

BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

**LUEQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS LEAKAGE MONITORING AND
CONTROL SYSTEM**

BY

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**Aproject report submitted to the department of computer engineering in partial fulfilment
of the required for the award of a bachelor's degree in computer engineering of busitema
university**

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DECLARATION

I, KAMUKAMA JAVAN , registration number BU/UG/2012/1796 do hereby declare this Project entitled liquefied petroleum gas leakage monitoring and control system

as my original work except where explicit citations has been made and that it has never been submitted to any Institution of higher learning for academic award.

Signed: Date:

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APPROVAL

This is to certify that the Project Report entitled liquefied petroleum gas leakage monitoring and control system has been done under my supervision and is hereby being submitted for examination with my recommendation.

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DEDICATION

I dedicate this project report to my beloved parents Mr kanyontore Eliphaz and Mrs jadress kanyontore for the love and support they have provided to me through this project period, my Brother Nturanabo Abert and Odongo Fabius for the advice and financial support they rendered to me during the research period.

I also dedicate it to my project supervisor Mr. Alunyu Andrew Egwar for his tremendous effort and guidance in relation to my project report , the courage, and the moral & support he offered to me during my research period MAY the almighty GOD BLESS him.

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LIST OF ACRONYMY

SMS: Short Message Service

SIM: Subscriber Identification Module

GSM: Global System for Mobile computing

LPG: Liquefied Petroleum Gas

AC: Alternating Current

DC: Direct Current

ROM: Read Only Memory

RAM: Random Access Memory

ADC: Analogue Digital Conversion

LCD: Liquid Crystal Display

HEP: Hydro Electricity Power

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ABSTRACT

LPG is a flammable mixture of hydrocarbon gases which is used as a source of energy for cooking in many homes in the world. In Uganda, the use of LPG is increasing due to its reliability and low cost compared to other sources of energy like HEP. However, since this gas is highly flammable, if not handled with care it can be of great danger to people's lives and property. This gas is heavier than other natural gases like air and so when it leaks; it does not easily disperse and may lead to suffocation when inhaled and explosions when its concentration in air rises beyond. The currently used LPG cylinders do not have an automated mechanism for detecting leakages and automatic control of these leakages. This has led to increase in number of home accident cases related to LPG leakages. In this system, MQ-6 gas sensor is used to detect any leakages in the hose pipe and the system automatically turns off the gas supply to the cooker so that gas wastage is minimized. This also controls the risk of explosion which can lead to fire outbreak. GSM modem is used to notify the user about the leakage status so that the necessary actions are taken to avoid danger. This system will reduce the increasing gas leakage related accidents, save people's lives and property.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the study

LPG is flammable mixture of hydrocarbon gases which is used as fuel in many applications like homes, hostel, industries, automobiles, vehicles and this is because of its desirable properties which include high calorific value, which produce the less smoke, less soot and does not cause much harm to the environment. Natural gas is another widely used fuel in homes. Both gases burns to produce clean energy, however there is a serious problem about their leakage in the air. The gases being heavier than air do not disperse easily and may lead to suffocation when inhaled also when gas leaks into the air may lead to explosion. However, the home continues to be the main site for accidents.

In Turkey, the increased usage of LPG as a cooking or heating fuel has resulted in many burn injuries from LPG mishaps. Between January 2000 and June 2011, 56 LPG-burned patients were compared with 112 flame-burned patients. There were no significant differences with respect to the mean age, sex, hospitalization time, and mortality in both groups. In the LPG-caused burn cases, 41 burns (73.2%) occurred at home, seven (12.5%) were work-related mishaps, and eight (14.3%) were associated with car accidents. The majority of the LPG burns (82%, 46 patients) resulted from a gas leak, and (18%, 10 patients) of them were related to the failure to close LPG tubes in the patients' kitchens. General awareness regarding the risk of LPG and first aid for burns appears to be lacking. Due to the explosion of LPG gas has been increased in recent years to avoid this problem there has been some system that detect and also monitor leakage of LPG by turning the alarm if the amount of gas leaking increases also sending messages to the owner to turn the gas cylinder off [1].

Uganda Liquefied Petroleum Gas Association estimates that gas usage among Ugandans, is at 1% because Ugandans have not yet embraced the technology. This is partly because of the fear of the gas cooker. Although there are no specific reported house fires related to the few homes that use them, one mother tells of how her son got wounded with bruises when her maid tried to light the gas cooker without instruction. She turned the knob and the whole house smelled of gas. But she was just in time to save her little son. Christine Amuge, the marketing manager of

the Oxyl Uganda Ltd says gas cylinders require a regulator which holds back the high pressure gas in the cylinder and allows a constant low pressure supply to the cooker [2].

1.2 Problem Statement

Gas leakage leads to various accidents resulting into financial loss as well as human injuries and this is due to badly fitted or poorly maintained gas appliances which produce a highly poisonous gas called carbon monoxide (CO) which can leak into homes. This gas we cannot see it, taste it or smell it but it can kill quickly with no warning and also cause long term problems such as brain damage. Therefore there was a need for the system that can monitor the horse pipe and turn off the gas cylinder automatically.

1.3 Objective

1.3.1 Main Objectives

To design a liquefied petroleum gas leakage monitoring and control system

1.3.2 Specific objectives

- i. To review the current liquefied petroleum gas leakage monitoring and control systems.
- ii. To identify and analyze the requirements needed to accomplish the development of the system.
- iii. To design a liquefied petroleum gas leakage monitoring and control system.
- iv. To implement the system.
- v. To test and validate the system.

1.4 Justification

Safety plays a major role in today's world and it is necessary that good safety systems are to be implemented in both domestic and work places. The existing systems do not handle the safety issues fully since they are able to only detect the gas leakage and send the messages to the responsible person but don't turn off the gas cylinder automatically in case there is a leakage. Thus there was a need for an automatic LPG leakage control system which will be able to turn off the gas supply in case the leakage along the horse pipe.

1.5 Significance

The proposed system will keep on monitoring the horse pipe and in case there is a leakage it will automatically turn off the gas supply.

The proposed system will automatically notify the user in form of SMS about the status of the leakage.

1.6 Scope

1.6.1 Physical scope

LPG is used in homes, hostels, industries and vehicles among others in many applications because of its desirable properties. However, the proposed system shall only be used if there is any domestic gas leakage and if gas leakage exceeds certain level, this system automatically turns the gas cylinder off and also sends messages to the responsible person using a GSM module about the leakages status.

1.6.2 Technical scope

The project prototype was designed and implemented on project prototype board. The system utilized LPG sensor, Atmega328 and it operates at 5V and 12V DC. A SIMcom Technologies SIM900 modem was incorporated to enable remote monitoring of the LPG leakage status using SMS technology. The system software was written in C++ embedded high level language using arduino compiler.

1.6.3 Time scope

This project was designed and implemented in a time frame of eight months.

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