



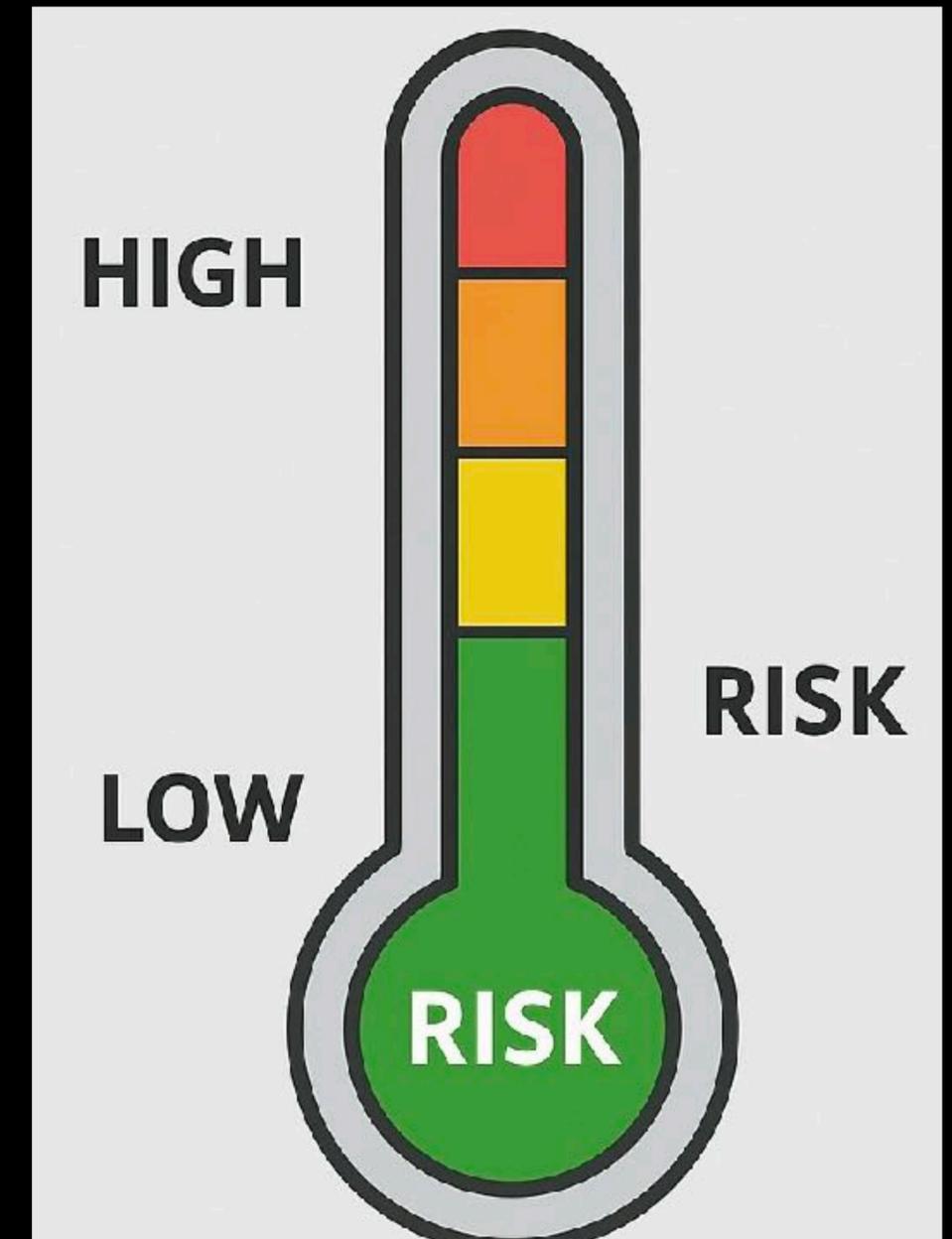
WHAT ARE CONFINED SPACES?

- ▶ A confined space is any area that's:
 - ▶ Large enough to enter,
 - ▶ Has limited entry/exit,
 - ▶ Not meant for people to stay in long-term.
- ▶ Common examples:
 - ▶ Tanks, silos, kettles, and drains.



WHY ARE CONFINED SPACES ARE DANGEROUS?

- ▶ Confined spaces can hold hidden hazards:
 - ▶ Bad air: Too much CO₂ from fermentation or not enough oxygen.
 - ▶ Physical risks: Hot surfaces, slippery floors, mechanical parts.
- ▶ Most incidents occur during:
 - ▶ Tank cleaning.
 - ▶ Fixing stuck ingredients.
 - ▶ Troubleshooting while equipment is still energized.





EXAMPLE: TANK CLEANING GONE WRONG

▶ Scenario:

- ▶ A brewer enters a fermentation tank to scrub stubborn yeast buildup.
- ▶ They forget to properly ventilate the tank and don't realize CO₂ has settled at the bottom.
- ▶ Within minutes, they feel dizzy and lose consciousness.

▶ Outcome:

- ▶ A coworker, unaware of entry procedures, tries to help and also collapses from CO₂ exposure. Both require emergency rescue.

▶ Lesson:

- ▶ Never enter a tank without air monitoring, ventilation, trained personnel, and a permit process - even if you've done it "a hundred times before."

BASIC SAFETY PRINCIPLES

- ▶ Don't enter unless necessary - use Clean-in-Place (CIP) systems and tools.
- ▶ Label all confined spaces with warning signs.
- ▶ Train employees to recognize and control confined space hazards.
- ▶ Test the air before and during entry: CO₂, oxygen, and chemicals.
- ▶ Always follow a written procedure with permits and rescue plans.





OCBA SAFETY COMMITTEE

Health & Safety Resources are available at:

- [OCBA Safety](#)
- [Rubicon EHS - Services for Breweries](#)
- [Ohio BWC Consultation Program](#)

Submit questions to the OCBA Safety Committee:

- ohiocraftbeer.org/safetyquestions/

Golden Hard Hat Applications can be emailed to Justin Hemminger:

- justin@ohiocraftbeer.org

