





04 2020

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Technical journal for welding and allied processes



- Education and career aspirations hard to reach for young people as result of the pandemic
- Mechanical plate edge bevelling
 Key to high speed weld preparation and improved weld quality
- Development and evaluation of alternative materials for friction stir welding of steel





IIW Reference Catalogue ISO 5817

The International Standard ISO 5817: 2003 "Welding; Fusion-welded joints in steel, nickel, titanium and their alloys (beam welding excluded); Quality levels for imperfections" lists the quality requirements for production of arc welded steel joints.

This international standard is a fundamental technical standard and specifies the basic standardized requirements for the evaluation of welded joints in the various fields of application of welding, such as pressure vessels, metal construction, piping, rolling stock etc. Fur thermore, this standard shall be used as the basis for the evaluation of testpieces for the approval testing of welders and welding procedure qualification tests according to ISO-Standard.

The reference catalogue is useful for persons with low experience of transposing individual cases to the limits specified in the standard. Using the reference cards, they will learn to interpret correctly various imperfections and their specific representation and to classify them by size to quality levels of the standard.

The catalogue may also be used by manufacturers, operators and test bodies as a tool for aid and decision about the evaluation of individual items.



IIW Reference Catalogue ISO 5817

Reference radiographs for assessment of weld imperfections according to ISO 5817, interpretation of arc-welded butt joints in steel, 2005, 60 reference cards, DIN A4, ring binder.

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Q&A with Outgoing Younger Members' Committee Chair, Matthew Haslett



The Welding Institute's Younger Members' Committee (YMC) works to engage young professional engineers to encourage and assist their professional and career development. In addition, the Committee also provides science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) outreach activities around the UK to promote these subjects to school children and students of different ages.

Matthew Haslett MWeldI served as the chair of the Committee from 2013 until he stepped down in October 2020. It seemed like this was the perfect opportunity to ask Matt about his work over this time and how he has seen the Committee grow and encourage others.

Read more in the Editorial on page 295.







The video-infographic provides an overview on how digitalisation is impacting on the factory.

262



The "Tempest" concept model on the airfi eld at BAE Systems in Warton, Lancashire, UK. (Photos: BAE Systems)

283



Torch light sparkles.

290

News	262	New video infographic about Smart Factory latest trends
	262	The fall and rise of metal additive manufacturing
	264	Education and career aspirations hard to reach for young people as result of pandemic
	265	The "WELDONE" project: Next-generation learning and knowledge assessment methodologies
	266	UFI - The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry elects Monica Lee-Müller as new president
	267	"DIGIMAN" project to lay the ground- work for a new Master's Degree in Digi- tal Manufacturing
	269	"MULTI-FUN" project aims to enable multi-material additive manufacturing for complex 3D parts
	270	Conferences and Exhibitions
From Companies	272	Major European train builders invest in Powerstir friction stir welding
	273	Signifi cant weight reduction in tipper manufacturing through new steel grades
	274	Sun, salt and steel: Welding and its challenges in shipbuilding
	276	Swift integration into the workflow: Collaborative welding robots in metal working
	278	Orbital TIG welding based on efficient electrode selection and preparation
	280	New electron beam welding machines for continuous welding of strip materials
	282	Innovative electron beam technology for future energy production methods
	283	Motorsport inspired technology to aid future fast jet development
	284	Short messages
	287	Products
Welding Practice	290	The principal arc welding processes
Events	302	73 rd IIW Annual Assembly: Virtual conferencing revolutionises tradition for the international welding community
	304	Visitors from over 100 countries are

expected to attend "wire" and "Tube"

in December in Düsseldorf









Technical journal for welding and allied processes of the DVS - German Welding Society, Düsseldorf, the Professional Division of The Welding Institute, Cambridge, and the Institut de Soudure, Paris

Produced in Collaboration between







Reports

- 306 Mechanical plate edge bevelling - The key to high speed weld preparation and improved weld quality
- 308 Refill friction stir spot welding parameter development for transport industry aluminium alloys (Technology Briefing)
- 310 Multi Material Jetting - Additive manufacturing of multi-functional parts

Specialist Articles

312 Influence of nitrogen in process atmospheres on the corrosion and fatigue behaviour of brazed stainless steel joints

> Vasilii Fedorov, Thomas Uhlig, Guntram Wagner, André Langohr, Ulrich Holländer, Hans Jürgen Maier

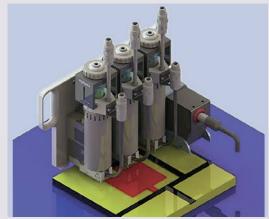
318 Development and evaluation of alternative materials for friction stir welding of steel

> Marcus Emmel, Jennifer Karbaum, Markus Zwick, Ralf Boywitt, Steffen Risse, Matthias Pöge

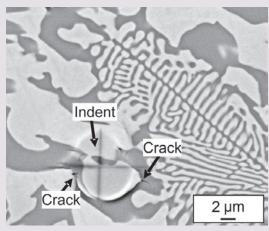
- 292 Information from the DVS - German Welding Society
- 295 The Welding Institute News
- 324 **Books**
- Imprint/Ad Index 324
- 325 **Editorial Preview**



The virtual conference centre for the 73rd IIW Annual Assembly.



Schematic illustration of the microdosing systems.

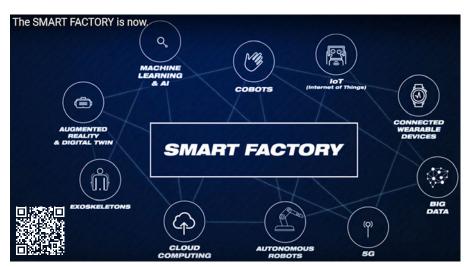


Indent in the eutectic consisting of Fe-enriched Ni-Cr-Si solid solution and the Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallic resulting in crack formation (BSD contrast).

New video infographic about Smart Factory latest trends

As a result of digitalisation, many every-day objects are able to collect data, analyse external information and communicate with each other. But what happens when this type of technology is applied to the factory, both large companies and SMEs? What elements will characterise the factory of the future? Industry 4.0 has a value creation potential for manufacturers and suppliers of \$3.7 trillion in 2025, but today only 30% of global companies are capturing value from Industry 4.0 solutions on a large scale.

The Italian company Comau from Grugliasco near Torino (www.comau.com) – which is internationally operating in the industrial automation field –, has launched a new video-infographic about the Smart Factory latest trends. These new technologies are used to digitalise expanding parts of the manufacturing process and to design the factories of the future jointly with companies. From wearables to exoskeletons, from artificial intelligence and machine learning to collaborative robots: smart factories will



The video-infographic provides an overview on how digitalisation is impacting on the factory (please see link below or follow the QR code in the figure).

use these technologies to generate value. Benefits include increased productivity while reducing time to market, the ability to remotely manage more tasks through IoT (Internet of Things) and augmented reality.

At this link (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LENqgfisK9s&feature=youtu.be)

you can watch a video-infographic providing an overview on how digitalisation is impacting on the factory and how large companies and SMEs are capturing value from Industry 4.0 solutions. (According to press information from Comau)

The fall and rise of metal additive manufacturing

There is little doubt that additive manufacturing will become a key enabling technology across a wide range of sectors. Over the past few years, revenues have grown, notable new entrants have emerged, investments have been significant and material portfolios broadened. However, the Covid-19 pandemic has halted that growth in its tracks. At this key moment, the international market research company IDTechEx, headquartered in Cambridge/UK, has released a comprehensive technical report, "Metal Additive Manufacturing 2020-2030" (www.IDTechEx. com/MetalAM), assessing all elements of the inevitable fall and subsequent rise of this industry.

Metal additive manufacturing has been used for prototypes, tooling, replacement parts and small to large production runs. Unsurprisingly, the initial success has been in high-value industries prominently aerospace & defense and medical & dental.

There are many emerging sectors beyond this, such as automotive and oil & gas, and the long-term future looks bright. However, onset by the Covid-19 global pandemic, the industry will see a significant decline in 2020 with multiple years needed for recovery.

Profound market impact - no immediate recovery

There is good evidence that pre-arranged investments, certifications and orders have all carried on. There are even potential viewpoints that additive manufacturing has gained prominence during this pandemic, as manufacturers address vulnerabilities in their supply chain, and capabilities have been demonstrated in essential circumstances (such as for the need for ventilator parts). The reality, beyond these small victories, is that the market impact has been profound, and the recovery will not be immediate.

The market has fallen in the immediate timeframe, as both internal and client operations ground to a halt for large parts of Q1 and Q2 2020. The short-to-mid-term recovery will differ for each sector with the longest recovery to be for civil aviation. The material demand is forecast to "spring back" faster, but the printer sales will take longer to recover temporarily stagnating the total installed base. IDTechEx forecasts are built on extensive experience in the industry and through primary-interviews to bring the reader the latest and most accurate information on the industry.

Mid-to-long-term growth is still anticipated

Despite this inevitable setback, a midto-long-term growth is still anticipated in this industry and the metal AM is supposed to exceed \$10 billion within the next decade. Although returns will take longer to be realised, it is important that printer manufacturers, investors and players across the supply chain do not lose faith in this market. As with any new (primarily) B2B technology with a large price tag, it will take time for end users to have confidence in the process and value-add to warrant the investment. Powder bed fusion processes (DMLS – Direct Metal Laser Sintering and EBM – Electron Beam Melting) have been commercial for the longest time which results in this technology underpinning most installations. However, the next generation of technologies are gaining more traction and within the next decade, a more diverse installation base will be observed.

A common tactic for new entrants is to invent new terms for their technology to differentiate from the competition. Some of these are unique, but most are aligned with existing processes introducing only subtle variations. The IDTechEx report cuts through this marketing and provides accessible impartial categorisation for the industry. The reality is that every process must compromise on something, be it the rate, price, precision, size, material compatibility

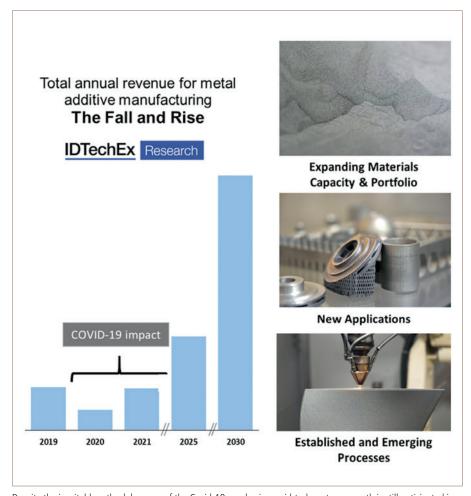
or more. IDTechEx provides critical benchmarking studies of these processes; an essential process for identifying gaps in the market and end-use applications.

