

**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.

November 2013

USA

Lift crushes maintenance worker in Alabama hospital

An employee of Decatur-Morgan Hospital in Decatur, Alabama, died in a crush accident when a goods lift he was working on descended on to him. 1st November 2013

USA

Worker killed in fall down Dallas lift shaft

A fatal accident investigation was launched at the weekend after a maintenance worker died in a fall down a lift shaft at a 10-storey car park on Elm Street, Dallas. He was believed to have been working in a technical area adjacent to the shaft. 4th November 2013

UAE

Worker crushed in lift shaft

A 33-year old mechanic died in a crush accident while working on a lift in a residential apartment building in the Al Butaina area of Sharjah, he was working at 3rd floor level when the lift fell suddenly, trapping him between the cab and the shaft wall. 4th November 2013

Austria

Worker's body shredded in wood chipper

The body of a 49-year old worker at the Egger timber company in the Unterradlberg district of St Polten was completely shredded in wood chipping machinery, the authorities had to use DNA testing for identification of the missing worker. He had 9 years' experience at the premises, police and health and safety inspectors launched a joint investigation of the accident. 5th November 2013

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Russia

Confined space accident at Plesetsk spaceport

Two workers have died in an apparent confined space accident while cleaning rocket fuel tanks at the Plesetsk spaceport base in Mirny, 500 miles north of Moscow, 3 other workers exposed to nitrogen vapour are expected to make a full recovery. 13th November 2013

USA

Acid tank explosion during maintenance

Two workers were injured, one sustaining shrapnel injuries in the chest, when an empty acid tank exploded during maintenance work on Saturday at The Mosaic Company fertiliser plant in Riverview, Florida. It was unclear whether hot metal work was taking place at the time, the force of the blast sent the tank lid flying some 30 metres, neither worker has life-threatening injuries. 25th November 2013

Philippines

Cleaner crushed in machine accident

A worker has died in a crush accident while cleaning machinery at the Urrulia Trading Warehouse in the Malabo area of Valenzuela City, closed circuit security cameras captured the accident which saw the worker lose his balance and fall into the equipment. 26th November 2013

Australia

3 critically injured in confined space accident on Victoria farm

Three men, believed to be a father and 2 sons, were listed in critical condition in different hospitals in Melbourne following a confined space accident yesterday on a dairy farm at Cloverlea, east of Melbourne. One of them had been cleaning the inside of a storage tank using ammonia when he was overcome in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere, the other 2 were injured in attempting his rescue. Seven others required treatment following the accident which is being investigated by Worksafe Victoria. 28th November 2013

Also visit;

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

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Accidents and Fatalities Involving Mines, Quarries, Pits, and Tunnels

Namibia

Uranium mine worker dies a month after electrical burns accident

A worker of Paladin Energy died yesterday in Millpark Hospital, Johannesburg, from severe burns injuries sustained in an electrical accident at the Langer Heinrich uranium mine in Namibia on October 3rd. Two other workers injured in the accident were treated in hospital in Windhoek, one of whom has since been discharged from hospital. 1st November 2013

South Africa

Worker killed in dam project tunnel collapse

A worker has died in a tunnel collapse at the Ingula Pumped Storage Scheme site on the KwaZulu-Natal/Free State border, 5 other workers were also believed to have been trapped in the collapse. The project to pump water from the Braamhoek dam is scheduled for completion next year. 1st November 2013

China

7 Guizhou miners killed in gas explosion

A gas explosion has claimed the lives of 7 miners at the Huangshuibai Coal Mine in Yumo, Guizhou, 45 other miners managed to escape to safety. 4th November 2013

Serbia

Burns accident at strip mine

Two employees of the Obilic company were being treated for burns injuries yesterday in the Belgrade Emergency Medical Centre following an accident during maintenance work in the coal drying plant at the Kolubara strip mine. 8th November 2013

India

Miner killed, 3 trapped in Jharkhand coal mine

Fears were expressed last night over 3 miners trapped 350 metres underground following a collapse at the Dhanbad coal mine of the Bharat Coking Coal company in the Nirsa area of Dhanbad, one miner had already been confirmed dead. More than 100 miners were underground at the time but the interconnection of shafts facilitated an evacuation of almost all of the miners. The mine had been closed for a number of years and only became active again earlier this year. 12th November 2013

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USA

CO incident at Colorado mine

Two Colorado miners have died and 20 were affected in a carbon monoxide incident at the Revenue-Virginus mine of Star Mine Operations some 250 miles southeast of Denver. The cause of the accident was not immediately clear. Prior to Sunday's accident 8 miners had died in Colorado over the last decade. 19th November 2013

China

5 workers killed in tunnel accident

A construction accident during tunnelling work killed 5 workers and injured another in the Beilun District of Ningbo City where a 4-mile tunnel is being built by Ningbo Industrial Water Supply Company. 21st November 2013

USA

Ohio miner killed in accident

American Energy Corporation is investigating a fatal accident at its Century Mine in Beallsville, Ohio, which claimed the life of a 32-year old miner at the weekend. 25th November 2013

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