Safety-Gram
Title 45, Chapter 11

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A confined space typically

- Has limited or restricted entry and exit;
- Is not meant or designed for continuous occupancy by miners;
- Has poor or no natural ventilation;
- May contain additional hazards

*How much Oxygen is in the air we breathe? 20-21%

*How much Oxygen is considered explosive atmosphere? * 22-24%

*We almost always have the potential for this hazard. We MUST test and monitor!

Confined space examples include: Storage tanks, pits, silos, vats, boilers, ducts, sewers, mills, hoppers, and other structures associated with extraction, processing, and material loading and handling areas.

Confined space hazards include:

- Low oxygen
- Explosive or flammable atmospheres
- Exposure to toxic substances

Confined space best practices include:

Supervisor and miner review of operation, hazards and control measures are crucial to what constitutions confined spaces and how to proceed with safety work practices. ***__**Developing**__ and __**posting**__ a __**written permit**__ that includes hazards and control measures is often __**overlooked**__.

- Training, testing and monitoring within confined spaces are necessary components to confined space permitting. This puts an emphasis on PPE!
- Testing contaminant levels prior to entry
- Maintaining a standby person or attendant outside the space who is trained in emergency rescue and first aid procedures, and who has access to emergency rescue and first aid supplies. This attendant should have the means to communicate with miners inside the confined space as well as emergency rescue personnel outside the space, and who has a full set of all appropriate PPE for entry into the space.