

## TEST ANSWERS: CONFINED SPACE ENTRY/SAFETY ATTENDANT

The **BSO Plus Safety Topic** is a review designed from the BSO Plus agenda. This safety topic is your way to stay current on the safety information over the 3 years between BSO Plus and BSR.

1. For a fully or partially enclosed space to be designated as a confined space under the Occupational Health & Safety Act, it must meet only ONE of the following conditions:
  - i. not designed and constructed for continuous human occupancy, and
  - ii. in which atmospheric hazards may occur because of its construction, location or contents or because of work that is done in it
    - a. True
    - b. False

**RATIONALE:** Section 1 of Regulation 632/05 for Confined Spaces states that both of these conditions must be met for a partially or fully enclosed space to be considered a confined space for most workplaces covered under that Occupational Health & Safety Act.

2. Before letting a worker enter a confined space, the employer must:
  - a. Enter the confined space first to check for hazards
  - b. Develop, implement and maintain a written Confined Space Program
  - c. Meet with the entrant and Safety Attendant to address any concerns
  - d. Ensure that the area has been marked by caution tape

**RATIONALE:** Under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, reg. 632/05, the employer is obligated to develop, implement and maintain a written Confined Space Program. This overall program sets out methods by which the employer intends to comply with the legislation. The program must include: the method used to recognize a confined space, hazard assessment, how plans to control the hazards will be developed, worker training, and entry permit measures and procedures.

3. Confined spaces, including tanks, vessels, pits, and trenches/manholes deeper than 4 feet, can be dangerous because of:
  - a. Poor access or exit
  - b. Slick or wet surfaces
  - c. Reactive or corrosive residues
  - d. All of the above

**RATIONALE:** Confined spaces can be subject to both physical and atmospheric hazards. The physical hazards are a result of the design, construction, layout and location of the confined space. Many of the physical challenges with confined spaces involve getting in and out. However, large openings can present dangers if they require ladders and hoists, both of which can hinder escape. Atmospheric hazards are compounded by limited air circulation, and include flammable, combustible, toxic, oxygen-rich or -deficient atmospheres.

**4. Properties of nitrogen gas include: (Circle all that apply)**

- a. Colourless
- b. Rotten egg smell
- c. Asphyxiant
- d. Tasteless

**RATIONALE:** Nitrogen gas is an asphyxiant that can rapidly displace oxygen in an enclosed space. It is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas at normal atmospheric conditions. Nitrogen can be found on local sites in purging and utility stations. This gas should only be used by trained and qualified personnel with authorization – the use of nitrogen must be approved by Operations.

**5. A safety attendant shall not enter a confined space at any time:**

- a. True
- b. False

**RATIONALE:** Section 15(2) of the Confined Spaces regulation states that no attendant shall enter a confined space at any time. The attendant's role is to monitor the safety of the worker inside; to provide assistance to him or her from outside the confined space; and to summon an adequate rescue response if required.