Confined Space Entry Decision Flow Chart

**Definition of a Confined Space**
Has limited means of entry and exit (for example a manhole) and is large enough and configured so that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work and is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

**Definition of a Permit Required Confined Space**
A confined space that has one or more of the following characteristics:
- Contains or has the potential to contain a hazardous atmosphere,
- Contains a material that has the potential for engulfing an entrant,
- Has an internal configuration such that an entrant could be trapped or asphyxiated by inwardly converging walls or by a floor that slopes downward and tapers to a smaller cross-section,
- Or contains any other recognized serious safety or health hazard.

Is the confined space a permit space?  
**NO**  
Follow non-permit required confined space entry procedures.

**YES**

Will SDSU employees enter the space?  
**NO**  
Prevent employee entry. Tasks will be carried out from outside of the permitted space. If contractors will be entering the space, inform the contractor about the space. Contractor must obtain the required information and comply with all confined space entry regulations.

**YES**

Can all of the hazards in the space be eliminated?  
**YES**  
Permit required confined space may be reclassified to a non-permit required confined space when hazards are eliminated. Ensure that a Confined Space Entry Permit specific to the space is available reclassifying it as a non-permit required confined space. Follow non-permit required confined space entry procedures.

**NO**

Is the only hazard an atmospheric hazard that can be corrected using continuous forced air ventilation?  
**YES**  
Space may be entered using Alternate Entry Procedures. Complete sections I, II, III, IV(1,5-7), V, VI, and VII of the Entry Permit.

**NO**

Use procedures required for permit required confined space entry (Entry Permit). Complete all sections of the Entry Permit. Carry out required pre-entry procedures to verify acceptable entry conditions and document test results. Ensure all equipment and communication methods are in place. Are the entry conditions acceptable?  
**NO**  
Entry is not permitted until all entry conditions are acceptable based on the conditions listed on the permit and in the SDSU Confined Space Program.

**YES**

Conditions are monitored throughout entry. Are acceptable conditions maintained?  
**NO**  
Entrants must evacuate the space.

**YES**  
Complete entry task. Cancel and file permit when task is completed.