

## Rate of Burning Cotton Balls

### Concepts

#### **Explanation:**

The basis of this demonstration is that the rate at which the cotton ball burns is related to the amount of oxygen present. Therefore the spread out cotton ball burns much faster than the compressed one due to the increased oxygen amounts. This can be seen with a large variety of materials. For example dust at grain silos is incredibly flammable due to the high oxygen content all around the dust particles.

#### **Sources:**

*If you have other explanations, concepts, or ideas for this demonstration please share them by contacting our Chem Demo team ([bedell@nku.edu](mailto:bedell@nku.edu); [sieveb1@nku.edu](mailto:sieveb1@nku.edu)). We will pass them on to the community and credit you with the ideas.*