Trench Rescue Incident Checklist

SIZE-UP & INITIAL ACTIONS

- ❑ Establish Command and name the incident
- ❑ Ensure accountability system is utilized
- ❑ Approach with caution and position vehicles at least 250 feet from trench
- ❑ Eliminate sources of vibration (vehicles, machinery, construction equipment, etc.)
- ❑ Shut down vehicles to avoid contaminating the space with exhaust
- ❑ Provide traffic / crowd control
- ❑ Isolate and deny entry, establish perimeters (hot [50'], warm [150'], cold [300'] zones)
- ❑ Secure witness(s) or competent person(s)
- ❑ Determine number and location of victim(s)
- ❑ Approach trench from ends, survey from all sides
- ❑ Have non-injured persons exit the trench
- ❑ Establish communication and determine condition of victim(s)
- ❑ Identify immediate hazards (utilities, water in trench, atmospheres, falling objects, etc.)
- ❑ Determine if rescue or body recovery

REQUEST ADDITIONAL RESOURCES / SUPPORT

- ❑ Determine and announce Base and Staging locations
- ❑ Special Operations / Technical Rescue Team(s)
- ❑ Water removal pumps and equipment
- ❑ Trench Rescue vehicles and supplies
- ❑ Lumber Companies, shoring materials, airbags
- ❑ Hazardous Materials Response Team
- ❑ Utility Companies, Public Works (vacuum trucks, pumps, etc.)
- ❑ Atmospheric Monitoring, Ventilation, Air Systems, Retrieval System
- ❑ Communications Equipment
- ❑ Medical Aid for Medical Monitoring and Patient Care
- ❑ Law Enforcement, Engineers, Rehab
- ❑ Air Vaccum, Air Shovel
- ❑ Incident Dispatch Team

PRE-ENTRY OPERATIONS

- ❑ Assign necessary functions from Organizational Chart on reverse
- ❑ Don identification vests
- ❑ Identify hazards (secondary collapse, atmospheric, mechanical, electrical, weather)
- ❑ Perform an ongoing Risk versus Benefit analysis of the rescue efforts
- ❑ Place ladders for ingress and egress less than 25' apart
- ❑ Determine soil type and condition
- ❑ Shovel spoil pile back 2-feet from lips
- ❑ Ground pad lips of trench with boards (2" x 12" min.) on spoil side
- ❑ Ground pad trench ends and all sides with plywood (3/4" min.)
- ❑ Draw diagram of Trench
- ❑ Lockout / tagout equipment and potential ignition or flood sources
- ❑ Obtain MSDS's blueprints, maps, technical information, hazard ID
- ❑ Ensure that atmospheric monitors are properly calibrated
- ❑ Test atmosphere for oxgen deficiency, flammability, and toxicity
- ❑ Ventilate trench as needed
- ❑ Provide oxygen to patient as soon as possible
- ❑ Provide patient with helmet and googles
- ❑ Establish equipment cache area
- ❑ Determine mode of communication
- ❑ Ensure Back-up / R.I.T. teams are in place
- ❑ Remove and or identify trip hazards
- ❑ Mark any cracks or fissures with paint to monitor for expansion

RESCUE OPERATIONS

- ❑ Identify and establish strategic goals and objectives
- ❑ Develop Incident Action Plan and Back-Up Plan
- ❑ Brief crews, communicate plans
- ❑ Secure and don personal protective equipment including helmet, gloves, eye protection, knee pads, flame retardant coveralls, tag lines, harnesses
- ❑ Utilize tag lines as needed
- ❑ Ensure proper respiratory protection for rescuers
- ❑ Set up personal and remote air monitoring as needed
- ❑ Set up retrieval system and fall protection
- ❑ Install and secure shoring
- ❑ Provide buckets and shovels for dirt removal
- ❑ Maintain a minimum of a 12-foot safe zone
- ❑ Gain access to patient(s) and treat life-threatening conditons
- ❑ Perform patient packaging and extrication

TERMINATION

- ❑ Perform roll call to account for all involved personnel
- ❑ Decontaminate personnel and equipment if indicated
- ❑ Call OSHA or other regulatory agencies
- ❑ Remove shoring in reverse order, remove tools and equipment, secure the scene
- ❑ Consider Critical Incident Stress Debriefing
- ❑ Conduct Incident Debriefing

PROBLEMS	STRATEGIES	TACTICS	UNITS

NOTES

Sample Only
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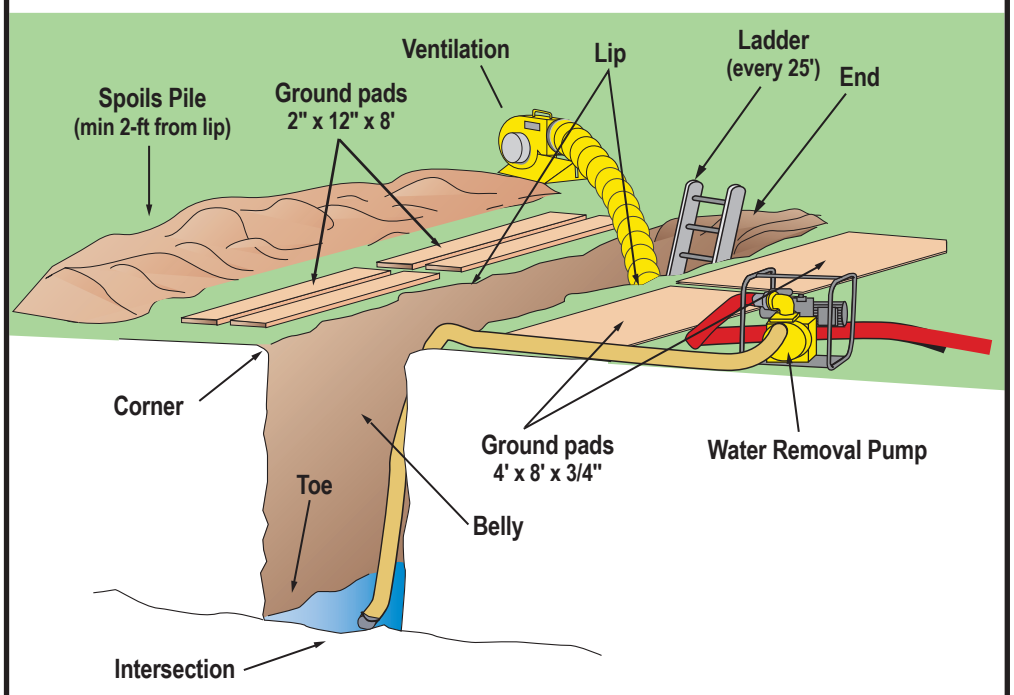
TRENCH TERMINOLOGY



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(NOTE: use wet erase pen or grease pencil only)

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