INITIAL DETERMINATION FLOWCHART FOR CONFINED SPACES §1910.146

If you have an...

ENCLOSED SPACE

Can it be bodily entered by an individual? Yes No> then it is not a confined space

Does it have a limited or restricted means of entry and egress? Yes No> then it is not a confined space

Is the space unsuitable (i.e. not designed) for continuous employee occupancy? Yes No> then it is not a confined space

Then it is a...

CONFINED SPACE

Does it contain or have the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere? Yes No

Does it contain a material that has the potential for engulfing an entrant? Yes No

Does it have an internal configuration which could trap or asphyxiate an entrant due to inwardly converging walls or downward sloping floors tapering into a smaller cross-section? Yes No

Does it contain any other recognized serious safety or health hazard? Yes No> then it is not a permit required Confined space

Then it is a...

PERMIT-REQUIRED CONFINED SPACE

Source: OSHA, Permit-Required Confined Space Entry Course 226, Volume 2 (12/1998, Madison, WI)
Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Environmental Health, Safety, and Risk Management
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