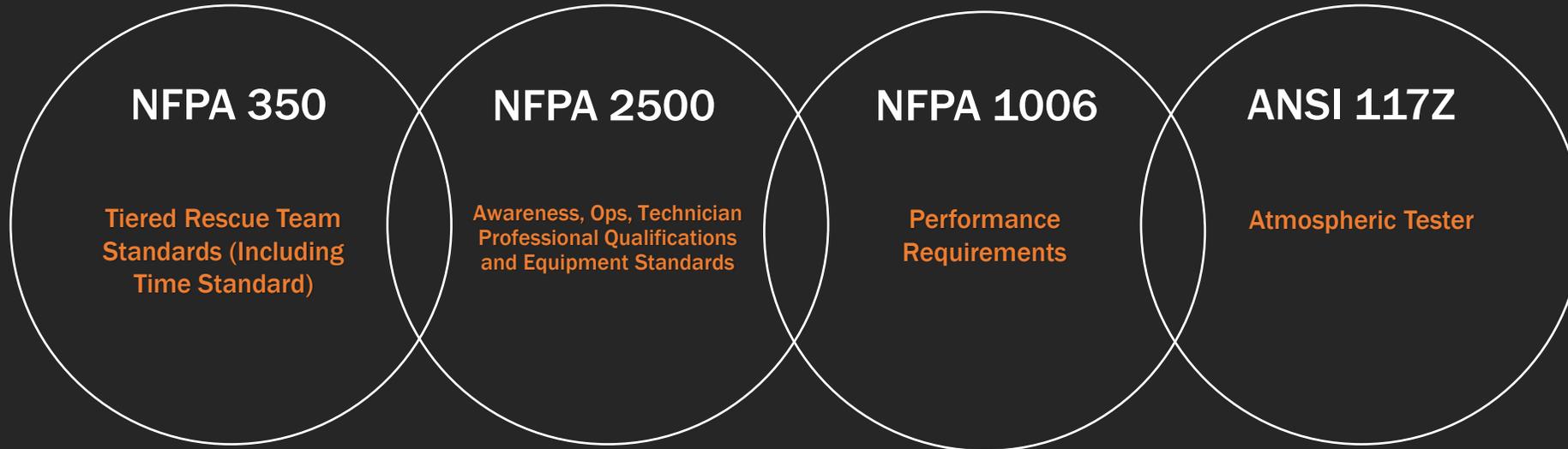
**4.**

**ANSI/ASSP Z117.1  
Industry Standard for  
Confined Space Entry**



# Distinctions

## NFPA & ANSI



# 350 Rescue Standards

- **Tier 1 – No Atmospheric Hazard**
  - **Onsite Time: 5 Minutes**
  - **Entry Time: 15 Minutes**
- **Tier 2 – No IDLH**
  - **Onsite (Standby)**
  - **Entry Time: 15 Minutes**
- **Tier 3 – IDLH**
  - **Onsite (Standby)**
  - **Entry Time: 2 Minutes**

# 2500 Program Standards

## Awareness – Non-Entry (Retrieval Rescue Only)

- Meet requirements of **NFPA 470 Section 4**

## Operations – Entry (With Conditions)

- Meet requirements of **470 Section 4** and Rope Rescue (ops)
- Must be attached to retrieval system
- Victim must be visible
- Space must accommodate 2 rescuers + victim
- All hazards know, isolated, and controlled

## Technician – Entry

- **470 Section 4**, Rope Rescue (ops), Machinery Rescue (awareness)
- Retrieval system for rescuers not required
- Victim not visible
- Spaces too small for traditional wear of SCBA
- Hazards known and can be mitigated with SCBA

# 1006 Job Performance Requirements

- Task Based
- Tasks at operations and technician level include search, air monitoring, and use of entry and non-entry retrieval systems
- Awareness level tasks are restricted to non-entry

# ANSI 117.Z Industry Standards

- Calibration Requirements for Instrumentation
- Atmospheric Tester Designation
- Otherwise No Appreciable Difference from 1910.146  
(Don't waste \$125)

