



## Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Safety

Title: Confined Space Entry Program

# 8.003

Issue Date: 6/7/10	Written By: Jesse Norton	Approved By: John Wiskerchen	Revision # 1	Revision Date: 2/2/16	Revised By: Danette Jepsen	Supersedes: 6/7/10	Page 1 of 5
-----------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

**Purpose:** The purpose of Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Confined Space Program is to set procedures that will ensure workers safe entry into confined spaces to perform routine tasks associated with their employment. This procedure is designed to provide the minimum safety requirements in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Confined Space Standard, 1910.146.

A confined space is defined as any location that has limited openings for entry and egress, is not intended for continuous employee occupancy, and is so enclosed that natural ventilation may not reduce air contaminants to levels below the threshold limit value (TLV). Entry into confined spaces without proper precautions could result in injury, impairment or death due to:

- a) an atmosphere that is flammable or explosive;
- b) lack of sufficient oxygen to support life;
- c) contact with or inhalation of toxic materials; or
- d) general safety or work area hazards such as steam or high pressure materials.

### ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

#### 1. Employer

- e) Provide atmospheric testing and equipment as needed.
- f) Provide personal protective equipment as needed.
- g) Provide training.
- h) Provide technical assistance as needed.
- i) Preview and update the program on at least an annual basis or as needed.

#### 2. Safety Coordinator

- a. Ensure that a list of confined spaces at Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. is maintained.
- b. Ensure training of personnel is conducted and documented.
- c. Ensure that equipment is in compliance with standards.
- d. Ensure that the person in charge of confined space work shall:
  1. Ensure requirements for entry have been completed before entry is authorized.
  2. Ensure confined space monitoring is performed by personnel qualified and trained in confined space entry procedures.
  3. Know the hazards that may be faced during entry, including the mode (how the contaminant gets into the body), signs or symptoms and consequences of exposure.
  4. Ensure all Attendant(s) know how to communicate with the entrants and how to obtain assistance.
  5. Post any required barriers and signs.



## Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Safety

Title: Confined Space Entry Program

# 8.003

Issue Date: 6/7/10	Written By: Jesse Norton	Approved By: John Wiskerchen	Revision # 1	Revision Date: 2/2/16	Revised By: Danette Jepsen	Supersedes: 6/7/10	Page 2 of 5
-----------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

6. Ensure the confined space is safely closed and all workers are cleared from the area.

### 3. Entry Supervisors

The Entry Supervisor(s) shall be responsible for:

- a. Determining if conditions are acceptable for entry.
- b. Authorizing entry and overseeing entry operations.
- c. Terminating entry procedures as required.
- d. Serving as an Attendant, as long as the person is trained and equipped appropriately for that role.
- e. Ensuring measures are in place to keep unauthorized personnel clear of the area.
- f. Checking the work at least twice a shift to verify and document permit requirements are being observed (more frequent checks shall be made if operations or conditions are anticipated that could affect permit requirements).
- g. Ensuring that necessary information on chemical hazards is kept at the worksite for the employees or rescue team.

### 4. Attendants

Attendant(s) shall be stationed outside of the confined workspace. The Attendant(s) shall:

- a. Be knowledgeable of and be able to recognize potential confined space hazards.
- b. Maintain a count of all persons in the confined space.
- c. Monitor surrounding activities to ensure the safety of personnel.
- d. Maintain effective and continuous communication with personnel during confined space entry, work and exit.
- e. Order personnel to evacuate the confined space if he/she:
  1. Notices the entrants acting strangely, possibly as a result of exposure to hazardous substances;
  2. Notices a situation outside the confined space which could endanger personnel;
  3. Notices a hazard within the confined space that has not been previously recognized or taken into consideration;
  4. Must leave his/her work station
- f. Immediately summon the emergency responders (911) if rescue becomes necessary.



## Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Safety

Title: Confined Space Entry Program

# 8.003

Issue Date: 6/7/10	Written By: Jesse Norton	Approved By: John Wiskerchen	Revision # 1	Revision Date: 2/2/16	Revised By: Danette Jepsen	Supersedes: 6/7/10	Page 3 of 5
-----------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

- g. Keep unauthorized persons out of the confined space, order them out or notify authorized personnel of an unauthorized entry.

