

Authorised Gas Tester and Entry Supervisor (AGTES)

Introduction

Confined space incidents rarely happen because people do not care. They happen because risks were underestimated, readings were misinterpreted, or supervision failed at a critical moment.

This program develops the next level of confined space leadership. As an Authorised Gas Tester and Entry Supervisor, you are responsible not only for your own safety, but for validating atmospheric conditions, approving entry, supervising operations, and preventing escalation.

Over three days, participants strengthen their technical competence, risk assessment capability, and supervisory judgment to meet national competency standards and perform the role with confidence and accountability.

Program Objectives

This program is designed to enable participants to:

- Conduct confined space risk assessments and recommend appropriate control measures
- Test and interpret confined space atmospheric conditions accurately
- Select, inspect, and manage confined space equipment
- Supervise confined space entry operations effectively
- Conduct entry team briefings, including emergency procedures
- Fulfil competency requirements for registration as an Authorised Gas Tester and Entry Supervisor

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, participants will be able to:

- Apply Malaysian legal requirements to confined space supervision
- Identify and evaluate atmospheric and operational hazards
- Perform structured confined space risk assessments
- Operate and interpret gas detection systems with confidence
- Implement ventilation strategies to control hazardous atmospheres
- Assess and supervise entry operations using clear procedural control
- Deliver clear toolbox briefings to entry teams
- Demonstrate practical competency in testing, supervision, and respiratory equipment handling

Who Should Attend

This program is suitable for:

- Managers and Engineers
- Safety and Health Officers
- OSH Practitioners
- Supervisors

- Personnel involved in confined space operations who are progressing to supervisory roles

Entry Requirements:

Participants must be Malaysian citizens, have successfully completed the AESP/AESP-R course, possess a valid AESP/AESP-R card, and be medically fit in accordance with the Industry Code of Practice for Confined Space 2010.

Methodology

This is not a classroom-only program. The design integrates:

- Facilitated discussion
- Scenario-based analysis
- Equipment demonstrations
- Practical gas testing exercises
- Risk assessment workshops
- Supervision simulations
- Structured competency assessments

Participants work with actual confined space equipment including gas detectors and breathing apparatus to ensure practical confidence, not just theoretical understanding.

Program Outline

Day 1

Session 1: Legal Authority and Supervisory Responsibility

The program opens by establishing the legal and professional responsibility of the Authorised Gas Tester and Entry Supervisor. Participants revisit confined space legislation, but from a supervisory perspective. The focus is on accountability, decision-making authority, and the consequences of approving unsafe entry.

Session 2: Advanced Hazard Recognition in Confined Spaces

Participants examine confined space hazards in greater depth, including complex atmospheric risks, process-related contaminants, and dynamic changes during work activities. Case discussions highlight how conditions can shift rapidly and why continuous monitoring is critical.

Session 3: Entry Procedures and Permit-to-Work Control

This session strengthens procedural discipline. Participants review the permit-to-work system, isolation requirements, and control measures required before approving entry. Emphasis is placed on verifying, not assuming, that all safety controls are in place.

Session 4: Emergency Preparedness and Supervisory Action

The day concludes with emergency preparedness principles. Participants explore escalation triggers, rescue planning considerations, and supervisory responsibilities during abnormal situations. The focus is on preventing secondary casualties and maintaining command control during incidents.

Day 2

Session 5: Gas Detection Systems and Atmospheric Testing

Participants receive structured training on gas detection systems, including sensor types, calibration principles, bump testing, and interpretation of readings. Practical exercises reinforce correct sampling techniques and understanding of oxygen, flammable, and toxic gas limits.

Session 6: Ventilation Systems and Atmospheric Control

This session explains mechanical ventilation principles and their application in confined spaces. Participants examine airflow planning, dilution strategies, and limitations of ventilation in different space configurations.

Session 7: Respiratory Protection Devices

Participants are introduced to respiratory protection systems, including breathing apparatus. The session focuses on selection criteria, inspection procedures, limitations of use, and supervisory responsibilities when respiratory protection is required.

Session 8: Confined Space Risk Assessment Workshop

Participants conduct structured confined space risk assessments using guided case scenarios. The session emphasises hazard identification, control hierarchy, documentation accuracy, and clear recommendation of control measures before entry approval.

Day 3

Session 9: Objective and Structured Knowledge Assessment

Participants complete written and structured assessments to validate understanding of legislation, hazard recognition, gas testing principles, ventilation, and supervisory duties.

Session 10: Practical Assessment Briefing

Before practical evaluation, participants are briefed on assessment criteria, performance expectations, and safety boundaries to ensure clarity and fairness.

Session 11: Practical and Oral Competency Assessment

Participants perform atmospheric testing, interpret readings, assess entry readiness, and demonstrate supervisory decision-making in simulated confined space scenarios. Oral questioning validates depth of understanding and judgment.

Session 12: Breathing Apparatus Practical Assessment

Participants demonstrate correct handling, inspection, and operational use of self-contained breathing apparatus under supervision. The focus is on technical accuracy, confidence, and procedural discipline.

The program concludes with final validation of competency and feedback to reinforce safe supervisory practice.