# Regulatory Case Study



FEMA



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR & ECONOMIC  
OPPORTUNITY

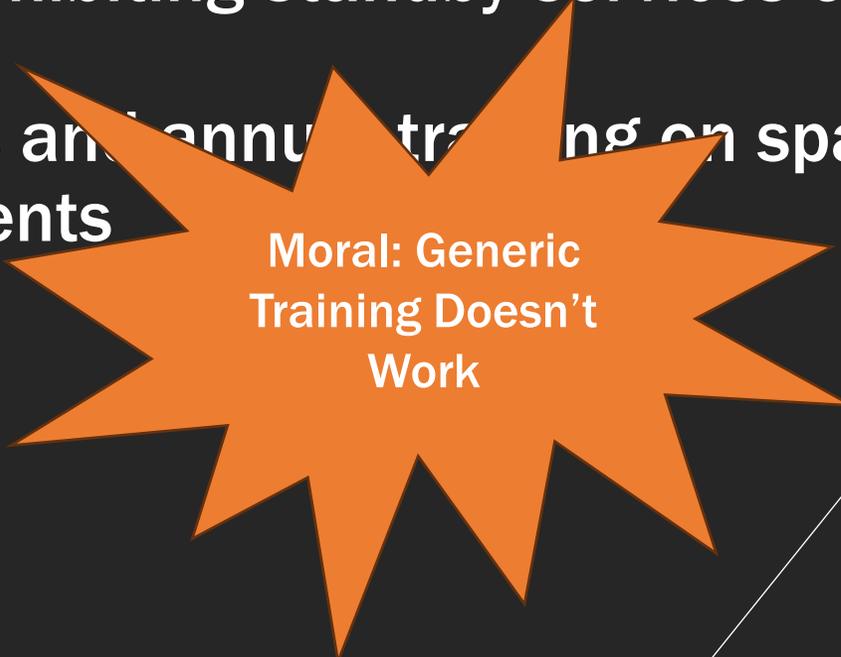


# Problem

- **Birmingham, MI Public Services Department cited for violations of the confined space standard (Life Safety = 10 x Fine)**
- **Citation was specifically for the absence of standby rescue personnel in accordance with the standard**
- **City issued mandate for FD to provide services IAW the Standard**
- **Fire Department administration pushed back on OSHA standards as being unreasonable for life safety application**
- **Most available training is too generic to meet the requirements of the regulatory standard**

# Solutions

- Development (Funded through grants) of Fire Service Specific Confined Space Training (Did NOT adopt the 1670 standard)
- Developed specific policies prohibiting standby services outside of city departments
- Focused equipment purchases and annual training on spaces in the city in order to meet requirements



Moral: Generic  
Training Doesn't  
Work

**What is your  
department policy  
on standby  
rescue?**



# Common Confined Space Hazards



## H2S

Sewer gas also a byproduct of anaerobic decomposition

## Low O2

Inadequate ventilation or use of inerting gas

## Engulfment

Grain Silos, trenches with class C soil

## Fire

Escape difficult due to egress limitations, spread easy due to ventilation or reduce oxygen quickly due to poor ventilation





**DANGER**



**CONFINED SPACE**  
**DO NOT ENTER**  
**WITHOUT PERMIT**



**What Air Monitor  
do You Use for  
CSR?**







# Case Studies



## Colorado

5 Workers die from smoke inhalation (2007)



## Oklahoma

Two Workers Die from Low Oxygen (2022)



## Texas

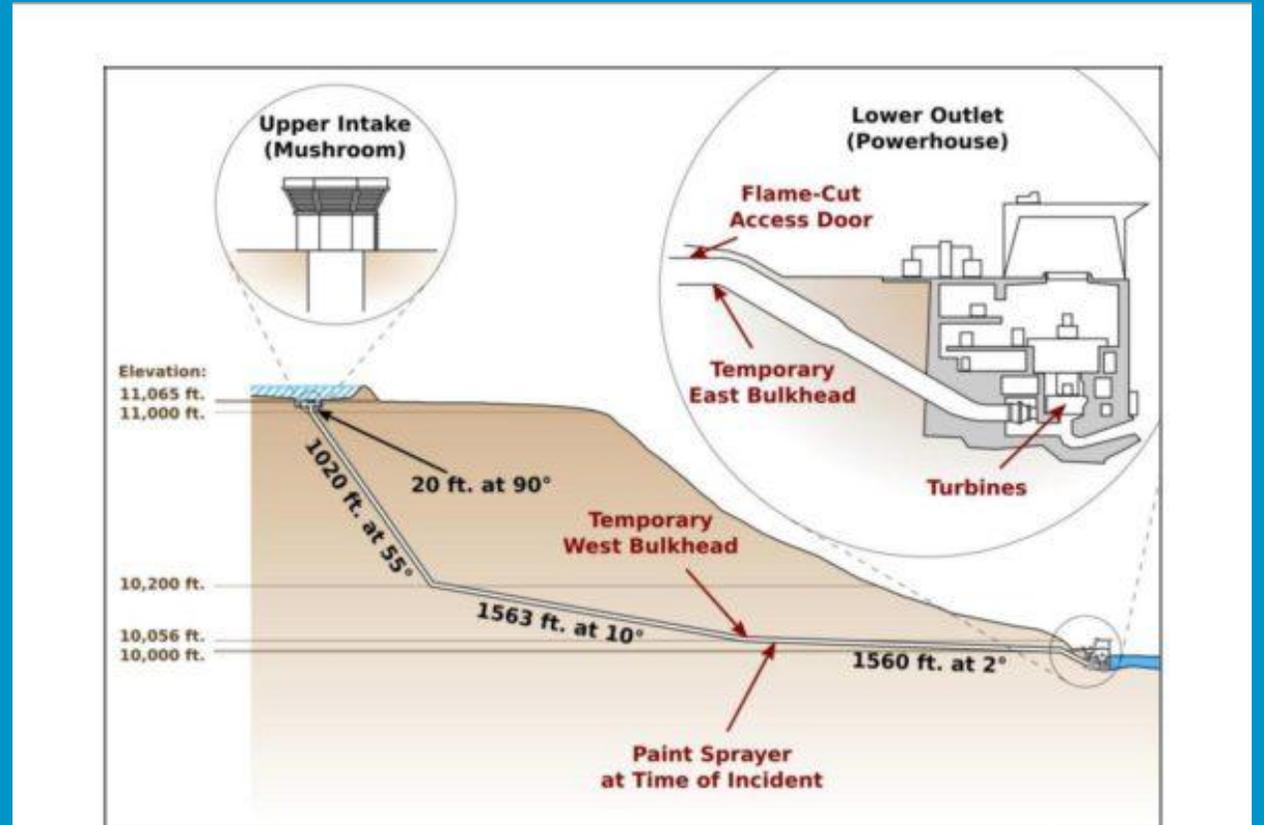
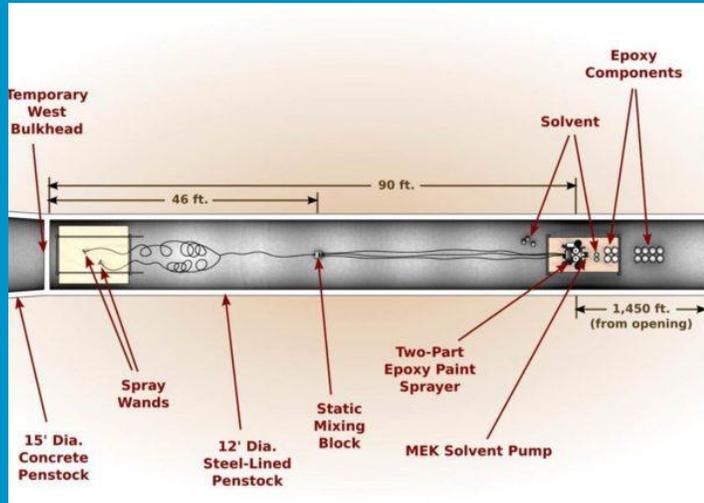
Worker dies from chemical exposure while cleaning tank (2023)