Wide range of applications by 2030

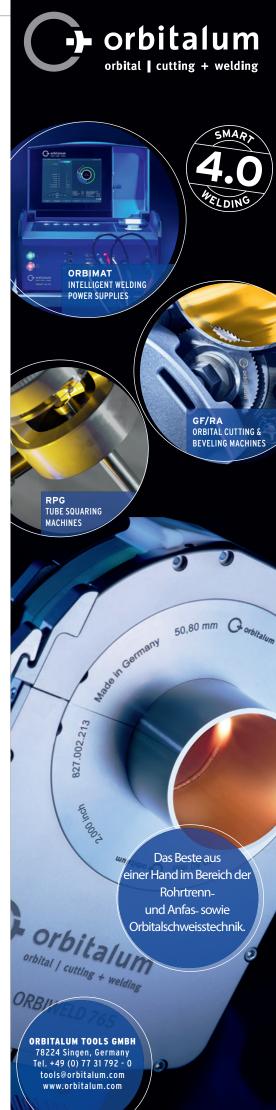
By 2030 there will be a wide range of applications, some that the industry is rapidly progressing towards and many that are currently unknown. Partnerships, strategic investments and vertical integrations are all indicative of markets preparing for these future opportunities.

The IDTechEx report, "Metal Additive Manufacturing 2020-2030", provides a critical technical assessment of the industry at a crucial time, providing detailed analysis on the printer processes, material opportunities and end-use applications all with granular forecasts. The report supplies over 50 company profiles ranging from established players to emerging start-ups and material companies.

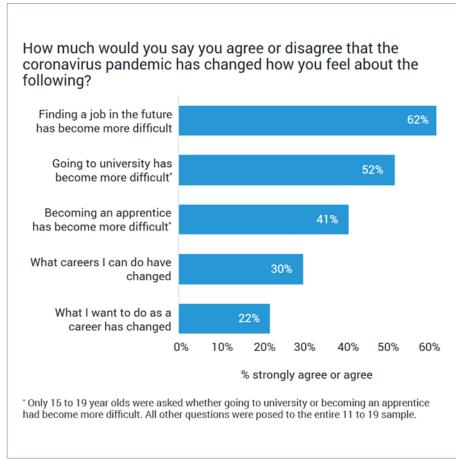
Dr Richard Collins, Principal Analyst, IDTechEx, Cambridge/UK



Despite the inevitable setback because of the Covid-19 pandemic, a mid-to-long-term growth is still anticipated in the metal additive manufacturing industry. (Source: IDTEchEx)



Education and career aspirations hard to reach for young people as result of pandemic



Impact of the pandemic on young people's career plans and considerations (Graphic: EngineeringUK)

The Covid-19 pandemic has significantly affected all aspects of life, from public health to the economy. Students of all ages have had their education and exam timetables disrupted, and there is talk of the deepest recession the UK has seen for 300 years, with the impact of this predicted to hit young people particularly hard.

New research commissioned by the non-profit organisation EngineeringUK (www.engineeringuk.com) has revealed that educational and career aspirations have already been affected by the pandemic, with just over half (52%) of the 15 to 19 year olds asked agreeing or strongly agreeing that going to university would become more difficult and 41% saying the same of becoming an apprentice. 62% of the 11 to 19 year olds asked agreed or strongly agreed that finding a job in the future has become more difficult as a result of the pandemic.

The research makes it clear that the pandemic has had a bearing on young people and the careers they're thinking about choosing in the future. It reveals over 2 in 5 young people reported that the pandemic has made 'having a job that you can be certain you can keep' (44%) and 'availability of jobs' (41%) more important to them when considering their future career choices. Considerations such as 'liking what I do' and 'being able to progress in my career' are sadly lower (33% and 26%).

Importance of jobs to make a positive societal contribution

For some young people the pandemic also appeared to raise the importance of having a job that enabled them to make a positive societal contribution, with around a third of respondents indicating that the pandemic has made 'having a positive impact on society' (36%), 'helping

people with the work they do' (34%), and 'ethics and social responsibility' (33%) more important when considering career choices.

Findings from the research, which surveyed over 1,100 11 to 19 year olds, also suggests that some young people felt their career choices have been constrained because of the pandemic. 30% say the careers they could do have changed as a result of the pandemic and 22% say what they wanted to do as a career has changed.

Often significant gender differences

Throughout the survey there were often significant gender differences, with girls/young women more likely than boys/young men to say 'ethics and social responsibility' (89% vs 80%) and 'helping people with the work you do' (89% vs 79%) were important factors when thinking about jobs they want to do in the future.

Exams, home learning and thinking about future education or careers has been tough during lockdown so the survey also looked at whether young people searched out information online, spoke to their parents or took part in any careers activity during this time, with the results showing a gender disparity. Girls/young women were more likely to have used the time to research their futures - 60% of girls/young women, compared to 49% of boys/young men had taken part in a careers activity during lockdown. 44% of girls/young women had discussed career options with their parents, compared with 30% of boys/young men and 27% of girls/ young women compared to just 19% of boys/young men had searched for careers information online.

Dr Hilary Leevers, Chief Executive of EngineeringUK, says: "Young people are going to be greatly affected by the pandemic for years to come and they are well aware of it. To hear that children as young as 11 are concerned about their ongoing education and careers is not what anyone wants, but their interest in job security and availability is balanced by an increased desire to benefit people and society.

Considerably more interest in a career in STEM

"It is encouraging that the pandemic has resulted in young people being considerably more interested in a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Young people know about the role that engineers have played in efforts to combat the pandemic –we need to translate this insight into career aspiration. Interest in engineering careers lags behind that in science and technology so

we need to emphasise the opportunities, as the country invests in its infrastructure and net zero, and provide young people with every opportunity to hear about and experience the breadth and societal impact of modern engineering.

STEM outreach and work experience needs to be targeted to the schools and students that need it most, including those who are underrepresented in the STEM and engineering workforce and those that are most affected by the pandemic.

We need to give these young people the opportunities they deserve and, in turn, we need them to ensure the diversity of thought for a thriving future workforce."

The findings report, "Young people and Covid-19: How the pandemic has affected careers experiences and aspirations", is available for download free of charge here: https://www.engineeringuk.com/media/232314/young-people-and-covid-19.pdf. (According to press information from EngineeringUK)

The "WELDONE" project: Next-generation learning and knowledge assessment methodologies

Traditional learning methods are being challenged by the potential that technologies, coupled with new pedagogical approaches, hold to create a different way of learning, based on active learning and interaction. This is particularly felt in technical fields of knowledge, such as Manufacturing and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), where there is a lack of professionals to support the growth of new and existing companies. And new learning methodologies and technologies are one important way to attract students to these professions.

Bridging that gap between today's technologies' capabilities and attractive learning methods

Bridging that gap between today's technologies' capabilities and attractive learning methods is the role of the "WELDONE" project (http://www.weldone-project.eu/), the aim of which is to provide EWF's system and STEM's educational staff with the knowledge, ability and expertise on pedagogical approaches and methodologies that promote active learning, that can be leveraged for a better training.

As an end result, the project will develop a Training of Trainers' (ToT) curricula, based on seven Competence Units, organised in a modular approach to be delivered using the "Workshop Methodology", including practical resources focusing on the development of specific key competences to be embedded in technical training.

EWF and its education system are the main focus of the project, as all its results will be developed for application on Approved Training Bodies (ATBs) belonging to the EWF network. In addition, the project results will also be available for STEM educators as a way to broaden their impact beyond the manufacturing sector.

Curriculum with seven Competence Units

The "WELDONE" curriculum has seven Competence Units, organised in a modular approach, focusing on:

- Multiple Intelligences and Learning Styles:
- Learner Centered Didactics (i.e. Problem-Based Learning, Critical Thinking and Collaborative Learning);
- Gamification;
- Digital Competences and using digital resources;
- News Media Didactics (the use of social media and micro-learning);
- Personal, social and learning competence and
- Entrepreneurship competences.

By fostering an active learning environment, with experiential learning and project work methods, where schools' environment can encourage creativity and risk-taking as well as accept mistakes as a valuable learning opportunity, teachers and trainers from the EWF Training system, as well as educators from STEM sectors, will be able to embed the development of

key competences on their own educational resources, following the European Commission's Council Recommendations.

Bringing trainees closer to reallife situations

"WELDONE" also paves the way for educators to be flexible in framing various pedagogical strategies and to be adaptable to diverse content. It aims to maximise the use of digital tools and environments available today in order to bring trainees closer to real-life situations, thus making learning a meaningful process for students of today and tomorrow. Also, teachers and trainers will be actively involved in this continuous professional development programme and on the process of raising their awareness to the importance of updating training methodologies and delivery in technical and scientific fields.

The project is implemented by a consortium of seven partners from Croatia, Belgium, Greece, Hungary, Portugal and Romania and, within its ambitious goals, it also aims at improving the provision of Higher VET (Vocational Education and Training, increasing its attractiveness and relevance, and promoting an assessment framework that will help trainers and teachers to deal with the challenges of evaluating the "WELDONE way". (According to press information from EWF; www.ewf.be)



UFI – The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry elects Monica Lee-Müller as new president

The UFI Board of Directors has elected Monica Lee-Müller as President of UFI – The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry (www.ufi.org) for the 2021/22 period. The UFI Presidential Trio for the 2020/21 term will therefore comprise of:

- Monica Lee-Müller (Managing Director of Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (Management) Limited (HML), Hong Kong), Incoming President,
- Anbu Varathan (Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association - IMTMA, India), President 2020/21,
- Mary Larkin (Diversified Communications, Portland, USA), Outgoing President

This decision becomes effective at the conclusion of the 87th UFI Global Congress, which runs from 15-20 November 2020.

Monica Lee-Müller is the Managing Director of Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (Management) Limited (HML) since 2012. HML is the professional private company responsible for the management and operation of the 306,000 m² Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC). About 1,000 events are held there every year.

Monica Lee-Müller has been active in UFI for many years, supporting the association's mission and driving developments, especially on diversity and sustainability



The UFI Board of Directors has elected Monica Lee-Müller as president of the association for the 2021/22 period. (Photo: UFI)

projects. She has served as a Board Member of UFI for the past 12 years.

As UFI's Incoming President, Monica Lee-Müller will work closely with the incumbent President and Outgoing President to make up the Presidential Trio, managing UFI at the highest level, and helping UFI continue on its global mission to connect, support, and promote the exhibition industry around the world.

