What's a Confined Space?

Confined spaces may contain dangers that are invisible, fast-working, fast moving, continuously changing and difficult to escape. Dangers may include:

- lack of oxygen
- fire or explosion
- toxic poisoning
- physical hazards such as heat, falls, noise and injury from machinery

Confined spaces are areas that:

- have restricted entry or exit
- may cause engulfment
- are not designed for human occupancy
- have an atmosphere which contains harmful levels of contaminant
- do not have safe oxygen levels

Some examples of confined spaces:

- storage tanks and bins
- hoppers
- vaults
- ventilation shafts
- silos
- pipes
- sewers
- pits
- boilers

Get to know the dangers of confined spaces so that you can work safely.

Even empty, well cleaned spaces can be risky.