

## **Confined Space Rescue Team Atmosphere and Ventilation Sector**

### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- 1) To ensure that proper monitoring of the atmosphere within the confined space is performed, and that the Entry Sector is aware of any hazards.
- 2) To ensure that continual monitoring is performed before and during any and all entry operations, at least every 5 minutes, with proper documentation.
- 3) To ensure that proper ventilation is established, and performed properly, before any entry is performed.
- 4) Ventilation shall be established and proper precautions taken to ensure the exhaust from the ventilated space is properly controlled.
- 5) Continually monitor the ventilation procedure (assign a support company member to this function if need be)
- 6) Properly document all times, procedures and other concerns
- 7) Determine depths of the confined space so as to ensure proper ventilation
- 8) Check the battery conditions on all necessary meters prior to entry and again upon their exit
- 9) Check with Operations Sector for MSDS information in regards to material in the confined space:
  - a) toxicity
  - b) reactivity
  - c) proper ventilation techniques

### **Equipment**

- 1) Multi-Meter
  - a) extra battery pack (alkaline)
  - b) spare batteries for battery pack (in tool box)
- 2) Portable radio
- 3) Sector notebook w/ pad and pen
- 4) Ventilation equipment
  - a) Water-powered, and/or
  - b) Electric powered unit
  - c) Fans and ducting as needed

### **Duties**

- 1) Know and understand the hazards of the materials in the confined space (from MSDS, engineer, maintenance staff, etc):
  - a. Engulfment
  - b. Toxic gases
  - c. Flammable gases or vapors greater than 10% of LEL/LFL
  - d. Oxygen deficiency or enrichment hazards
  - e. Entrapment or configuration hazards
- 2) Locate and communicate with building engineer (if possible) to facilitate using HVAC system for ventilation, if feasible
- 3) Record atmospheric readings every 5 minutes, and remind Entry Sector to have entrants do same
- 4) Ensure ventilation is constantly maintained

