

**Confined Space Accidents and Fatalities From www.safetynews.co.uk
Courtesy of Burgess and Associates-Hot Zone USA
www.hzburgess.com**

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.

May 2014

Pakistan

Karachi woman suffocated in malfunctioning lift

A 65-year old woman was pronounced dead in Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre where she was taken after being found in a malfunctioning stalled lift in which she had apparently suffocated at the Shah Rasool Colony in Clifton, Karachi, it was not immediately clear how long she had been in the lift. 1st May 2014

England

Stokes Basket rescue at Cumbrian water treatment tank

A Stokes Basket rescue was deployed to bring a 28-year old injured worker out of a water treatment tank in which he was working at the Whitehaven Parton Wastewater Treatment Works. The contract worker was working on a scaffold 6 metres inside a 5.5 metre deep tank when his leg became trapped. He was admitted to Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, with a compound fracture of the leg. 9th May 2014

Argentina

Silo crush accident under 5 tonnes of soya; Cordoba worker falls 7 storeys

A worker has died in a crush accident under 5 tonnes of soya after falling from a platform inside a silo on Ruta Nacional 34 in Rapelli in Santiago del Estero province. A fall from height accident also claimed the life of a construction worker who fell from the 7th floor of a building under construction on Enfermera Clermont Street in the historic Alberdi district of Cordoba. 15th May 2014

USA

Welding spark explosion at Ohio site

A 29-year old welder has died in Akron General Hospital following an explosion during hot metal work on a bulk-storage oil tank in a building at the Sutton Pump and Supply

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Company premises. He was working atop the tank when the explosion occurred, the blast threw him several metres into the air and left him trapped between the burning tank and the wall of the building. 14th May 2014

England

Devon worker injured in cement mixer

Fire crews in Devon had to use heavy cutting gear to free a man trapped in a cement mixer at premises on Pathfields Industrial Estate in South Molton. He was later transferred to hospital with a serious leg injury. 27th May 2014

Malaysia

Sarawak worker killed in gas tank explosion

A gas tank exploded at premises on Lanung Road in Sibu, Sarawak, killing a 35-year factory worker who was handling the tank and leaving an 18-year old lorry driver with a severe leg injury. The force of the blast had virtually blown off 2 limbs of the deceased worker. 29th May 2014

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

Canada

Seismic event leads to nickel mine accident

Two drillers aged 49 and 34 of Taurus Drilling Services were killed on Tuesday in a fall of ground incident at the Lockerby Mine of First Nickel Inc near Sudbury, Ontario, it is speculated that a seismic incident precipitated the fall of ground. 7th May 2014

Australia

Maintenance worker dies in Queensland mine

An electrician died in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere at the Grasstree coal mine of Anglo American near Middlemount in central Queensland. He was found unconscious and brought to the surface but could not be resuscitated. It is believed that he had entered a closed area of the mine. 8th May 2014

Turkey

At least 157 coal miners killed in Soma; worker killed in 7-storey fall on Istanbul site

At least 157 Manisa coal miners have died following an explosion and structural collapse at the Soma Coal Mining Company's pit in Soma. The disaster response unit,

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AFAD(Afet ve Acil Durum Yonetimi Baskanligi), initially reported 17 fatalities but as the scale of the disaster was emerging the local mayor indicated that there were 157 dead and 75 injured, with almost 600 miners underground it was unclear how many were still trapped a mile underground. Smoke logging was hampering the rescue effort, the explosion is believed to have occurred in a power distribution unit.

Elsewhere in Turkey health and safety officers are investigating a fatal accident in the Bagcilar district of Istanbul where a construction worker fell to his death from the 7th floor of a building under construction. 14th May 2014

Australia

Machine operator killed at Western Australia gold mine

A 63-year old contractor of CPC Engineering has been killed in an accident while operating machinery in the Brightstar Mine in the Goldfields some 600 miles northeast of Perth, Mine Safety inspectors from Kalgoorlie launch a full investigation of the accident on Tuesday morning. 27th May 2014

Australia

Rigger crushed on MEWP at NSW mine

A rigger on the Thiess Sedgman Joint Venture Coal Handling and Preparation Plant at the Idemitsu Australia mine near Boggabri in New South Wales died in a crush accident on a MEWP(mobile elevating work platform). He was working 20 metres above ground on the coal crushing machine when he became pinned against a metal structure above him. 22nd May 2014

Armenia

Fatal accident at gold mine in Kapan

A rock fall has led to the death of a 37-year old gold miner working at the southern Shahumyan section of the Dundee Precious Metals mine in Kapan. 28th May 2014