### 5. Entrants/Affected Employees

Employees who are granted permission to enter a confined space shall:

- a. Remain alert to the hazards that could be encountered while in the confined space.
- b. Properly use the personal protective equipment that may be required.
- c. Immediately exit the confined space when:
  1. they are ordered to do so by an authorized person;
  2. they notice or recognize signs or symptoms of exposure;
  3. a prohibited condition exists; or
  4. the automatic alarm system sounds on the Drager Gas Analyzer.
- d. Alert Attendant(s) when a prohibited condition exists and/or when warning signs or symptoms of exposure exist.

### 6. General Training

All employees who will enter confined spaces shall be trained in entry procedures. Personnel responsible for supervising, planning, entering or participating in confined space entry and rescue shall be adequately trained in their functional duties prior to any confined space entry. Training shall include:

- a. Explanation of the general hazards associated with confined spaces.
- b. Discussion of specific confined space hazards associated with the facility, location or operation.
- c. Reason for proper use and limitations of personal protective equipment and other safety equipment required for entry into confined spaces.
- d. Explanation of procedural requirements for conducting a confined space entry.
- e. A clear understanding of what conditions would prohibit entry.
- f. Procedures for responding to emergencies.
- g. Duties and responsibilities of the confined space entry team.
- h. Description of how to recognize symptoms of overexposure to probable air contaminants in themselves and co-workers and method(s) for alerting the Attendant(s).



## Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Safety

Title: Confined Space Entry Program

# 8.003

Issue Date: 6/7/10	Written By: Jesse Norton	Approved By: John Wiskerchen	Revision # 1	Revision Date: 2/2/16	Revised By: Danette Jepsen	Supersedes: 6/7/10	Page 4 of 5
-----------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

Refresher training shall be conducted as needed to maintain employee competence in entry procedures and precautions.

### 7. Entry Procedures

At Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. we have two sets of confined spaces. The first set of confined spaces is our three Double "O" vats in the blue production room. The second set of confined spaces is our three milk silos.

#### a. Hazards

Both sets of confined spaces have the following hazards:

1. Potential to have a hazardous atmosphere.
2. Potential for employee engulfment by liquids.
3. Contains moving agitation equipment.
4. Has restricted means of entry and exit.

The atmosphere of a confined space should be analyzed using the Drager Gas Analyzer. This device stays attached to the entrant at all times. The analyzer identifies any hazardous atmospheres that may exist or arise.

#### b. Acceptable Limits

The atmosphere of the confined spaces shall be considered to be within acceptable limits when the following conditions are maintained:

1. oxygen: 19.5 percent to 23.5 percent;
2. flammability: less than 10 percent of the Lower Flammable Limit (LFL); and
3. toxicity: less than recognized American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH) exposure limits or other published exposure levels [i.e., OSHA Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) or National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs)].

#### c. Isolation and Lockout/Tagout Safeguards

All energy sources that are potentially hazardous to confined space entrants shall be secured, relieved, disconnected, and/or restrained before personnel are permitted to enter the confined space. Equipment systems or processes shall be locked out and/or tagged out as required by Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Lockout/Tagout Program which complies with OSHA's 29 CFR 1910-147 prior to permitting entry into the confined space.



<b>Wiskerchen Cheese Inc. Safety</b>
--------------------------------------

<b>Title: Confined Space Entry Program</b>	<b># 8.003</b>
--	----------------

Issue Date: 6/7/10	Written By: Jesse Norton	Approved By: John Wiskerchen	Revision # 1	Revision Date: 2/2/16	Revised By: Danette Jepsen	Supersedes: 6/7/10	Page 5 of 5
-----------------------	-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------

d. Warning Signs and Symbols

All confined spaces that could be inadvertently entered shall have signs identifying them as confined spaces. Signs shall be maintained in a legible condition. Accesses to all confined spaces shall be prominently marked.

8. Emergency Response

If the attendant or entrant determines the confined space is no longer safe, the entrant should evacuate the space immediately. If the attendant notices the entrant has lost consciousness or fails to respond to verbal prompts, they must call 911. The attendant should not enter the confined space due to the dangers that may exist.

Approved By: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_