UFI - The Global Association of the Exhibition Industry was founded in 1925 as a non-profit, non-partisan international association, and today is the global associ-

ation for the exhibitions industry, directly representing more than 50,000 exhibition industry professionals in almost 90 countries around the world. UFI operates four regional offices in addition to the head-quarters in Paris/France.

UFI's recent presidents were from South Africa (Craig Newman 2018/19), Italy (Corrado Peraboni 2017/18), Germany (Andreas Gruchow 2016/17), Russia (Sergey Alexeev 2015/16), Colombia (Andrés López-Valderrama 2014/15) and France (Renaud Hamaide, 2013/14). (According to press information from UFI)

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"DIGIMAN" project to lay the groundwork for a new Master's Degree in Digital Manufacturing



Digital technologies are sweeping through all economic sectors, transforming traditional ways of doing business, while rendering other obsolete. Manufacturing is also quickly integrating digital as part of its processes, and all its ecosystem is feeling the impact, from ideation to design, from manufacturers to their supply chain, and from the former to buyers.

Working in this complex environment requires more than the knowledge of a specific digital tool or how it applies to manufacturing, it demands professionals capable of grasping the full ecosystem and the implications of digital transformation in each and every area of manufacturing. The "DIGIMAN" project (digimanproject. eu) aims to do just that by laying the foundation of a Master in Science focused on Digital Manufacturing that encompasses all relevant technologies towards the 4th Industrial Revolution.

This two-year project brings together a total of seven partners from six countries – Romania, Belgium, Portugal, Spain, Hungary and Germany – and targets the overall ecosystem of manufacturing, touching teachers, students, technology developers, industry and higher education institutions. Its expected outcomes encompass increasing the level of digital competences for students and teachers, as well as the level of cooperation between higher education institutions and industry stakeholders.

On a broader scale, it also aims at improving transnational cooperation between universities, technology developers and industry's stakeholders and to improve the teaching/learning framework within Europe by providing lesson materials and real-life case studies to be used in a blended learning environment, leveraging

the best of both e-learning and classroom learning.

Upon the completion of the project, the new digital manufacturing Master of Science programme will be integrated as part of the educational offering of the University of Craiova/Romania, with the continuous update of the content of lessons materials for the next four years and the continuous consultation of industry stakeholders to improve the educational materials.

Deliverables and complementarity with other programs

To achieve its objectives, the program will develop a number of activities in all countries that participate on the consortium, starting with surveys to assess the digital manufacturing competences required in industrial engineering fields, to evaluate Industry 4.0 requirements, and a last one, to all stakeholders, to assess the competences provided by the foreseen curriculum and a specific one for teachers/students related to the overall quality of the project's products.

The project will provide one curriculum for the master program, 12 lessons

materials covering the programme study, while also developing one database with questions and answers for the examination process, and one learning management system for the master programme study and the three short-term courses developed. The short-term courses will be provided to 16 teachers, which will be awarded certificates, with an additional 14 teachers trained after that.

The project consortium comprises a combination of industry representatives and institutions from the training side. University of Craiova (https://www.ucv. ro/en/), a Romanian prestigious institution of higher education, is leading the project, which also includes EWF - The European Federation of Welding, Joining and Cutting (www.ewf.be), Lisbon's University (https://www.ulisboa.pt/), the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (https://www.bme.hu), the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca (https://www. utcluj.ro/), Augmented Training Services, S.L. (www.soldamatic.com) and UniTyLab of Heilbronn University (https://www.unitylab.de). (According to press information from EWF)





Media Kit 2021 Planning now!



"MULTI-FUN" project aims to enable multi-material additive manufacturing for complex 3D parts

Metal Additive Manufacturing (MAM) technologies versatility makes them most suitable for producing from unique parts up to full series production. Yet, even the mostly used MAM technology, Powder Bed Fusion (PBF), is not capable of going beyond single materials, and even the range of standard alloys is rather small.

The "MULTI-FUN" project (http://www.multi-fun.eu) aims to address those short-comings in two ways: First, by improving performance and efficiency in metal additive manufacturing through the integration of multi-functionalities based on novel active materials and the development of new structural materials for Wire Arc Additive Manufacturing (WAAM), including high strength aluminium alloys and low alloyed steel grades. And secondly by enabling multi-material design in geometrically complex 3D parts without being hindered by size.

Applying combinations of different materials

The project focuses on MAM by applying combinations of different materials, combined with the most appropriate AM technology for the deposition, to maximise the benefits. Wire and powder based directed energy deposition (DED) and material jetting are employed in new AM equipment combining different AM technologies with tailored software.

The inclusion of nanomaterials allows the integration of novel features, such as heat sink materials with the highest thermal conductivity, a high degree of integral design that makes it possible to embed electrical conductors in complex shaped metal structures, and the addition of sensing and data transfer capabilities to the equipment and software development. In addition, the integration of tailored optical fibres will enable bringing advanced thorough sensing capabilities to the manufactured parts to perform Structural Health Monitoring (SHM).

Broaden the scope of usage for metal additive manufacturing

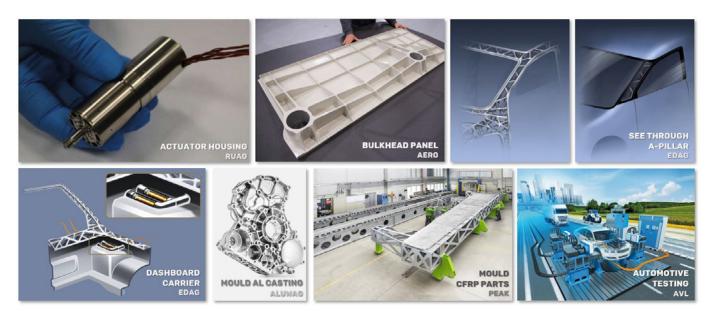
The project has a total of four science and technology objectives. The first objective pertains to the development of five new materials customised for additive manufacturing, with a minimum of three of them using nanotechnology. This will allow for the creation of new products by maximising thermal conductivity, minimising electrical conductivity and/or improving wear resistance of metals. As a result of this objective, the development of new products is expected thanks to the advanced structural metals and corresponding active material solutions for innovative multiple functionalities.

The second objective addresses new processes and it entails the development of AM equipment and software to produce the

requested material compositions during the layer build-up. In total, at least ten new material combinations applying five new materials will be shown by the seven demonstrators for different applications. The expected result is an innovative additive manufacturing equipment that integrates several additive manufacturing technologies working in parallel.

The third science and technology objective aims to manufacture and evaluate seven physical demonstrators with multi-material design and integrated multi-functionalities, for three use cases (structural parts, molds, test equipment), addressing four different markets (automotive, aviation, space and production industry). The expected end result is related to new methods and it will contribute to the development of new knowledge on increased efficiency of parts & molds due to integrated, multi-material-based functions.

The last objective relates to the constant assessment and improvement through a feedback loop of the reduction of environmental and economic impact, by evaluating additive manufacturing materials, hardware, process strategy and demonstrator design. The expected key result from this objective relates to new standards and it will enhance knowledge and contribute to standards and support regulatory bodies adapting to multi-material additive manufacturing.



"MULTI-FUN" demonstrators. (Photos: EWF)

Manifold impact expected

The expected impact will be felt manifold. The defined KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) fall into three main groups, including:

- First, the improvement of the efficiency, quality and reliability of the product by at least 40%;
- Secondly, a better usage of raw materials and resources with reduced environmental impact and lowering costs by 35% as demonstrated by Life Cycle Assessment; and
- Lastly, it will provide new opportunities & business for SMEs across Europe, namely for the key players in advanced materials research in AM.

This three-year project brings together a total of twenty-one partners from eight countries – Austria, Switzerland, Germany, Spain, United Kingdom, Poland, Portugal and Belgium. It sets a clear focus on market-creating innovation, developing advanced materials and equipment for AM of multi-material parts. Leading experts in AM process & equipment manufacturing

will fully cover the physical integration of these advanced materials into metallic substrates. (According to press information from EWF; www.ewf.be)



PLEASE NOTE: Due to the worldwide spread of the Coronavirus, numerous events have been cancelled or postponed. This table shows the status as of October 2020. All information is subject to change due to the dynamic situation. For any updates please check the indicated websites of the events' organisers.

Conferences and Exhibitions			
24.1126.11.2020	Bilbao/ Spain	"31BIEMH" – international fair of machine tools and advanced manufacturing Information: Bilbao Exhibition Centre, Internet: https://biemh.bilbaoexhibitioncentre.com/en/	
25.11.2020	Online	"VAE2020" – 3rd International Conference on Vehicle and Automotive Engineering Information: University of Miscolc, Internet: https://www.uni-miskolc.hu/~jk2016/vae2020/	
26.11.2020	Online	Metal Additive Manufacturing Symposium Information: TWI, Internet: https://www.twi-global.com/media-and-events/events-diary/metal-additive-manufacturing-symposium	
03.12.2020	Online	Digital Manufacturing Conference 2020 Information: TWI, Internet: https://www.twi-global.com/media-and-events/events-diary/digital-manufacturing-conference-2020	
07.1210.12.2020	Düsseldorf/ Germany	International Trade Fairs "wire 2020" and "Tube 2020" Information: Messe Düsseldorf, Internet: www.wire-tradefair.com; www.tube-tradefair.com	
09.0310.03.2021	Aachen/Germany	"IEBW 2021" – 6th International Conference on Electron Beam Welding Information: DVS, Internet: https://www.dvs-ev.de/iebw2021/	
09.0312.03.2021	Hanover/Germany	"EuroBlech" – 26th International Sheet Metal Working Technology Exhibition Information: Mack Brooks Exhibitions, Internet: https://www.euroblech.com/2020/english/	
25.0327.03.2021	Mumbai/India	International Trade Fairs "wire India" and "Tube India" Information: Messe Düsseldorf, Internet: https://www.wire-india.com; https://www.tube-india.com	
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18.0520.05.2021	Düsseldorf/Germany	13th World Trade Fair & Conference "Aluminium" Information: Reed Exhibitions, Internet: https://www.aluminium-messe.com/en/	
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Major European train builders invest in Powerstir friction stir welding

Specially developed Powerstir friction stir welding (FSW) machines from UK-based Precision Technologies Group (PTG; www.ptgltd.com), that incorporate a 30 m \times 4 m moving gantry, could soon redefine the way in which Europe's leading manufacturers of railway rolling stock produce aluminium carriage bodies.

