



**HOW TO DETERMINE YOUR PIPING
ISOLATION STANDARD ?**

IN 4 STEPS WITH THE HSG253 MATRIX

1. DETERMINE YOUR RELEASE FACTOR

Reflects potential rate of release : **High**, **Medium**, **Low**.

Depending of your **line size** and **pressure**

	Pressure		
Line size	> 50 barg	10 barg < 50	< 10 barg
> 8"	High	High	Medium
2" < D < 8"	High	Medium	Low
< 2"	Medium	Low	Low

2. DETERMINE YOUR LOCATION FACTOR

Reflects potential for casualties escalation and damage : **High**, **Medium**, **Low**.

Category	Description
High	Any numbers at risk > 10 Congested equipment, potential for escalation, large fires with potential for damage and multiples fatalities
Medium	Typically 3-10 risk Uncongested plant, storage area or small number of items in open area, minor fires
Low	Characterized by 1-2 risk Remonte single items, easily contained minor fires

3. GET YOUR OUTCOME FACTOR

Combine your **release factor** and your **location factor** to obtain your **outcome factor**

Location factor	Release factor		
	High	Medium	Low
High	A	B	B
Medium	B	B	C
Low	B	C	C

4. DETERMINE YOUR ISOLATION STANDARD

Last step : combine your **outcome factor** with your **substance category**

Substance category*	Outcome factor		
	A	B	C
1 - TOXIC	R	I	I
2 - FLAMMABLE	R	I	II
3 - CORROSIVE	I	II	II
4 - BELOW FP	II	II	II
5 - OTHERS	II	III	III

I = Positive isolation

II = Proven isolation

III = Non Proven isolation

R = Depends of the situation

**More informations about substance category in the HGS253 book p62*

5. QUICK EXAMPLE

For a NAFTA feedline in a steamcracker

Line size = 6"

Pressure = 7 barg

Release factor = **LOW**

Location factor = Environnement : congested = **HIGH**

Outcome factor = **LOW** + **HIGH** = **B**

Baseline isolation standard = **B** + **FLAMMABLE** = **Positive isolation**



Thank you for your interest !

Want to learn more about positive isolation?

CONTACT US

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