

**Confined Space Accidents and Fatalities From www.safetynews.co.uk
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January 2013

USA

Confined space accident at Iowa corn mill

A confined space accident has claimed the life of a worker and left another injured at the Archer Daniels Midland Company corn mill in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Both men were believed to have been about to conduct maintenance work in a fermentation tank when they encountered an oxygen-deficient atmosphere. 4th January 2013

UAE

Workers killed in fuel tanker explosion

Two maintenance workers died in an explosion on Sunday morning in a workshop in the Musaffah Industrial Area II in Abu Dhabi when an empty petrol tanker on which they were working exploded, blowing off the roof of the garage. 14th January 2013

Northern Ireland

Verdict in farmer's slurry pool death

A coroner's court in County Down has delivered a verdict of accidental death in respect of a 43-year old farmer who drowned in a 2-metre deep slurry pit on his farm in Dromore last June. He was working alone in a shed above the pit, an HSENI inspector noted the presence of slurry gas but judged that the farmer probably slipped rather than being overcome by fumes, the opening to the tank had become slightly obscured by slurry foam. 16th January 2013

USA

Confined space fatality

An apparent confined space accident has claimed the life of a worker at Resolute Forest products in Catawba, South Carolina, where 3 contract workers were carrying out maintenance work on a decommissioned tank when an oxygen-deficient atmosphere appears to have occurred while the men were inside, the other 2 workers managed to escape to safety. 23rd January 2013

England

Docker was buried under coal load

At Cleethorpes Town Hall an inquest jury delivered a verdict of accidental death in respect of the death of a 28-year old docker who died of asphyxia when he was buried under a load of coal as he was working as a trimmer, preparing the hold of the MV Excalibur for the load at Immingham Docks on 27th January 2011. 25th January 2013

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Israel

Confined space accident at refinery

Two workers died yesterday in a confined space accident at the Paz Oil refinery in Ashdod, 20 miles south of Tel Aviv. It is thought that the workers were engaged in maintenance work and may have been attempting to fix a leak, initial speculation of the accident by the company pointed to a valve having been opened prior to the closing of another, with the workers then inhaling poisonous gas. 27th January 2013