



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

**Department of Consumer and Business Services**  
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (OR-OSHA)  
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September 23, 1996

Reviewed: November 25, 2007

Dave Black  
Timber Operators Council  
895 Country Club Rd  
Suite A-160  
Eugene OR 97401

Dear Mr. Black:

This is in response to your August 9, 1996 letter in which you ask, is it necessary for an employer to provide for entry rescue with every permit space entry.

There must be a preplanned rescue procedure set up prior to entry into any confined space.

Where possible the employer should lock out, ventilate or otherwise remove any hazard within the space prior to entry to avoid the necessity of affecting a rescue.

The employer may choose to use one of two methods of rescue from a confined space, entry or non-entry. If non-entry rescue is selected then personnel entering into the confined space must be secured to a retrieval line and a mechanical device set up at the scene to enable a rescuer to remove an injured worker from the space quickly and without injury to the rescuer or further harm to the fallen worker. Rescue personnel must not enter into the confined space under a non-entry system. A harness, lifeline and self supporting winch can normally be used for these types of rescues.

If an entry rescue is selected, then breathing apparatus and other necessary safety equipment must be provided at the scene or arrangements made in advance with an outside rescue provider to perform the rescue.

If we can be of further assistance to you please call OR-OSHA's Technical Section at (503) 378-3272.

Sincerely,

Marilyn K. Schuster, Manager  
Standards & Technical Resources Section  
Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division