Manufacturers typically use a combination of TIG and MIG welding to create railway panel welds. However, as the Powerstir friction stir welding process provides superior, high-strength joints, one leading European train builder already anticipates that using its newly purchased Powerstir FSW machine will lead to a reduction in the wall thickness of panels, with the potential for weight savings of as much as 30%. Thanks to the considerable gantry length of Powerstir rail sector machines, the business will also be able to weld some of its longest carriage panels in one single operation.

Growing demand for lighterweight aluminium carriage bodies

Since their launch, PTG's Powerstir gantry-type FSW machines have been used extensively in the production of railway carriage panels for some of the world's fastest trains. With a growing demand for lighter-weight aluminium carriage bodies across the wider rail industry, increasing numbers of European-based manufacturers are now placing orders for PTG's British-built Powerstir machines.

Developed by Precision Technologies Group specifically for use in the railway industry, Powerstir gantry machines are renowned for their ability to produce particularly long friction stir welds. For example, a Powerstir machine is used to create what are believed to be the longest single FSW railway panel welds in China at over 15 m in length.



Specially developed Powerstir FSW machines that incorporate a 30 m \times 4 m moving gantry could redefine the way in which Europe's manufacturers of railway rolling stock produce aluminium carriage bodies.

PTG is considered to be a leader in the development of FSW technologies for transport applications. Over recent years, Powerstir friction stir welders have found favour with companies from across the automotive, aviation and high-speed rail sectors. The Powerstir FSW process provides a clean, aesthetic alternative to traditional welding. It delivers proven weld quality, excellent mechanical properties, virtually no porosity and the opportunity for reduced wall thickness in many applications. Reduced wall thickness provides important opportunities for saving weight, while virtually no porosity helps minimise the ingress of moisture over time - an important attribute especially where railway carriages are operated in harsh environments. With welding speeds of up to 3.000 mm/min, the Powerstir process is typically more than three times faster than conventional automated welding techniques.

High-strength joints that are virtually defect free

Friction stir welding combines frictional heat with precisely controlled forging pressure to produce extremely high-strength joints that are virtually defect free. Due to the very low welding temperature, mechanical distortion is practically eliminated, with minimal Heat Affected Zone (HAZ) and an excellent surface finish. Friction stir welding transforms the parent metal from a solid to a plasticised state. This occurs during a process that involves mechanically stirring the materials to be joined together, to form a high-integrity, full-penetration welded joint. The Powerstir FSW process is effective on flat plates, cylindrical components and even on parts of irregular thickness. Although used primarily for joining aluminium, Powerstir friction stir welding can also be applied to magnesium, copper, titanium and steel alloys. (According to press information from PTG)

Loose insert

In this issue you find a loose insert of: DVS Media GmbH / Düsseldorf, Germany We ask for your attention!

Significant weight reduction in tipper manufacturing through new steel grades

Turkish trailer and tipper manufacturer Fesan Makina (https://www.fesanmakina.com/?dil=en), situated in Konya in the interior of Turkey, switched to "Hardox" wear plate and "Strenx" performance steel manufactured by the Nordic and US-based steel company SSAB (www.ssab.com), to meet customer demand for stronger, lighter equipment. Being part of a continuously growing market, Fesan also looks for contracts in other countries.

Their new tipper model "Dangal", which is used for multipurpose loads such as bulk cargo, pallet loads and scraps, withstands harsh conditions and its design incorporates innovative solutions. By introducing "Strenx 700" and "Strenx 960" steels in place of the previous thick mild steel, Fesan has shaved off about 800 kg in the chassis. "Fesan was the first company to use 'Hardox' in the side and rear doors," says Mehmet Baypınar, who is responsible for domestic sales at the company. "The change to 1.5 mm 'Hardox 450' from 3 mm thickness in the doors has made the vehicle another 600 kg lighter just from the doors."

No more dents in the doors

Earlier, the doors in the tipper bodies were made out of mild steel, so deformation and severe dents would be a big issue for heavy loads. But in 2015, Fesan decided to test using "Hardox 450" steel for the side doors with supporting parts made of "Strenx" steel, and the result was very positive. "We got remarkable feedback about the quality, and customer satisfaction was exceptionally high," company founder Selim Selvi says. "Before, our trailers in Turkey would weigh about 9 or 9.5 t. After we began using 'Hardox' and 'Strenx', we were able to decrease the weight in phases, first to 8,000 kg, then to 7,000, and now 6,200 kg."

Why is less weight so important to their customers? "Less weight of the vehicle means the possibility of carrying more product load and this translates into better productivity for the end user," Selvi explains. "Less fuel consumption saves money and is also positive from a sustainability point of view." (According to press information from SSAB)



Fesan's new lightweight tipper model "Dangal" withstands harsh conditions; a video is available at https://www.facebook.com/fesanmakina/videos/fesan-dangal/574470816388589/.





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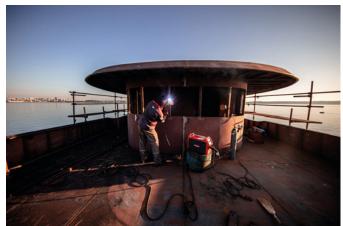


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Sun, salt and steel: Welding and its challenges in shipbuilding





The Croatian shipyard Gulet has been building ships for four years. Since it was founded, it has already completed eight ships. (Photos: Fronius International GmbH)

Welding in shipbuilding – certainly a Herculean task. Croatian shipyard Gulet j.d.o.o, which has been building ships for four years, knows all about this. The limited space calls for great skill and a reliable selection of the right welding position. Welding while lying down or kneeling is a matter of course. Gulet focuses solely on the construction of cruise liners and has been using welding technology from Fronius (www.fronius.com) from the outset.

The rugged, rocky Adriatic coast of Croatia spans 6,000 km. Set against the backdrop of turquoise waters, it is a paradise for those who love sailing or other water-related activities. All kinds of water sports are gaining in popularity, as are cruises along the idyllic archipelago, which are mainly



The shipbuilder is subject to strict inspections. X-rays are taken of around 30% of the cross joints on a ship

offered on mega yachts. The starting points include the many historic coastal towns – such as Trogir with its captivating old town. Trogir is also the home port of Gulet shipyard. Since it was founded in 2015, the company, which currently has 16 employees, has already completed eight ships: "We allow around six months for one ship. However, as all the welding is done outside, the actual construction time is heavily dependent on the weather," explains Mirko Purić, owner of Gulet.

Small company - huge challenges

Needless to say, Puric's shipyard performs manual welding. Steel is the main material used, which is why the four trained professional welders largely rely on the MIG welding process. However, finding highly skilled welders is difficult, explains the shipyard owner, as they have to master all three welding positions during their welder test: vertical, horizontal and angular welding. As a result, he has used Fronius welding systems right from the start, as these fully support the necessary manual skills.

There have been no failures, despite the tough conditions on site. At Gulet, all the ships are constructed outdoors at the pier, which makes launching easier due to the proximity to the water. However, as there are no covered halls, workers and machinery are exposed to the weather 365 days a year: rain, humidity and high temperatures of up to 50°C in summer. Just three small containers are used as a storage area for machinery, gas cylinders and also for office space.

The burning summer sun and limited space within the ship mean it can be exhausting work. Around 50% of a ship needs to be welded while lying down or kneeling. Because of the hull shape, it gets steadily narrower, particularly as you approach the sides of the ship. In the bow – the frontmost part of the ship – it is not unusual to find areas of less than 40 cm. "This makes work very difficult and is another reason why it is so hard to find highly skilled welders," says Purić.

Meticulous checks of the steel plates and weld seams

Gulet primarily constructs cruise ships with a maximum length of up to 120 m. Shipbuilding steel is the primary material and flux-cored wires with a diameter of 1.2 mm are mainly used with this. The powder filling forms a slag around the weld seam, which significantly reduces spatter. This is extremely important for later acceptance tests, as both the strength and appearance of a seam are crucial.

The shipbuilder is also subject to other strict inspections. All the plates used in the ship are tested and must bear a Lloyd stamp when they leave the shipyard. Germanischer Lloyd (GL) is an international testing institute. "I have to take plates without test certificates from Lloyd to the shipyard in Split for a hardness and bending test. This is the only way I can be sure that the steel plates we are using are free from quality defects," Purić continues.



Everything is welded manually in the shipyard. Steel is the main material used, which is why the trained professional welders mainly rely on the MIG welding process.

Ships constructed in individual sections

The ships are constructed in individual sections at Gulet. Once an element has been joined, an examiner from the expert body comes. This happens at least ten times during the construction process. For example, when the keel - the main longitudinal structural element of a ship - is joined to the shell plating, all the materials are checked by the expert. The weld seams on the shell plating of the outer hull are usually coated with chalk, and with petroleum on the inside. If the petroleum makes its way through to the other side, there must be a hole in the weld seam. The weld seam then has to be repaired - which involves milling it out, grinding it down and re-welding.

X-rays are also taken of around 30% of the cross joints on a ship. Small black dots on the image indicate areas where a slither of slag may have been welded. This makes the seam porous and therefore repair is essential. If there are several weld layers, the slag must be meticulously removed, starting with the root pass, through to the intermediate layers and filler beads: "The requirements are rigorous. We are committed to providing our customers with quality," stresses Purić. His customers are mainly private companies from the nautical sector.

The shipbuilder's portfolio also includes boats for deep-sea fishing – the first trawler is currently being constructed. The shell plating of these ships cannot be more than 16 mm, as this is the maximum to which Gulet is certified. Anything over this and the company has to apply for additional test certificates, which in turn means significant costs.

Low weight and ease of use

According to Purić, what really sets the Fronius systems apart, in addition to their other quality features, is their low weight: "The machines are lightweight so they are easy to transport around the construction site and in the ship. The 'TransPocket

1500' weighs less than 5 kg, which is why we mainly use it for tacking work, where we employ the electrode welding process. For all the MIG welding work, we use the 'TransSteel 5000', which weighs around 30 kg. We have four of these." The ease of use is a decisive advantage for the welders too: "Say a new employee joins us; they will be able to master the machine after just an hour's worth of instruction," says Purić. "However, the main reason I opted for Fronius is the quality of the welding systems - they work perfectly. I don't have any idle time now, so I'm saving money." When a service, which includes the annual calibration specified by the testing organisation, is required, a Fronius technician carries this out on site quickly.

In Croatia, this responsibility falls to Fronius representative Eurotechnika in Zagreb. Fronius works with numerous sales partners and service partners worldwide to provide customers with the best possible levels of after-sales service. (According to press information from Fronius)



Mirko Purić, owner of Gulet j.d.o.o.





