

Polyurethane Foams

• Polyurethane foams are the largest group of urethane products, covering about 80% of the total urethane production.

- The raw materials for making polyurethane foams include :
- Isocyanate
- Polyol
- > Water
- Blowing agent
- > Amine catalyst
- Metal catalyst
- Surfactant



Burning behavior of polyurethane foams

PUs are very combustible polymers with a very low limiting oxygen index (LOI) in the range of 16-18%.

Neat PU foams are highly flammable due to their <u>high surface area, good air</u> <u>permeability</u>, and the <u>large aliphatic chain</u> <u>segment content.</u>



Burning behavior of polyurethane foams

On combustion, polyurethane foams produce four types of products :

- Combustible gases
- Noncombustible gases
- Entrained solid particles
- Carbonaceous char

