

This procedure is established to ensure that all appropriate steps have been taken to assure safe entry into confined spaces. It is the responsibility of the Entry Supervisor and Entrant to review this checklist and procedure prior to entering any space. The Entry Supervisor is also responsible for ensuring that all possible steps have been taken to control or eliminate identified hazards prior to entry. The Safety and Compliance Manager and Location Manager will be responsible for determining if an entry permit is required, or if the confined space(s) may be reclassified as a non-permit space, or if alternate entry procedures can be used.

Type IV spaces meet the definition of “confined space” as defined by OSHA:

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

Best practices will always allow for a minimum of two persons (one entrant, one attendant), regardless of the space conditions, or the intended work within the space

For Grain Facilities, OSHA does exempt certain spaces from the requirements of this section. These spaces are ground level, have *unrestricted* horizontal entry and contain no fixed hazards within the space and no other processes are introduced into the space. *Unrestricted entry is defined as a doorway where the entrant walks into the space via a doorway.*

OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TYPE IV SPACES:

- Turn off all vehicles to eliminate opportunity for carbon monoxide to accumulate inside space
- Remove access panels to space – verify that outside air is moving into space and being vented through roof panel
- Ensure that energy sources to all machinery have been identified, shut down and isolated (locked out)
- The entrant and attendant must communicate the task that needs completed and all hazards associated with the space and the effects of those hazards:
 - Atmospheric hazards associated with decay of organic materials exposed during operations
 - Potential for lack of natural ventilation within the space during entry
- Properly use the equipment required for entry.
 - Atmospheric monitoring
 - Continuous, forced air ventilation
- Maintain a continuous means of communication.
 - Attendant and entrant shall be in visual, verbal or electronic means of communication with entrant
 - Attendant shall terminate entry at any time the entrants are at risk for injury, exposure or entanglement

NOTE: Grain bins are considered Type IV Spaces after grain no longer flows through the flow outlet ***and*** there are no mechanical or other hazard that may pose a physical risk to entrants during entry to remove remaining grain.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE WILL ANY PRIMELAND EMPLOYEE ENTER A CONFINED SPACE CONTAINING:

- **Potential atmospheric or physical hazards inside the space without prior consulting with the Safety and Compliance Manager**
- **Known Engulfment hazard where engulfment would be greater than waist-high without the use of rescue and retrieval equipment***
- **Grain “bridging” conditions that could collapse and trap or engulf the entrant**
- **“Walking” grain down from an elevated position without the use of rescue and retrieval equipment**
- **Machinery operating in the space in an unsafe condition (not properly guarded, no attendant to shut machine down in an emergency)**

* “Waist-high” conditions are considered when an entrant enters a structure where he/she is standing at or above four feet or greater above the floor of that structure.