At Gulet, all the ships are constructed outdoors. As there are no covered halls, workers and machinery are exposed to the weather. This also has a huge impact on the construction time for each ship.

Swift integration into the workflow: Collaborative welding robots in metal working



Thomas Kaysser, Managing Partner at H. P. Kaysser GmbH + Co. KG. (Photo: H. P. Kaysser)

H. P. Kaysser GmbH + Co. KG from Nellmersbach near Stuttgart/Germany (https://www.kaysser.de/en/), a specialist in sheet metal working, owes the success of their metal systems solutions across Europe to their knack for tinkering and refining and their state-of-the-art machinery. This is why the company was among the first to put their trust in the Lorch Cobot Welding Package devised by Lorch Schweißtechnik GmbH from Auenwald/Germany (https:// www.lorch.eu/en/). Currently still putting the collaborative welding robots to the test in a trial phase, the company is exploring how to systematically switch from welding components manually to producing them in a semi-automated process.

"Two years ago while taking inventory, we counted 16 different makes for our welding machines ranging in age from six months to 30 years. Such a diverse machine inventory poses a major challenge from a maintenance standpoint and calls for experts with special skills," says managing partner Thomas Kaysser, explaining the reasons behind the conversion of their machinery to Lorch Schweißtechnik inverters with a consistent operating logic.

Joining different components into one universal welding tool

The latest addition to their machine inventory comprises two "Lorch Cobot Welding Packages" since January 2019. The sheet metal processing specialist has been looking into all the possibilities that

the collaborative welding robot may offer them in the production areas of pipe/steel construction and stainless steel/aluminium engineering. The package is composed of the Universal Robot "UR 10", the power source "S-RoboMIG XT" and Lorch's special welding processes. The "Cobotronic" software joins the different components of the solution seamlessly into one universal welding tool.

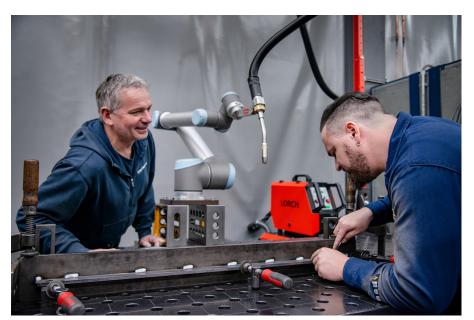
"One assisting robot arm that does not need to be housed in a protective cell, we recognised the enormous potential of the Cobot immediately," says Thomas Kaysser. "We are currently at the learning stage." The company employs 450 staff at their location in Nellmersbach near Stuttgart/Germany. They also run a factory in Romania. "We supply more than 30 industries across Europe with products ranging from simple to sophisticated. Our customers present us with challenges for which no solution has yet been found," emphasises Thomas Kaysser.

Spanning an area of 25,000 m², the company's vast halls – which were simply referred to by the owner as the "workshop" – contain a healthy portion of Swabian understatement, house laser cutting machines, 3D metal printers, one of the most cutting-edge powder coating machines, press brakes and the Cobots.

"We need to maintain our competitiveness by operating with highly advanced machinery," says Thomas Kaysser. "Every craftsman needs the tool best suited to make products that customers in the marketplace will accept. and they will if these products measure up to their standards in terms of quality, price and speed. That is a tough business involving a market that makes investments a pivotal necessity; after all, you cannot reap unless you sow."

Trial operation under real-world conditions

H. P. Kaysser's definition of the "proper" tool becomes evident in the way they assess the technology of the Cobot. "We wasted no time and started our trial operation under real-world conditions right away, setting up one collaborative robot each in black sheet production and in white sheet production," reports the manager, who, among other things, is trained as a welding engineer. "Testing the future" is what Ralph Schröppel, head of thin sheet production, calls this approach. "Half of our orders involve volumes of ten units or less. The bulk of these orders are blanket orders, which entails that we manufacture larger batch quantities depending on the work piece. We supply smaller batches



Department head Ralph Schröppel (left) and welder Edgard Arndt of H. P. Kaysser with the Lorch Cobot (Photo: Lorch)

from our warehouse as needed by the customer". The orders range from palmsized cover caps to machine beds that can measure up to 6 m and weigh a few tonnes.

The 'new guy' has assimilated very quickly. "The Cobot is the perfect supplement to our toolbox", declares the area manager. "Not requiring a safety enclosure and affording us the luxury of easy integration into the work flow at the welding bench, it proves especially useful for welding small quantities of repeat parts. It offers quick and easy installation, and can be controlled and programmed with superior ease thanks to the combination of its 'Free Drive' function and the touch display." The welding sequence, pre-programmed based on the welding processes Lorch ships with every unit, allows the robot to produce a continuous string of welds with consistently flawless quality. This is regardless of whether they are created on fine grain construction steel, aluminium or different grades of stainless steel.

Automation helps avoid complaints from the customers

Edgard Arndt analyses welded parts for processing with the Cobot, that have been welded the traditional manual way, in the company's "orientation phase". He underwent further training to learn how to best utilise the qualities of the Cobot for H. P. Kaysser's steel construction business. The component he is currently working on is a T-beam measuring nearly 80 cm in length and equipped with eyelets used for hanging audio equipment during events. "Such serial parts in quantities of 50 give the Cobot an opportunity to truly shine. Not only because of the weld seam length but also because of the tight customer tolerances the component needs to satisfy. In this application, we clearly benefit from the Cobot's ability to perfectly reproduce the fillet weld." An essential asset according to the welding expert, as it eliminates A-measurement variations during manual welding that may cause the weld to be too tall or too short or involve too much spatter. "Automation is a major asset in this regard as it helps us avoid complaints from our customers."

In almost all cases, the teaching process for the Cobot is completed using the "Free Drive" function. "When dealing with a long linear weld, the welder can also move the torch to the desired position mechanically

using a joystick mounted on the touch control panel. In this case, the 45° angle of the torch orientation will be perfectly identical as well", explains Edgard Arndt. The object coming up next: a machine carriage for a laser die cutting machine that boasts 300 weld seams, which he would like to weld without the aid of marking templates or welding fixtures.

"Experiencing the thrill of technology first hand"

The thin sheet department trained two members of their staff in the in's and out's of Cobot. Ralph Schröppel, the head of the department, even spotted a co-worker "who tested and fooled around with the Cobot during his lunch break". That is how it is supposed to be: "Experiencing the thrill of technology first hand." An attitude perfectly in line with the company's philosophy, as proprietor Thomas Kaysser points out: "Blazing new trails as early as 1984, we moved laser cutting from the laboratory to the workshop before advancing to laser welding in 1993. Such endeavours are cornerstones of a survival strategy that also rests on the ability to respond quickly thanks to short decision-making channels and on long-term investment."

To ensure this approach will work as a team effort, the manager visits the workshop every day. "You cannot handle this type of job while sitting behind a desk." The appreciation he has been shown for his expertise dates back to the time when



Tidy welding bench and swift integration: A key advantage of Lorch's collaborative robot welding is the reduced effort when using fixtures. (Photo: Lorch)

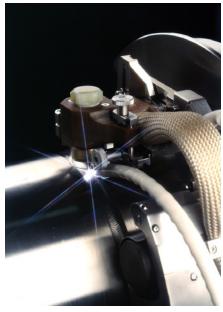
he worked in production himself. "Machine intelligence is no substitute for skilled labourers – even a welding robot such as the Cobot can only assist and reduce the strain on the welder. Our certified welding experts are still key as they are the only ones with the valuable, theoretical know-how necessary to fuse specific materials and thicknesses using the right welding conditions." (According to press information from Lorch)



While the Lorch Cobot accurately draws the weld seams set for a repeat part, the welder can already prepare the next serial part. (Photo: Lorch)

Orbital TIG welding based on efficient electrode selection and preparation





Orbital welding is frequently used in the manufacturing trade, for applications ranging from installing cooling and heating pipes in dairies to welding fuel pipes in the aerospace sector. (Photos: Gesellschaft für Wolfram Industrie GmbH)

Quality pays off: For example, nobody would equip a Formula 1 racing car with inexpensive all-weather tyres. In order to achieve a competitive speed, the vehicle should lie optimally on the track and be perfectly matched to the track conditions. Even with TIG arc welding, the tool used for high-quality welds must be adapted to the respective application - and yet many welders use tungsten electrodes that are not matched to the respective process. However, efficient orbital welding requires a tungsten electrode with an individually adapted tip geometry and surface roughness to match the correct shielding gas. For optimal weld seams, other factors must also be taken into account that influence the arc start properties, arc stability, total heat input and correspond to the characteristics of the weld seam.

The adaptation of all parameters to the respective TIG application enables a service life that is up to six times longer and thus resource savings of more than 350% compared to the use of non-specific electrodes. This can only be achieved, though, with the appropriate know-how, the correct selection and the use of high-quality tungsten. Three central elements can be optimised in this way: the welding process itself, the chemical properties of the

tungsten alloy used and the grinding process for the electrode tip.

Increasing demands on the welding process in tube and pipe manufacturing

In today's industrial environment, many manufacturers and processors of metal tubes and pipes are faced with stricter requirements for weld seam properties than was the case in the past. The semiconductor industry, for example, needs narrower weld seams with fine surfaces on the inside of stainless steel pure gas pipes. These tubes transport high-purity gases

that are toxic, flammable or corrosive, which is why the weld seams produced using the fusion welding process must be corrosion-resistant and cleanly processed in order to enable trouble-free flow. In addition, designers from all technical disciplines are increasingly pushing the limits of technical feasibility, for example by reducing pipe wall thicknesses to the necessary minimum. The clean processing of the weld seams is therefore becoming increasingly important with regard to the safety and service life of the products.

As the industry continues to evolve and adapt its processes, welders are also finding that their entire work environment is subject to high competitive pressure. Using FMEA (Failure Mode and Effects Analysis) and data analysis of the process variables, the previously underestimated hidden costs when using orbital systems were identified - for example, the production of scrap, reduction in system availability and frequent replacement of the electrodes. This drives the total cost of ownership up, although at the same time it would save as much money as possible. This includes avoiding premature wear of the tungsten electrode and irregularities in the machining process that can result from the use of different tungsten alloys when using electrodes from different manufacturers.

