

Performing Atmospheric Testing

- Test for oxygen levels. If oxygen content is less than 19.5% or greater than 23.5%, continue ventilating the space. Then shut off ventilation equipment and re-test the oxygen content. If oxygen content is between 19.5% and 23.5%, continue entry preparation
- Test for flammable gases. If the meter reading is less than 10% of the lower explosive limit (LEL), continue entry preparations. If the meter reading is above 10% of the LEL, continue ventilation of the confined space. Then shut off the ventilation and have the atmosphere re-tested. If the meter reading is still above 10% of the LEL, the confined space must be purged and cleaned before entry is permitted
- Test for toxics. If a toxic atmosphere is present, no person should be permitted to enter the confined space at a level exceeding the Permissible Exposure Limit without proper Personal Protective Equipment

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