# Scenario Summary

- **Painting Operation in Hydroelectric Penstock**
- **Workers using Methyl Ethyl Ketone for stripping paint and cleaning equipment between coats of new paint**
- **Operational problems, workers behind schedule**
- **No Air Monitoring inside the space (attendant monitoring at entrance)**
- **Fire breaks out, trapping workers**
- **Local rescue personnel don't have necessary equipment for the rescue**
- **5 workers die from smoke inhalation**



# Let's Talk About Preventable Errors



**What Training,  
Equipment, and  
Personnel are  
Required for this  
Rescue?**



**CHAPPER 4**

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WILLIAM MCINTYRE  
McIntyre Law

- 2 Victims (1 Would Be Rescuer)
- 20 Foot Manhole
- No Communication with Victims
- No Visual Contact with Victims
- Air Monitoring Readings:
  - O<sub>2</sub> - 12%
  - LEL - 0%
  - H<sub>2</sub>S - 75 ppm
  - CO - 0%

**BREAKING NEWS UPDATE**

**DEPUTY CHIEF CHRIS DENTON** EDMOND FIRE DEPT.

THOMAS'S  
**NEWS 4**

10:00 PM 83°KFOR.COM

# Let's Plan This Rescue



- 2 Dead
- 1 Would-be rescuer
- Recovery performed by technical rescue
- No Air Monitoring by Contractor
- Low O2 reported by FD
- Company cited for failure to provide training and proper air monitoring

**BREAKING NEWS UPDATE**

**DEPUTY CHIEF CHRIS DENTON** EDMOND FIRE DEPT.

- Tank cleaner reported missing by his wife
- Co-worker finds unresponsive worker in tank
- No supervisor or attendant onsite
- No Permit
- No Engineering Controls in place

Quala  
MAIN ENTRANCE  
5100 UNDERWOOD RD

Quala  
**ATTENTION DRIVERS**  
ALL TRUCKS AND TRAILERS MUST  
CHECK-IN AND CHECK-OUT  
DURING BUSINESS HOURS (M-F 6:00 AM - MIDNIGHT)  
**RECEIVING OFFICE** (FRONT ENTRANCE)  
AFTER BUSINESS HOURS  
**AFTER-HOURS OFFICE** (BACK OF FACILITY)



# Let's Plan This Rescue



- 1 Dead
- Found by Co-Worker
- CO Poisoning
- No Air Monitoring
- No Permit
- No Engineering Controls







# Take Aways



## Preventable Errors

Average of 140 Deaths  
per year in the past  
decade  
12 LODD in that same  
time frame

## Policy

If you don't have a  
policy, develop one

## Training

Must be specific to area  
hazards

## Equipment

Make sure the right  
equipment is being  
used by the right team



**Questions?**  
**More Information?**

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V-Card