

**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.**

**January 2014**

Iran

**Welders killed in explosion at petrochemical plant**

An accident during hot metal work at the Khorram Adad Petrochemical Plant has claimed the lives of 2 welders who were working on top of a fuel tank when an explosion occurred, they were thrown from the tank and sustained burns and injuries in the fall. 7th January 2014

Brazil

**Brit killed in lift maintenance accident on drill rig**

A 36-year old British worker engaged in lift maintenance work on Sevan Drillings SS-86-rig which is drilling the 8-JUB-46D-ESS well under contract to Petrobras has died in a workplace accident, details of which were not known. 8th January 2014

China

**4 dead in confined space accident at Beijing site**

Four workers died in a confined space accident on Saturday during the laying of underground power lines in the Changping district of Beijing after becoming exposed to an oxygen-deficient atmosphere, 3 others are recovering in hospital. 13th January 2014

Rep Ireland

**Boy,3, dies in lift accident**

A 3-year old boy died in an accident involving a lift in the Hynes Building on Augustine Street, Galway. It is believed that the child had arrived at the building in the company of a parent who was attending the Department of Social Protection on the building's 1st floor. 14th January 2014

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England

**Scallop fishermen found dead in suspected confined space accident**

The HSE has been advised of a possible confined space accident in Whitby after 2 scallop fishermen were found dead on their boat moored off Pier Road. North Yorkshire Police has indicated that there are not believed to have been any suspicious circumstances. It is speculated that the fishermen were sleeping on board their boat and may have been using a heating appliance which produced an oxygen-deficient atmosphere in an inadequately ventilated space. 16th January 2014

Argentina

**Worker falls down Cordoba lift shaft**

A 51-year old worker has fallen to his death from 6th-storey level down a lift shaft in a building under construction on San Jose de Calasanz Street in the Observatorio barrio of Cordoba. 22nd January 2014

Germany

**Worker hit by equipment in lift shaft**

A 51-year old worker has sustained a life-threatening head injury when he was struck by a counterweight while working in a lift shaft in premises in Heidelberg. 22nd January 2014

Germany

**Reversing forklift kills sawmill worker; recycling worker crushed in compactor**

A 45-year old sawmill worker has died in an accident at the mill in Murrhardt, Baden-Wurtemberg, where he was struck unsighted by a reversing forklift truck laden with timber.

At Ernsgarden, Upper Bavaria, a fatal accident investigation has been launched following the crushing of a worker in an industrial accident in a compactor at a recycling facility, it was unclear why he had entered the compacting unit. 24th January 2014

USA

**Fatal accident at Michigan grain elevator**

A Michigan worker aged 30 died in a fall into a hopper wagon as rail wagons were being loaded at a grain elevator in Mottville in the southwest of the state close to the Indiana border. 27th January 2014

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India

**Worker dies during submarine conservancy maintenance work**

A contract worker has died and 2 others were injured after becoming trapped inside the decommissioned submarine INS Vagli currently undergoing conservancy maintenance off Chokkani Jetty, Chennai(Madras). The contractors were working on the vessel's exterior but had opened a hatch, it was unclear why they had entered. 29th January 2014

China

**7 killed in explosion during maintenance on tanker in shipyard**

An explosion occurred during maintenance work on an Indian oil tanker at the Haizhou shipyard in Zhoushan, Zhejiang province, killing 7 workers, it was initially unclear whether hot metal work was being undertaken at the time. 29th January 2014

USA

**Connecticut worker injured waste compactor**

A worker was critically injured yesterday in an accident involving a waste compaction unit at the Department of Public Works transfer station on Lewis Street, New London, Connecticut. 31st January 2014

**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**

Pakistan

**Phosphate mine accident**

A structural collapse has occurred at a phosphate mine at Tarnawai in northwest Pakistan, killing 2 miners and leaving several others injured. 15th January 2014

Vietnam

**6 coal miners killed in gas explosion**

A gas explosion at a coal mine run by the Dong Vong Coal Company in Uong Bi in the northern Quang Ninh province has killed 6 miners, the bodies were recovered yesterday as fire crews continued to tackle the blaze around 100 metres underground. One miner

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at the locus has survived the accident and has been hospitalised with burns injuries. 17th January 2014

Russia

**Two killed in gas explosion at Kuzbass coal mine**

A methane gas explosion at the privately owned Dzerzhinsky coal mine in Prokopyevsk, Kemorovo, killed 2 miners yesterday, around 100 other workers were safely evacuated. 23rd January 2014

France

**Channel Tunnel welder in CO accident**

A rail track welder is being treated for carbon monoxide poisoning in hospital in Lille following an accident during the replacing of track in the Channel Tunnel. A further 18 workers were taken to hospitals in Calais, Boulogne and Dunkirk for check-ups, the welder was later transferred to Lille. SMUR and fire crews from Calais and St Omer attended the incident which saw 64 workers safely evacuated. This was the 8th phase of the track renewal work since the beginning of this month, the 20 miles of track are replaced every 8 years. 27th January 2014