

The carboxyhemoglobin level is a measure of the amount of Carbon Monoxide which has been absorbed into the blood stream. The chart converts the amount of Carbon Monoxide measured in the exhaled breath to the percentage carboxyhemoglobin level in the blood. The UL 2034 level (10% carboxyhemoglobin) depicted on the chart shows the average carboxyhemoglobin concentration after a fifteen minute exposure to 400 ppm Carbon Monoxide. At this exposure level, the average person will begin to experience the symptoms of Carbon Monoxide poisoning.

WEIGHT OF VARIOUS GASES COMPARED TO AIR

The following gases are lighter than air:

Acetylene	Ammonia
Carbon Monoxide	Ethylene
Hydrogen	Hydrogen Cyanide
Methane	

The following gases are heavier than air:

Argon	Butane
Carbon Dioxide	Chlorine
Ethane	Hexane
Hydrogen Chloride	Hydrogen Sulfide
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	Methyl Mercaptan
Nitrogen Dioxide	Nitrous Oxide
Oxygen	Propane
Sulfur Dioxide	

INTRINSIC SAFETY

What is intrinsic safety?

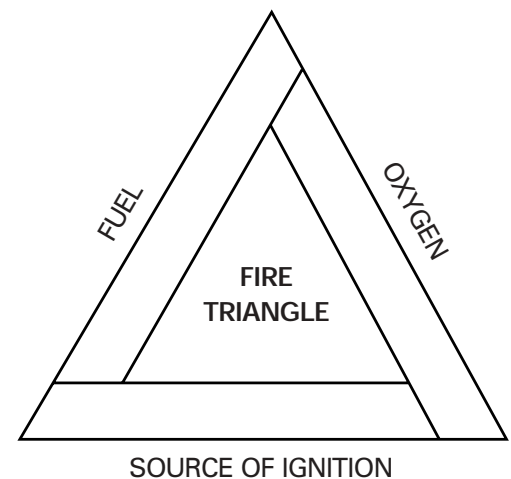
Intrinsic safety is a design technique applied to electrical equipment and wiring for hazardous locations. The technique is based on limiting energy, electrical and thermal, to a level below that required to ignite a specific hazardous atmospheric mixture.

How is intrinsic safety defined?

Intrinsically safe equipment and wiring shall not be capable of releasing sufficient electrical or thermal energy under normal or abnormal conditions to cause ignition of a flammable or combustible atmospheric mixture in its most easily ignitable concentration.

Who verifies intrinsic safety?

Equipment is tested and certified for intrinsic safety by independent third party agencies, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), Canadian Standards Association (CSA), Factory Mutual Research Corporation (FM) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). Independent testing ensures that your gas monitoring equipment is not only designed to be intrinsically safe, but meets all required standards for intrinsic safety.



Ref: R. Stahlis Intrinsic Safety Primer ©1988

National Electrical Code Article 504-2
Definition of a Intrinsically Safe Circuit © 1996

A circuit in which any spark or thermal effect is incapable of causing ignition of a flammable or combustible material in air under prescribed test conditions.