

# Michigan Municipal Workers' Compensation Fund

## Safety and Health Resource Manual

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Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth  
Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration  
Consultation Education & Training Division



### ALTERNATE ENTRY PROCEDURE (c)(5) ACTION AGENDA FOR MIOSHA PERMIT REQUIRED CONFINED SPACE ENTRY

Once an employer has met requirements for paragraphs (c)(1-4), and (8), the standard allows the use of alternate entry procedures when all of the conditions below are met. See MIOSHA Part 490 – Confined Spaces. The benefits for an employer include no requirement for an attendant, no entry supervisor, no rescue provisions and reduced requirements for written documentation.

#### To qualify for "Alternate Entry" an employer must:

- Demonstrate and document that the only hazard posed is an actual or potential hazardous atmosphere (i.e., historical data, MSDS).
- Demonstrate and document that continuous forced air ventilation alone is sufficient to maintain the space safe for entry.
- Not introduce any hazards (i.e., uses of flammables, toxics, hot work) into the space.

#### Alternate Entry Procedure:

- Evaluate and eliminate any hazard to ensure that the cover to a confined space can be removed safely.
- Guard openings to spaces to prevent persons or objects from falling into them.
- Prior to entry, test the atmosphere with a calibrated, direct-read instrument for oxygen, flammability and toxicity. Record the results.
- Ensure no hazardous atmosphere will exist for the duration of the entry. Use continuous air ventilation through the breathing zone from a clean source.
- Assure safe atmospheric conditions by periodic testing and recording.
- If a hazard is detected, the entry shall be terminated, and the space re-evaluated.
- Train entrants on the hazards, equipment and safe work practices necessary to make the entry and all work performed during the entry safe.
- Certify in writing that all the above procedures have been implemented, identify the space, the date of entry, sign the certification and make it available to all affected employees.

NOTE: This document is intended as a compliance guide for MIOSHA Occupational Health Rule 325.63001-.63049 which adopts the Federal OSHA standard codified as 29 CFR 1910.146, Permit Required Confined Spaces. This guide does not substitute for a full reading of the standard.