Proper chemistry through powder metallurgy

Another important element for the quality of an electrode is its chemical composition. To improve electrode performance,



Since the melting points of the materials can differ considerably, the electrode manufacturers trust the powder metallurgy process:
Specific, extremely fine tungsten grain sizes are mixed in order to achieve a homogeneous oxide distribution in the matrix.

dopants in the form of cerium, lanthanum, zirconium, thorium, terbium and yttrium oxides are often incorporated into tungsten electrodes. Such oxides lower the electron work function – measured in electron volts (eV). For example, pure tungsten has rating of 4.5 eV, whereas a 2% ceriated tungsten has an eV of 2.8. By lowering the eV value or increasing the ionisation potential, the oxides improve arc starting performance and arc stability.

However, the influence of this variable on the welding result is often underestimated and most companies consider the tungsten electrode as a static component. In fact, as soon as the welding current flows, the electrode becomes a dynamic subsystem, the parameters of which influence the properties of the arc significantly. Specifically, the heat of the welding arc causes oxides to migrate from the relatively cooler core of the electrode to the hotter tip. There, the oxides separate (evaporate) from the base element and leave a film on the electrode tip. Small tolerances in the grain size, the purity of the elements and the composition ratio are essential to ensure a consistent oxide movement and evaporation rate, which in turn leads to a consistently high ignitability.

Because the melting points of the materials used for the electrodes can vary substantially – tungsten melts at 3,422°C, cerium oxide at 2,400°C – the electrode manufacturers rely on the powder metallurgy process. Specific, extremely fine tungsten grain sizes are mixed in order to achieve a homogeneous oxide distribution in the matrix. After this process, the tungsten and the oxide powder are pressed together by isostatic pressure, so that a uniform density and microstructure are created.

As a result, the brittle and unconsolidated electrodes are sintered for several hours in a high-purity hydrogen environment and at controlled temperatures. After sintering, the electrodes can be forged to their final shape, which further optimises the grain structure. The complexity of the tungsten electrode manufacturing process offers many opportunities for error, which explains the performance and cost differences between brands. Therefore, extensive know-how about the electrode is required on the one hand, but also extensive knowledge of the area of application itself, on the other hand, in order to be able to optimally adapt the tool for the respective process.

Grinding for a smooth finish

Geometry also plays a critical role in tungsten electrode performance. It is significantly influenced by the grinding method used. For example, the surface is increased by abrasives with a coarse grain, which in turn ensures faster oxide evaporation. Furthermore, the roughness of the surface when processing with a coarsegrained abrasive varies from application to application. Hand-operated and bench tungsten grinders are best left for preparing electrodes for manual GTAW applications, not mechanised processes. In an orbital TIG arc welding system with a modern power source with inverter and good arc start behaviour, companies should use pre-ground tungsten electrodes that have been machined by robot-controlled CNC systems. These machines are able to produce the desired very fine surfaces.

In order to influence boundary layers, voltage drop, cathode spots, evaporation rate or the relative exposed functional surface, the surfaces can be Ra 0.01 μ m (0.4 micro inches) low, with high edge sharpness of the contour or 3.2 μ m (125 micro inches) with perfectly burr-free flanks. High-quality, pre-ground electrodes made of tungsten also offer a dimensional accuracy of \pm 0.05 mm at the tip diameter and grinding angle tolerances of \pm 1 degree.

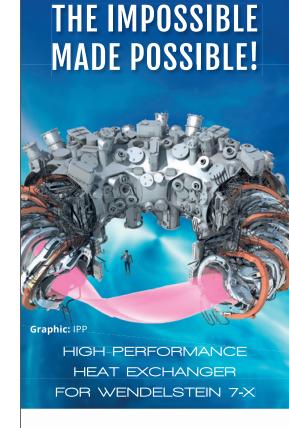
On the other hand, if a manual grinding machine is used to flatten the end of a pointed electrode, this leaves a microscopic burr without exception. If this burr breaks off during welding, it can get into the weld seam. For pharmaceutical, medical, nuclear, aerospace-related and other critical applications, this often means that the workpiece has to be sorted out.

Outlook on current research results

Much of the previous plasma research in the field of electrode geometry is carried out using the spot-on-plate technique (welding spot on plate), in which an arc strikes a plate at 200 A for 2 s. This technique does not represent the fluid dynamics (molten weld puddle behaviour) that occur during orbital welding. It does not take into account the welding head that moves into the cold material from the weld seam, nor the thermal conductivity and the preheating of the tube during the welding process.

Newer research, conducted under actual orbital welding conditions, incorporated





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While tungsten electrodes are frequently used in welding, their structure, sharpening and alloy have a previously underestimated influence on consistently good product results in TIG welding.

more than 500 electrode configurations. Polished cross-sections of the welds were examined with a scanning electron microscope. Based on these results, suppliers of electrode and orbital systems can now recommend suitable tungsten solutions for specific applications. Narrow welds with a weld seam of 2 mm in outer diameter, for

example, benefit from the increasing and constant arc pressure from the tungsten electrode, which is achieved by a mixture of mixed oxides, in which different oxide properties are combined.

These research results also help to solve previously hidden problems. For example, recurring deviations in the welding process at a company led to a significantly higher reject rate. To reduce this, extensive measures have been taken to find the cause. The investigation team re-calibrated the power source and welding head and inspected every point in the circuit. This did not improve the welding results though. However, the team never thought of the consumable component in the circuit: the electrode. The change to higher quality, pre-ground tungsten electrodes solved the problem.

Depending on the respective operating conditions, cumulative deviations caused by these factors can easily lead to a total heat input that deviates by as much as 5% under otherwise identical ambient conditions. While that might be acceptable now,

it won't likely be acceptable within the next decade when end users require component fabricators to provide more complete data records and analytics.

High quality tungsten electrodes optimise cost efficiency

With every orbital welding process, high-quality electrodes reduce the overall welding costs. Test runs under clean room conditions show that with optimised tungsten electrodes, more than 650 arc starts can be implemented without delays in arc development. Instead of changing the electrode at the start of every shift, welders can use an electrode for several days. For example, one company recorded an arc duration of 27 hours with a single electrode.

Xavier Jauregui, Vice President of the technical area of Arc Machines Inc., Panorama City (CA)/USA, and Matthias Schaffitz, Managing Director of Wolfram Industrie GmbH, Traunstein/Germany

(Article reprinted with permission from FMA Communications Inc.)

New electron beam welding machines for continuous welding of strip materials

Interview with Klaus Schmelzeisen, Sales Engineer at Steigerwald Strahltechnik in Maisach/Germany

Mr. Schmelzeisen, how do the "Ebocont"-series welding machines differ from those of the "Ebocam" series?"

Both series use the benefits of welding and machining with the electron beam in a vacuum. Whilst the main area of application for the chamber machines of the "Ebocam" series is the individual machining of larger workpieces with complex welded seam geometries and machining zones, the "Ebocont" strip welding systems are used to weld strip materials to each other continually in the longitudinal direction.

What are the areas of application for the "Ebocont" welding technology?

One of the main areas of application is the saw band industry. The raw materials for saw bands are manufactured as bimetal or trimetal strips with high wear resistance and optimum flexibility. Trimetal strip welding systems on the other hand are used for fields



"Ebocont" strip welding system.



Welding strip materials to each other continually in longitudinal direction.

of measuring technology where we are dealing with the production of measuring resistors, also known as shunts.

Would you please explain the functional principle of this type of system?

Of course. I had already mentioned that strip materials are welded, meaning that two or three strips – we are talking about bistrips and tristrips – are introduced into the machine by a winder and welded in the vacuum by the electron beam. If necessary, they pass through a milling machine for edge machining before the welding process. After welding, the finished bistrips or tristrips are rolled out again.

It is therefore a continual process in the longitudinal direction, integrated into complete production lines with upstream and downstream machining stations. Alongside the EB welding system, we also supply our customers with periphery aggregates which are required to construct these types of production lines as a whole.

Where do you see the technical benefits of the "Ebocont" welding process?

The general benefits are most certainly those which the electron beam welding process itself provides – that's to say the high precision, exact reproducibility and excellent cost-effectiveness with high cost saving potential. If you take a closer look at the "Ebocont" technology though, it is the high speed at which the strips are introduced into the vacuum chamber from the

atmosphere and removed again – without a pressure loss in the vacuum chamber.

The constant vacuum and a highly precise guidance of the strips in the vacuum chamber ensure a high degree of reproducibility. Moreover, we have developed the REAN residual energy measurement in order to be able to detect fluctuations early. In conjunction with the QA software, it is possible to record and document the quality of the welding process.

One last question: How has the market developed over the last few years? When you look to the future, where do you see potential for development?

The machine type developed at the end of the 60s was first only used for the production of bimetal strips for manufacturing saw bands. There was then a further development to tristrip systems which were also used for saw band manufacturing until around the mid-90s.

The market has been in constant change since the turn of the millennium: The increasing trend towards electro-technology, which has endured until the present day in almost all sectors, has led to an increased requirement for measuring technology associated with it and therefore for measuring resistors, also known as shunts. This trend continues to grow. Our everyday life has been 'smart' for a long time now if we think about mobile phones, electric cars, smart homes or Industry 4.0, it's clear that there is a particularly high potential for growth for trimetal strip welding systems for welding semi-finished products in shunt manufacturing.

(According to press information from Steigerwald Strahltechnik; https://www.sst-ebeam.com/en/)



Saw bands manufactured as bimetal or trimetal strips.



Microsection of a tri-band weld (copper-copper manganese-copper)

Innovative electron beam technology for future energy production methods



HHF diverter for W7-X made of CFC and a copper metal alloy. (Photo: IPP, Michael Herdlein)

With the fusion device "Wendelstein 7-X", the Max-Planck-Institute for Plasma Physics in Garching near Munich/Germany (IPP; https://www.ipp.mpg.de/en) is investigating the theoretical and physical principles of future energy production methods. The institute is researching the energy production by means of fusion power plants, in which the atomic nuclei of a plasma mixture of deuterium and tritium weighing only a few grams are to be fused, producing enormous amounts of energy. According to calculations, one gram of the fuel would be able to generate 90,000 kW hours of energy.

But the institute is still doing basic research – the aim at "Wendelstein 7-X" is to produce a stable 30-minute plasma discharge to demonstrate the suitability of this type of device for continuous operation.

Ambitious goal: making the energy source of the sun available on earth

In a fusion power plant the energetic processes of the sun are to be reproduced on earth, i.e. generating energy from fusion of atomic nuclei. The best way to produce fusion energy would be with a mixture of deuterium and tritium, which turns to plasma when exposed to immense heat. The test facility "Wendelstein 7-X", however, will not work with the actual power plant fuel, because its aim is not to produce energy, but to research the suitability of this type of device for a fusion power plant. Nevertheless, this high temperature plasma has to be heated to a temperature of 100 million °C.

