Grain Storage Structure Entry Procedures

Train, Plan, Prepare – Act!

1. Train, Plan, Prepare - then Act!
   A. Train - workers on hazards, LOTO, entry, and responsibilities.
   B. Plan - Bin entry plan, LOTO, Emergency Action plan
   C. Prepare – policy, procedures
      i. Who is responsible for the permit/checklist
      ii. Who can enter bins & how it will be done
      iii. Emergency action plan
   D. Act – Rushing into a bin is NEVER the right answer!

2. Determine need for entry.
   A. Reason – routine (ex. temp monitoring) vs. Problem (ex. out of condition grain)
   B. Task to perform – PPE, equipment, tools
   C. Trained workers – entrant and observer
   D. Explore alternatives to entry

3. Determine if safe entry can be made. Evaluate the conditions of the storage structure.

   A. Trained workers - Untrained workers should never enter bins!
   B. Atmospheric Hazard Potential
   C. Grain Conditions
   D. Equipment & Other Hazard Potential - LOTO
   E. Personal Protective Equipment Needs – Harness & Lifeline
   F. Rescue Equipment Available

5. Double Check. Hazard mitigation in place for all identified hazards.
   A. LOTO
   B. Prepare sump gates/guards. Install immediately upon entry.
   C. Rescue equipment available.

6. Pre-Entry Meeting – entrant, observer, supervisor (if different).
   A. Top, Side, Bottom entry
   B. Review tasks to complete and how to perform
   C. Review present & potential hazards; how to eliminate or mitigate.
   D. Review PPE needed, tools, equipment


8. Observer – Must NOT leave! If the observer has to step away, the entrant must exit.
   A. Maintains constant communication – visual is best.
   B. Controls the lifeline.
   C. Knows how to call for help & initiate rescue from outside the bin.

   No one should enter a bin without an observer present!

9. If a new hazard arises during entry, discontinue entry until the hazard is mitigated correctly.

10. Complete work, clean up tools, discuss any problems. Clean & Store PPE properly!

Failure to LOTO is leading cause of entry fatalities!