Introduction

A fuel gauge is an instrument used to indicate the level of fuel contained in a tank. Commonly used in most motor vehicles, these may also be used for any tank including underground storage tanks.

As used in vehicles, the gauge consists of two parts: The sensing unit

The indicator

The sensing unit usually uses a float connected to a potentiometer. As the tank empties, the float drops and slides a moving contact along the resistor, increasing its resistance.

Meanwhile, the indicator unit (usually mounted on the dashboard) is measuring and displaying the Level.

The system can be fail—safe. If an electrical fault opens, the electrical circuit causes the indicator to show the tank as being empty (theoretically provoking the driver to refill the tank) rather than full.

Corrosion or wear of the potentiometer will provide erroneous readings of fuel level. However, this system has a potential risk associated with it. An electric current is sent through the variable resistor to which a float is connected, so that the value of resistance depends on the fuel level. In most automotive fuel gauges such resistors are on the inward side of the gauge, i.e., inside the fuel tank. Sending current through such a resistor has a fire hazard and an explosion risk associated with it

Title	ble Digital Fuel Gauge					
Size	Document Number BSP Embed					Rev 1
Date:	Thursday, February 09, 2017	Sheet	1	of	3	