Extreme heat and extreme cold require extreme technologies

Three different heating systems are used to heat the plasma to the extreme temperatures of 100 million °C. The main heating system is the microwave heating with 10 high power microwave sources providing approx. 1 MW each – that's nearly 10 million W!

In the plasma vessel, the hot plasma has to be kept away from the vessel walls. To do that, 70 superconducting magnetic coils produce a magnetic field to keep the hydrogen plasma suspended. During operation, liquid helium flows through the magnetic coils and cools them to nearly –270°C.

Despite the use of this complex technology, the outer edges of the hot plasma still touch the walls of the plasma vessel. Although the temperature here has already "cooled" to about 100,000°C, the vessel walls need to be protected effectively and the heat has to be safely conducted away from them. Here, as in many other areas of the facility, the scientists and specialised companies involved in the development of "Wendelstein 7-X" had to continuously come up with new, innovative solutions.

Special high performance heat exchangers

Plansee SE developed special high performance heat exchangers for IPP for the areas of the plasma vessel wall exposed to the highest heat load. These heat exchangers, so-called divertors, consist of carbon fibre reinforced carbon (CFC) and a water-cooled metal block made of a special metal alloy. These divertors are then attached as "wall elements" to the crucial areas to effectively divert the high heat flux as well as remove impurities from the plasma.

A particularly difficult aspect was the joining of the carbon fibre reinforced carbon (CFC) with the metal alloy of the cooling block, as the carbon is exposed to the high temperatures of the plasma while water flows through the cooling block at high pressure at the same time.

Regarding the optimum joining technology for this connection, electron beam welding specialist PTR Strahltechnik of Langenselbold near Frankfurt am Main/Germany (https://www.ptr-ebeam.com/en/) was able to deliver: The cooling block made of copper-chromium-zirconium and the CFC material coated with a thin layer of copper were perfectly joined with PTR electron beam machines to welding depths of up to 30 mm.

The pieces were welded with a pulsed electron beam with acceleration voltage of 150 kV. Thanks to an extremely narrow weld seam with minimum heat penetration, the CFC material remains undamaged, and the required overall heat conductivity from the surface of the carbon layer to the cooling block is guaranteed. (According to press information from PTR Strahltechnik; www.ptr-ebeam.com/en/)



Lowest heat penetration thanks to a particularly narrow weld seam. (Photo: PTR Strahltechnik)

Motorsport inspired technology to aid future fast jet development



The "Tempest" concept model on the airfield at BAE Systems in Warton, Lancashire, UK. (Photos: BAE Systems)

Gen3 exclusive battery system supplier of the ABB FIA Formula E World Championship. Combined with technical expertise from Rolls Royce in the development of power and thermal management systems and BAE Systems' experience in integrating complex systems, this collaboration is an example of how the UK combat air sector is leveraging the best of wider industry, sustaining critical skills across the country.

Julia Sutcliffe, Chief Technology Officer for BAE Systems' Air sector, said: "Working in partnership with companies like WAE is vital to drive rapid innovation at the pace the "Tempest" programme demands. Changing how we engage with wider industry and leveraging the best technologies and processes from across the global supply chain is essential in order to deliver

(WAE; www.wae.com) have joined forces to explore how battery management and cooling technologies from the motorsport industry could be exploited to deliver efficiency and performance gains in the design of future combat aircraft. An Oxford-shire-based specialist team from WAE is working closely with BAE Systems engi-

BAE Systems (www.baesystems.com) and Williams Advanced Engineering

neers in Lancashire to inform and guide thinking about how future aircraft could fly faster and more efficiently than anything before.

High power at low weight

The project is part of a wider research effort to develop technologies that could be used to develop the most advanced combat air system for the UK. Next generation combat air technologies will need high power at low weight in order to provide long range endurance and mission success. Future systems will also need to generate enough energy to power a small town, which can be managed safely and efficiently throughout the aircraft and its subsystems, with pilots depending on high-performance 'power when you need it' combat air capability.

WAE is a leader in the design and delivery of advanced battery technologies that provide durable, fast charging power capability and was recently appointed as the Advertisement

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value to the UK, our international partners and our allies. This collaboration is a great example of how we're starting to achieve this – finding synergies, great engineering minds and mutually beneficial technology projects with organisations outside of our traditional partnership base."

Paul McNamara, Technical Director, Williams Advanced Engineering, said: "We feel privileged to be involved in this ground breaking project and are confident that our experience in advanced battery development and cooling technologies will allow us to deliver innovative new solutions that can be applied in the defence sector. We have already seen a number of tangible benefits from closer working with BAE Systems, tapping into a rich source of experience from a range of engineering disciplines."

Supporting a fully-connected future combat air system

The UK's ability to generate and employ combat air power is critical to deliver national security and to support the Government's vision for a strong, prosperous, influential and global Britain. This study forms part of a wider UK research effort to develop a set of capabilities designed to



Williams are also applying their expertise to the development of future cockpit designs.

support a fully-connected future combat air system, building on the country's strong national heritage of advanced technology programmes and development of worldclass military capabilities.

This latest project builds on an agreement signed in 2018 between the two companies to share technology, expertise and skills across a range of areas including augmented reality, cockpit designs and advanced materials to create innovations for the design, performance and production of both fast jets and fast cars. A secondment programme is also in place creating opportunities for graduates and apprentices to share best practice across the two organisations. (According to press information from WAE)

Short messages

Pemamek delivers two production automation lines to Taiwan

Welding automation supplier Pemamek from Loimaa/Finland (https://pemamek. com) has delivered two "Pema" production automation lines, designed for foundation pin pile production, to CSBC Corporation in Taiwan. This investment is a part of CSBC's business development initiative to become an offshore wind energy turnkey provider and expand its operations in the national offshore wind energy markets. The

The "Pema" production automation lines are designed to manufacture pin piles for offshore jacket foundations.

technologically advanced lines have the capacity of processing pin piles up to 350 t and 90 m. The delivery included:

- three longitudinal seam welding stations.
- two assembly stations, capable of welding internal circular seams,
- two welding platforms that weld simultaneously with two welding heads,
- integrated heavy-duty roller beds with polyurethane rollers,
- a high-tech "Pema WeldControl 500" control system with laser-tracking, designed for multi-passwelding.

In addition to the machinery, the agreement includes training, production start-up support, a preventive maintenance package and local service support with an authorised service partner. Manufacturing with the production lines has already started at full speed as CSBC will supply a significant number of foundation pin piles for Ørsted's 900 MW Greater Changhua offshore wind project, scheduled for 2021.

"Omax TV" is online

Omax Corp. from Kent, WA/USA, an international manufacturer of abrasive waterjet systems, has announced that "Omax TV" is live at www.omax.com. It offers a great way to access all the video content the company has produced to demonstrate abrasive waterjet technology, waterjet applications and materials capabilities. The site currently hosts more than 50 videos that show both old and new types of waterjet machines. Throughout 2020 and into 2021, watchers can expect to see more engaging interviews with Omax waterjet customers as well as regularly updated tips and tricks from the company's demonstration lab. Omax Corp. hopes that their TV offer will become a resource for potential waterjet users as well as for educational institutions looking for reference material on waterjet use. Access "Omax TV" through Omax.com, the QR code below or via this direct link: https://fast.wistia.net/embed/ channel/amyfz6h9fl.





Padana Tubi selects Thermatool for high-speed flying sheer for tube cutting

Inductotherm Heating & Welding (inductothermhw.co.uk) have announced that Padana Tubi from Guastalla/Italy have placed an order for an "Alpha" high-speed flying shear for the cutting of large diameter stainless steel tube. This shear will be the largest ever developed by Inductotherm/ Thermatool and will allow Padana Tubi to extend its production capability to cut materials up to 6 mm wall thickness with an 8" diameter including profiles. Padana Tubi & Profilati Acciaio S.P.A. was established in 1970 by the Alfieri family with the aim to produce welded tubes and carbon steel pipes. With growing success and development within the market, Padana Tubi were encouraged to make a commitment in production of stainless steel tubes, leading $them \, to \, produce \, and \, sell \, more \, than \, 800,000 \, t$ of stainless steel tubes and 1,000,000 t of carbon steel tubes every year. Padana Tubi

are a longstanding customer of Thermatool for more than 25 years. Inductotherm Group offers advanced technology for the engineering, manufacturing and service of thermal processing equipment used in the melting, heating, heat treating, forging, galvanising, coating, cutting and welding of metals. Bringing together 40 companies with 38 manufacturing facilities located in 23 countries, Inductotherm Group delivers innovative products throughout the world. Customers rely on Thermatool, Inductotherm, Banyard, Inductoheat, Radyne, Consarc and other trusted brands.



Padana Tubi have placed an order for an "Alpha" high-speed flying shear for the cutting of large diameter stainless steel tube from Inductotherm/Thermatool.

Advertisement



Wall Colmonoy celebrates 50 years in Pontardawe, Wales

Wall Colmonoy (www.wallcolmonoy. com) celebrates its golden anniversary of 50 years of making metals work harder in Pontardawe, Wales. The family-owned and -operated organisation with facilities throughout the USA and UK is a global leader in materials engineering, maintaining a reputation for expertise and quality throughout aerospace, automotive, glass, oil & gas, mining, energy and other industrial sectors. The UK company exports over 80% of its products into the Eurozone, Scandinavia, South Africa, Russia, Middle East and India. Wall Colmonoy began its European footprint in 1952, first as a sales office and distribution center in London, importing products from Wall Colmonoy Canada. As the company grew and a need for local manufacturing became apparent, alloy manufacturing began in Motherwell, Scotland before transferring to a larger facility



Aerial view of the Wall Colmonoy facility in Pontardawe after expansion in the 2000s due to increased demands for powder manufacturing.

in Brackley, England. Due to continued and rapid growth in the UK and European markets, William P. Clark Sr., Group Chairman, accepted an offer by the Welsh Government, in 1969, to establish its European Headquarters in Pontardawe, Wales and build a larger facility to fulfill growing demand. Over the half-century, Wall

Colmonoy has increased capacity of the Pontardawe facility from 33,000 to 70,000 ft², opening a 23,500 ft² advanced machine shop to support its casting manufacturing facility in 2012. Today, its workforce continues to grow, with 215 employees; a quarter of whom have been with the company for more than a decade.

