

NFPA Maritime Confined Space Safe Practices Seminar



Course Description

Participants in the Maritime Confined Space Safe Practices Seminar will be able to develop and implement practices and procedures essential to safely entering and working within confined spaces.

More than twenty-five years ago, the maritime construction and repair industry responded to concerns over the safety of workers engaged in confined space work activities. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) coordinated the efforts of the vessel owners, operators, insurers, repairers, and regulators to develop a confined space safety training program.

To date, more than five hundred courses have been completed, reaching over 10,000 maritime industry workers, in particular, shipyard employees. The

course teaches a systematic three-step approach to confined space hazard recognition, evaluation, and control.

Students receive exposure to confined space safety concepts throughout the 3-day training program, based on OSHA's maritime confined space standard, 29 CFR 1915, Subpart B. The Seminar utilizes an interactive format with problem solving and group exercises:

- Case histories that are completed in group exercises enable students to identify problems with confined space situations and develop "lessons learned."
- Hands-on exercises highlight the training as students develop an understanding and familiarity with atmospheric testing devices and complete individual and

group performance testing simulations.

Working in small groups with NFPA staff and/or NFPA Certificated Marine Chemists, participants receive instruction and significant hands-on experience in the calibration, maintenance and use of a wide variety of atmospheric testing instruments. The Confined Space Safe Practices Seminar affords the participant the opportunity to integrate and apply course concepts by testing small compartments containing a wide variety of atmospheric conditions. These compartments simulate actual shipboard confined spaces.

This course is intended for anyone responsible for testing or entering confined spaces during construction, repair, or inspection in shipyards or in the offshore industry. This may include competent persons, repair foremen, welders, tank cleaners, ship fitters, marine surveyors, grain inspectors, vessel crewmembers, U.S. Coast Guard personnel, or special inspection personnel (such as INS and Customs Officers).

The duties of competent persons and the necessary relationships between the

competent person and the Marine Chemist, as well as other applicable OSHA regulations, are emphasized. Recent changes to NFPA 306, *Standard for the Control of Gas Hazards on Vessels*, are presented along with the most current information on changes in workplace exposure standards such as the permissible exposure limits (PEL) and Threshold Limit Value® (TLV). Participants are taught the importance of recognizing hazardous conditions in relation to confined space entry and the steps to be taken to correct existing problems. The course focuses on providing attendees with the understanding, knowledge and skills necessary to enter and work in confined spaces and to be designated as a competent person or other recognized atmospheric tester.

Course instructors include Lawrence Russell, Sr. Chemical/Marine Specialist for NFPA and Lamar Labauve, NFPA-Certificated Marine Chemist. In addition, local Marine Chemists are often available to assist with classroom instruction.

A certificate of completion with 2.0 Continuing Education Units (CEU) is awarded to participants who complete the three days of instruction.

The current fee is \$450.00 per student for the 3-day seminar, made payable to the Marine Gas Hazards Control Program.

For information on the seminars, please contact Larry Russell or Jill McGovern at NFPA, telephone: 617-984-7418.



National Fire Protection Association

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