



Is Hydrogen Safe?

Part of the Hydrogen Tech Brief Series

Hydrogen is Safer Than the Alternatives



Hydrogen Car Fire

Gasoline Car Fire

One Minute After Ignition

- Hydrogen is lighter than air, diffuses quickly, and is non-toxic if inhaled
 - Gasoline and diesel pool on the ground where they continue to burn
 - Since diesel is an oil, it clings to objects as it burns
- Hydrogen generates much less radiant-heat than gasoline, greatly reducing the risk of a secondary fire
- Lithium-Ion batteries will burn violently if deformed, punctured or can develop spontaneous internal short-circuits
 - A burning battery needs no oxygen, so extinguishing it is difficult. Many fire departments recommend letting the car burn where possible
 - Lithium-ion batteries extinguished with water have a documented history of re-ignition