



Monthly Topic: Combustible Gas

- **Hydrocarbon** – an organic compound consisting entirely of hydrogen and carbon atoms. Examples include methane, propane, benzene, butane, and octane.
- **Combustible reaction** – a chemical reaction between oxygen and a hydrocarbon that produces heat and a new product.
- **Lower Explosive Limit (LEL)** – the minimum concentration (percentage) of a gas or vapor in the air that is necessary to support combustion. Combustion will not occur without an ignition source.



GD-6

- Concentrations below this percentage are considered “too lean” to burn and support combustion.



- **Upper Explosive Limit (UEL)** – the maximum concentration (percentage) of a gas or vapor in the air that can support combustion. Combustion will not occur without an ignition source.

- Concentrations above this percentage are considered “too rich” to burn and support combustion.

- **Mercaptan** – a sulfur odorant that smells like “rotten eggs”. Mercaptan is added to natural gas to aid in the detection of a gas leak.

- Gas boilers, furnaces, water heaters, clothes dryers, fireplaces, grills and stoves are all potential sources of gas leaks.
- **Propane** gas is heavier than air and may accumulate in basements, crawl spaces, ditches or along floors.
- **Natural Gas** and **Methane** gas are lighter than air and may accumulate high in a room or building.
- **Hydrogen** gas is lighter than air and may accumulate high in a room or building.



GD-2B

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- [Restaurant Explodes](#)
- [Boiler Room Explosion](#)
- [Hydrogen Explosion](#)
- [Oil Refinery Explosion](#)

- [LEL & UEL](#)
- [Safety Tips](#)
- [Gas Leak Prevention](#)
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- [What is Mercaptan?](#)

Applications

- ✓ Commercial Kitchens
- ✓ Gas Heating Elements
- ✓ Landfills
- ✓ Refineries
- ✓ Factories
- ✓ Battery Charging Areas
- ✓ Homes

- ✓ Datacenters
- ✓ Golf cart charging areas
- ✓ Warehouses
- ✓ Welding shops
- ✓ CNG Filling Stations
- ✓ Generator Rooms
- ✓ Boiler Rooms

- ✓ Power plants
- ✓ Furnace rooms
- ✓ Restaurants
- ✓ Chemical Plants
- ✓ Cellular Tower
- ✓ Crude Petroleum
- ✓ Commercial Kitchens