



JOB AID HAZARD AWARENESS INFO

WALK-IN FRIDGES AND FREEZERS

Many workplaces use walk-in freezers and fridges that are maintained below room temperature conditions to freeze or store large quantities of items.

Hazards Involved/Arise

- Accidentally being trapped or locked in
- Exposure to refrigerants
- Potential oxygen-deficient atmosphere due to refrigerant or sometimes due to the materials being stored (e.g., dry ice)
- Slippery floors due to condensation
- Awkward postures – overreaching, bending or twisting



People Affected

- Employees
- Supervisors
- Visitors
- Contractors

Existing Controls

- Provide appropriate protective equipment or warming station depending on duration of time spent in freezer
- Safety procedures if locked in
- Door latch that opens easily from the inside – entrapment alarm inside freezer
- Awareness training of the signs and symptoms of hypothermia and precautions that should be taken
- Anti-slip matting on floor
- Risk assessment done
- Monitoring of the air quality depending on refrigerant and products being used
- Buddy system
- Administrative controls such as limiting time spent in freezer or rotation of employees

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