The University of Texas at Dallas
Confined Space Safety Manual
CONFINED SPACE SAFETY

I. PURPOSE
The purpose of this section is to establish safety and health guidelines for personnel entering manholes, pits, tunnels, and other potentially hazardous confined spaces.

II. PROCEDURES

A. Supervisor's Responsibility

Contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety for review of the proposed operation prior to performing inspection, maintenance, or repairs in manholes, tunnels and other potentially hazardous confined spaces.

For manholes and other questionable confined spaces, the following procedures are mandatory.

1. Testing the atmosphere in the confined space for toxic gases, explosive vapors, and oxygen deficiencies is required. If any one of the above problems exists in the confined space, purging by way of forced air ventilation must be performed. The atmosphere must be checked again just prior to entering the confined space to ensure suitable air quality.

A "buddy system" shall be required for all confined space operations.