

**Confined Space Accidents and Fatalities From [www.safetynews.co.uk](http://www.safetynews.co.uk)  
Courtesy of Burgess and Associates-Hot Zone USA  
[www.hzburgess.com](http://www.hzburgess.com)**

**[www.safetynews.co.uk](http://www.safetynews.co.uk) began compiling accident and fatality incidents in April of 2007. The following are accidents and fatalities involving confined spaces taken from their website. The majority involve work inside, on, or around confined spaces. There are some that may not actually involve confined spaces and are better characterized as machine guarding incidents. Occasionally, there are also some included simply because they were so bizarre. Trenching fatalities are not included. Accidents and fatalities involving mines, quarries, pits, and tunnels are included separately at the end of the document, as they are rarely regulated as confined spaces.**

**December 2013**

Nepal

**Worker killed in paper crushing machinery**

A worker was killed in a crush accident yesterday after becoming trapped in machinery which crushes paper at the Baba Cardboard Pvt Ltd paper factory at Duwakot in Bhaktapur. 5th December 2013

Germany

**Worker lay injured for 12 hours in maintenance chamber**

A 57-year old worker is recovering in hospital after being stuck for almost 12 hours in a maintenance chamber at a sewage treatment plant in Waldeck, north Hessen, where he had become trapped following an accident. He was working alone and the accident was only discovered when a relative alerted the authorities to his failure to return from work. He is being treated in hospital for a head injury and hypothermia. 9th December 2013

USA

**Texas worker dies in accident cleaning inside a tank**

An autopsy will take place in Dallas following the death of a 19-year old contract worker at Tarco Inc in Belton to ascertain whether he was struck by falling asphalt or succumbed in a confined space atmosphere while he was cleaning the inside of a tank. 19th December 201

USA

**Ohio farm worker drowned in slurry pit**

A 41-year old Ohio farm worker drowned in a slurry pit on a farm in Dorset when his tractor overturned and pinned him in the pit during a manoeuvre to transfer manure from a barn to the pit. 19th December 2013

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Italy

**Factory worker injured in machinery;** farmer killed in combine harvester

A 44-year old Moroccan factory worker became pinned under machinery he was operating yesterday at a cardboard packaging company premises in Sasso Marconi, 10 miles southwest of Bologna. He was transferred to the city's Maggiore hospital for treatment for crush injuries, his condition was unknown.

There were also reports of a crush accident involving a combine harvester yesterday which claimed the life of a 44-year old farmer in Valmonte, in the Lazio area of Rome.  
20th December 2013

New Zealand

**Worker killed in ship's hold at Lyttleton**

A 49-year worker has sustained a fatal head injury while working in the hold of the Citrus Venus, a ship carrying fertiliser which was berthed at Lyttleton Port, Christchurch. 23rd December 2013

Germany

**Confined space methane incident at bio plant**

Two Polish workers aged 25 and 42 were admitted to the intensive care unit of a hospital in Regensburg yesterday following a methane gas incident during maintenance work in a chamber at a bio plant in Gut Schwaben, 2 other workers were also injured but were not listed in serious condition. 30th December 2013

**Also visit;**

<http://www.safteng.net> for more accident and fatality news

**Accidents and Fatalities Involving Mines, Quarries, Pits, and Tunnels  
Includes Non-Confined Space Incidents**

Australia

**Contractor killed in transport accident at Hunter Valley mine**

A female contractor died in a vehicle collision at the weekend when her car was struck by a coal-laden lorry on the haulage road of Glencore's Ravensworth open cut coal mine near Singleton, New South Wales. 2nd December 2013

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Indonesia

**Crush fatality as rock falls from loading machine at Papua mine**

A 27-year old production operator who was driving a vehicle in the loading area of Freeport-McMoran's Grasberg gold and copper mine was killed in a crush accident at the weekend when rocks fell from machinery which loads them on to lorries. 2nd December 2013

Australia

**Fatality at WA gold and copper mine**

The Department of Mines and Petroleum is investigating a crush accident yesterday which claimed the life of a contract worker at the Telfer gold and copper mine of Newcrest in the north of Western Australia. 5th December 2013

England

**Foreman died in accident at Oxford quarry**

The HSE is investigating the death of a foreman at the Burford Quarry northeast of Brize Norton who died in hospital in Oxford following injuries in a collision involving a lorry at the limestone quarry. 3rd December 2013

Australia

**2 Tasmanian mine maintenance men killed in fall down shaft**

Two employees of Copper Mines of Tasmania carrying out mine shaft maintenance died yesterday in a 30-metre fall down a shaft at the Mount Lyell mine in Queenstown, west Tasmania. 10th December 2013

Ukraine

**Methane explosion kills 4 Donetsk miners**

A methane gas explosion at the Sviato-Pokrovska mine of Coal Energy in Donetsk has killed 4 miners and left 2 others hospitalised in Dobropillia, the authorities are investigating whether charges are to be laid over alleged breaches of Part 2 of Article 272 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, violating safety rules during operations of heightened risk and danger, causing death. 18th December 2013

Australia

**Fatal accident investigation at Pilbara mine**

Surface mining operations at the Christmas Creek mine of the Fortescue Metals Group in Pilbara have been suspended as the Department of Mines & Petroleum investigates a fatal accident involving a 23-year old contract worker who died while undertaking

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maintenance work on machinery known as a surface miner in the heavy vehicle workshop, another worker sustained leg injuries in the accident. 31st December 2013

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