SAMPLE CONFINED SPACE RISK ASSESSMENT

**PART A** The **work** to be undertaken:

E.g.-Inserting and welding a side junction into a pipeline approximately 10 metres from the entry point to the confined space.

**PART B** The **range** of possible work methods which could be used:

Method A

Method B

Method C

Method D

For example:

1. Perform the work from outside the confined space.

2 Access the confined space to perform the work using forced mechanical ventilation, taking care not to recirculate exhaust gases. Employ continuous gas monitoring.

3 Access the confined space to perform the work using supplied air respiratory devices. Employ continuous gas monitoring.

**PART C** The **hazards** present must be risk-rated as per the attached Risk Management Matrix:

CHEMICAL AGENTS **Risk Rating**

1) Harmful levels of hydrogen sulphide from disturbing sediments ⬜

2) Risk of combustible gases or vapours from the decomposition of organic material or infiltration of flammable materials through broken sections of pipes ⬜

3) Potentially explosive dust ⬜

4) Oxygen deficiency or excess ⬜

5) Introduction of chemicals during occupancy ⬜

6) Contaminants in the atmosphere are below the relevant exposure standard ⬜

7) Contaminants introduced through any work processes controlled, e.g. welding ⬜

8) Steps have been taken to control any risk associated with the presence of any vermin ⬜

PHYSICAL AGENTS **Risk Rating**

1) Prevention of flooding from failure of the outlet pipe and associated structures ⬜

2) Confined space is free from extremes of temperature ⬜

3) Noise controlled ⬜

4) All potentially hazardous services are positively isolated in order to prevent the

activation or energising of any equipment or service that may pose a risk to the health and safety of a person in the confined space ⬜

**PART D** Details of the actual **method** to be used for the particular work, e.g. method A, B, C or D.

The following specific details are also to be noted and observed if deemed necessary:

1) Forced mechanical ventilation provided through the confined space at the

appropriate flow per second ⬜

2) Prevention of recirculation of exhaust gases ⬜

3) All hatches open ⬜

4) Diversion of flow to one side while work is conducted on the other ⬜

5) Small intermittent flow adjacent to entry point blocked off ⬜

6) Flushed clean prior to working on steelwork ⬜

7) Gas conditions monitored as follows:

a) Use of a gas tester for hot work clearance associated with the removal of

existing steelwork ⬜

b) Gas alarm for stop-work and evacuation ⬜

c) Use of plywood to seal distribution channels before any hot work ⬜

8) If oxy cutting is necessary or welding fumes linger due to ineffective mechanical ventilation, supplied respiratory devices are supplied and worn during the work process ⬜

**PART E** Procedures for **emergency** and rescue:

1) Tripod and safety harness used for access ⬜

2) Other appropriate PPE ⬜

3) Oxygen self-rescuers carried ⬜

4) Communication available to standby person and emergency services either by

radio or telephone ⬜

5) Standby and competent persons fully trained in rescue procedures and first -aid ⬜