

THE EXCHANGE

WINTER 2015

SAFETY: CONFINED SPACES

Working in tight spaces has unique challenges, and recently, the U.S. Department of Labor released new information regarding safety for workers in confined spaces. Revised guidance went into effect in August 2015.

The ruling provides construction workers with protections that are similar to those of employees in manufacturing and general industry. New requirements encourage sharing vital safety information and continuously monitor potential hazards. Emphasis is being placed on more training, continuous worksite evaluations, and communication requirements.

Safety procedures while working in a confined space are critical for workers. According to OSHA, an estimated six fatalities and more than 800 injuries occur every year with employees who work inside confined spaces. Potential dangers for people working inside confined spaces include:

- Contact with toxic substances
- Electrocutions
- Explosions
- Asphyxiation

Avoiding dangerous situations while working in confined spaces depends on training and enforcing worksite policies.

To stay safe, workers should follow these procedures:

- **Proper use of PPE** – This includes a chest or full-body harness with a retrieval line attached to the center of their backs near shoulder level or above your head.
- **Have an attendant** – There should be someone on site that not only knows the safety procedures for entering a confined space, but they know what actions are necessary in case of a problem.
- **Have an entry supervisor** – Along with an attendant, you should also have an entry supervisor onsite. This person will verify the emergency plans and ensure that rescue services that are available. An entry supervisor also ensures that operations remain consistent with the approved procedures.

More Information

For more information on confined spaces and the new ruling from OSHA, visit their website. You can also read more about TP Mechanical's dedication to safety on our website.



PROJECT PROFILE

Summit Country Day

TP Mechanical contractors recently completed an 11,000-square-foot, five-story addition to the Summit Country Day School's main building in Hyde Park. The school, celebrating its 125th anniversary in the 2015-16 school year, required that the work be complete before classes resumed in the fall.

A project of this magnitude typically takes between 8-10 months to complete. Instead, the work was finished in just 11 weeks. The tight schedule meant that TP Mechanical partnered with HGC Construction during the developing stages of the design process to find opportunities for shortening the schedule.

The addition included an art studio, business office, classrooms, larger library and science labs. The new wing and renovations were designed to mimic the features of the historic building, originally built in 1890. TP Mechanical worked closely with HGC for the HVAC installation to meet this vigorous schedule. The HVAC schedule called for certain floors and areas to be completed by specific dates.

In the first weeks, TP Mechanical's crew of 15 skilled workers completed demolition for the renovation and staged the new HVAC System. View pictures and learn more about how we delivered high quality construction on a short timeline by viewing the complete profile on our website.



FABRICATION



Mechanical Skid

TP Mechanical utilizes a variety of fabrication techniques to improve efficiency, shorten construction delays and control costs for our customers. One of these techniques is the preparation of mechanical skids. Rather than having equipment – such as furnaces, heat exchangers, boilers and chillers, delivered directly to the job site, TP Mechanical may recommend shop fabrication of mechanical skids.

We prepare attachments and connections for the equipment and configure it for our customers' unique needs. This speeds the installation process and improves safety – reducing work done overhead and in tight spaces. It can also reduce the on-site manpower and hours. Talk to TP Mechanical about how shop fabrication can be a part of your construction process.

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Holiday Donations

'Tis the season for giving, and TP Mechanical is organizing donation drives for several worthy causes across our office locations. It's just one way we get our staff, customers and communities in the holiday spirit.

TP Mechanical is holding three holiday donation drives to give back to the community throughout the season.

- Cincinnati: Letters to Santa
- Columbus: Hat/Mittens Drive
- Columbus: Nationwide Children's Hospital Toy Drive

We invite our employees, partners and even customers to make a contribution to our donation drives by clicking on our holiday donation page.



SERVICE

Refrigeration unit care and maintenance

Preventative care and maintenance is the secret to the long-lasting service of any machine.

There are several businesses and organizations that rely on a top grade refrigeration systems for the health of their business, including restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores, some manufacturing plants, large office buildings, and schools. With proper care, you should get a least a decade or more of service from your commercial refrigeration system.

But the proper care takes some planning and effort. Keeping this equipment performing at its best can also save money. According to Energy.gov, commercial refrigeration equipment typically accounts for up to 60% of commercial energy consumption.



Preventative Care Tips

- Loading unit properly – When these units are overloaded, the disrupted airflow can result in using more energy.
- Keep cooling coils clean – This allows for proper airflow and heat transfer.
- Clear the condensing units – Make sure all trash and weeds are away from this outdoor unit.
- Check defrost heaters – Check the manufacturer's recommendations for making sure heaters are in the correct position.
- Schedule regular service calls – You'll need a professional to inspect your unit for any potential issues at least once a year.

Contact Us

TP Mechanical's service team can offer a wide range of mechanical services, including refrigeration maintenance for:

- Walk-in coolers/freezers
- Ice Machines
- Parallel Rack Systems
- Reach-in Coolers

For more information or to schedule an inspection or service assessment, visit our website.

IN THE NEWS

Bill Riddle Appointed New CEO

TP Mechanical announced that Bill Riddle is shifting his role to include both President and Chief Executive Officer of the company. Scott Teepe, Sr. is leaving the position of CEO and will remain involved at the company as Chairman of the Board and as an advisor.

Riddle said his goals include a continued focus serving customers, offering innovative solutions and employee development. He believes in creating ways for TP staff members to reach their highest potential within the company, because ultimately that results in a better experience for customers.

Read more about this transfer of leadership on our website.

