

Lower Explosive Limits of Combustible Gases

The following are the lower explosive limits (LEL) of selected gases:

|                         |           |                                 |          |
|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| Acetone                 | 2.5% vol  | Hexane                          | 1.1% vol |
| Acetylene               | 2.5% vol  | Hydrogen                        | 4.0% vol |
| Ammonia                 | 15.0% vol | Isopropyl Alcohol (Isopropanol) | 2.0% vol |
| Benzene                 | 1.2% vol  | Methane                         | 5.0% vol |
| Butane                  | 1.9% vol  | Methyl Alcohol (Methanol)       | 6.0% vol |
| Butyl Alcohol (Butanol) | 1.4% vol  | Methyl Ethyl Ketone             | 1.4% vol |
| Carbon Monoxide         | 12.5% vol | n-Pentane                       | 1.4% vol |
| Diethyl Ether           | 1.9% vol  | Propane                         | 2.1% vol |
| Ethane                  | 3.0% vol  | Propylene                       | 2.0% vol |
| Ethyl Alcohol (Ethanol) | 3.3% vol  | Styrene                         | 0.9% vol |
| Ethylene                | 2.7% vol  | Toluene                         | 1.1% vol |
| Ethylene Oxide          | 2.7% vol  | Xylene                          | 1.1% vol |

$$\% \text{ LEL} = \frac{\text{Gas Concentration (in \% vol)}}{\text{Lower Explosive Limit (in \% vol)}} \times 100$$

$$25\% \text{ LEL Pentane} = \frac{.35\% \text{ vol}}{1.4\% \text{ vol}} \times 100$$

Example of Combustion