Acquisition brings expertise in diffractive optical elements

High quality laser scan system manufacturer Scanlab GmbH from Puchheim/ Germany (www.scanlab.de/en) has a new affiliate company. TechInvest Holding AG, the parent company of Scanlab, is taking a 25% stake in the Israeli firm HOLO/OR Ltd (www.holoor.co.il) from Ness Ziona. They are recognised as a pioneer in developing diffractive optical elements for industrial applications. By integrating these innovative micro-optical components, such as beam shapers, into its scan solutions, Scanlab can multiply the fields of application for its products. Diffractive optical elements (DOE) can be used to specifically shape laser beams. To achieve the 'diffractive effect, DOEs employ microstructures etched into a substrate using a lithographic process. Glass is typically the substrate - but plastics, metals or semiconductors can also be used. The Israeli company is



Israel Grossinger is owner and president of HOLO/ OR

regarded as an experienced player and leader in this market segment. Founded by Israel Grossinger 31 years ago, HOLO/OR is one of only a few suppliers capable of producing DOEs, e.g. beam splitters

and shapers, with high damage thresholds that can stand up to high-power lasers. Its expertise encompasses not just design and fabrication, but also a unique in-house simulation software.

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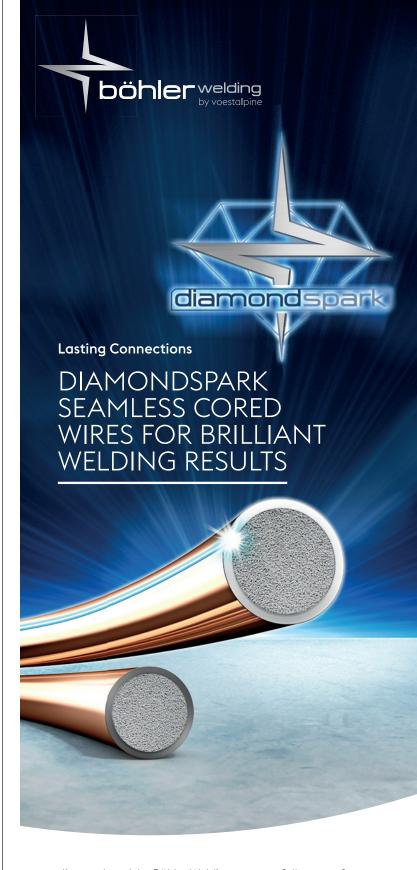


Products

Brazing equipment awarded with "Solar Impulse Efficient Solution" label

Castolin Eutectic have announced that their brazing machines "Dyomix OHM 2.4" and " OHM 3.0" (Fig. 1) have been awarded with "The Solar Impulse Efficient Solution Label", a certification that applies to products, processes and services which combine economic profitability and environmental sustainability. The label is a new framework that applies to all products, processes and services to indicate the quality and economic competitiveness of clean solutions. The brazing equipment "Dyomix OHM 2.4" and "OHM 3.0" are functioning on the basis of electrolysis, without gas and using water as sole fuel. The perfect flame resulted presents 85% less cabon monoxides (CO) and no damaging UV radiations, so there is no longer a need for tinted lenses for most applications. The noise level is also significantly reduced, which means improved health and safety for the operator. The machines are intended both for plumbing/refrigeration/heating professionals who need mobility and industrial manufacturers seeking great flexibility along with a low total cost of ownership. The "OHM 2.4" runs at 2 kW power and consumes 0,25 l water/h, while "OHM 3.0" runs at 3 kW, consuming 0,4 l water/h. Besides brazing, both machines are also suitable for metal cutting. The "dyomix" flame obtained is compatible with all brazing products (filler metals and fluxes) on the market. (Castolin Eutectic, 22 Avenue du Québec, Villebon-sur-Yvette, NA 91140/ France; www.castolin.com)





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New series of welding helmets for reliable protection

Kemppi strengthens its welding safety portfolio with new "Alfa" and "Beta e-series" welding helmets and respirators (Fig. 2). Certified to the latest standards, the new models offer excellent protection for arc welding, cutting, grinding, gouging and inspection processes. They feature an impact-rated shell that is both lightweight and strong. The spacious design accommodates eyeglasses and half masks, whilst allowing good access to tight spaces. Several settings and features support easy adjustment for the best personal fit, including a comfort headband, integrated magnifying lens holder and an overall 20% weight reduction, compared to the previous "Beta" models. The "Alfa e-series" welding helmets represent the most compact, lightweight face shields in Kemppi's welding safety product range - their weight starts at just 467 g. They are durable, low-cost solutions that provide protection for all general welding applications and grinding, and are equipped with either a passive glass welding lens or auto-darkening ADF welding lens. The "Beta e-series" welding helmets are designed for professional welders. Certified for welding, cutting and grinding according to EN175 B and AS/NZS 1337.1, the new lightweight models start at just 473 g. The range includes three models that are equipped with either passive or automatic ADF lenses. (Kemppi Oy, Kempinkatu 1, 15801 Lahti/Finland; www.kemppi.com)

Corrosion inhibitor coating also effective as weldable rust protection

One of the metalworking industry's most recognised rust preventive liquids is now proven effective also as a weldable RP (rust preventative), according to



Fig. 3



Fig. 2

new testing by a leading manufacturer of heavy equipment: Daubert Cromwell's "Nox-Rust 5400 VCI" oil is shown to be a safe, ready-to-use, weldable coating that protects metal surfaces without affecting the quality of the weld (Fig. 3). Corrosion protection on welded metals lasts for up to five years, indoors. "Nox-Rust 5400" is known as an effective corrosion inhibitor, providing protection for cold rolled steel and metal stampings, as well as metal parts used in the automotive, heavy equipment and machinery industries. The light oil leaves a lubricating, corrosion preventive film that will not interfere with stamping oils or processing oils. It is now clear that the oil does not interfere with the welding process, either. Recent tests showed plates protected with "Nox-Rust 5400" could be welded together without having to remove the protective coating with solvents or cleaning solution. The welding process and the weld itself were unaffected. (Daubert Cromwell, 12701 S. Ridgeway Ave, Alsip, IL/USA; www.daubertcromwell.com)

Low-hydrogen stick electrode

As part of the "Excalibur SMAW" (stick) electrode series, Lincoln Electric introduces the new "Excalibur 7018 XMR" low-hydrogen stick electrode. It offers exceptional low moisture content even after 24 hours of exposure - remaining below the moisture content limit for 15 hours more than required under the American Welding Society's AWS A5.1. Electrodes, when exposed to air, pick up moisture over time. The moisture typically increases the hydrogen content of the weld - and potentially leads to failure. Low hydrogen (or basic) electrodes are designed for applications susceptible to hydrogen cracking, a form of failure occurring when moisture causes



Fig. 4

porosity in the weld. "Excalibur 7018 XMR" is used for general fabrication in many industries, including structural, pipeline, chemical processing and ship building (Fig. 4). Besides its improved coating integrity it is characterised by an extreme bendability – the rod coating maintains integrity when bent for welding in tight spaces to a greater extent than similar competitive rods. (Lincoln Electric, 22801 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, OH/USA 44117; www.lincolnelectric.com)

Flexible PVD coating machine

IHI Hauzer Techno Coating B.V. has announced its latest batch-coating machine for physical vapour deposition (PVD). The new "Hauzer Flexicoat 1250" (Fig. 5) builds on the successful "Flexicoat" platform, known for its wide range of technologies. The "Flexicoat 1250" offers an extraordinary seven cathode positions, which can be configured to meet the customer's business needs and provides more power to those cathodes. This helps keep cycle times low, even with the increase in chamber diameter and loading capacity. For many commercially important substrates and coatings, such as plastics

in the decorative sector and tetrahedral amorphous carbon (ta-C) coating in the tribological and tool sector, temperature during deposition needs to stay low. The "Flexicoat 1250" has eight plate positions plus an optional retractable central heating and cooling feature. This reduces the need to pause deposition to avoid exceeding temperature limits, keeping cycle times low for challenging coatings and substrates. Upon purchase, the machine is configured to meet customer needs. And over the decades, it can easily be upgraded and reconfigured as the business moves with the market over time. (IHI Hauzer Techno Coating, Van Heemskerckweg 22, 5928 LL Venlo/The Netherlands; www.hauzer.nl)



Fig. 5

Digital quality management for welding

The "Cloos C-Gate" is a digitalisation platform where users can access information from their welding production in real-time. All information is entered and processed centrally in an integrated information and communication tool. The customised presentation of information enables detailed visualisation, analysis and continued processing of the operating and welding process data collected. This allows users to monitor and control their production processes down

to the smallest detail. The "C-Gate" consists of several modules which can be activated depending on the customer's individual digitalisation strategy. The new quality management module (Fig. 6) focuses on the individual component with the production and welding process data. Here, a detailed assessment of the weld quality is already possible during welding. For complex and chained systems, quality statements are made for each production stage in addition. The determined data are summarised in a component protocol and can be called up via the report function or via OPC-UA or REST interface. Whether as central virtual server solution or as system-near edge-gateway implementation - all Cloos robot systems and welding machines can be connected to the platform. Furthermore, existing Cloos systems and welding machines can be integrated. (Carl Cloos Schweißtechnik GmbH, Carl-Cloos-Str. 1, 35708 Haiger/Germany; https:// c-gate.cloos.de)



Fig. 6

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The principal arc welding processes



Fig. 1 • Torch light sparkles.

There are four basic welding processes that generate the heat necessary to melt metals by striking an electric arc between an electrode and a metal. Other arc processes are in use but have limited application or lack control and quality characteristics. Initially developed towards the end of the 19th century, arc welding quickly became a commercially important processes especially in the shipbuilding sector in the second world war.

An arc is a discharge of energy between two conductors at different voltages. In welding It can be initiated by bringing the conductors, an electrode and the metals to be joined, together momentarily to create a short circuit and then drawing them apart to produce a continuous arc, Fig. 1. Experience is necessary so that the two components do not stick together. The arc can only be maintained over a very limited separation and with manual welding this relies on operator skill. Development over the past

few decades has resulted in the production of sophisticated power supplies to help stabilise the arc.

The temperature created in an electric arc is typically between 5,000°C and 20,000°C depending on conditions but this is clearly more than adequate to fuse all common alloys which have melting points up to 1,500°C.

Gas tungsten arc welding (GTAW), often described as tungsten inert gas welding (TIG)

A non-consumable tungsten rod is used as the electrode and an inert gas, usually argon, protects the electrode and the joint area from contamination, primarily from oxidation at the high temperatures prevailing during the welding operation, **Fig. 2**.

Filler metal, selected to ensure optimum joint properties, may be added manually or mechanically.

Advantages

The process is normally limited to joining thin sections because heat input is limited but welds can be made without the use of additional filler metals (autogenous welding). Thicker sections can be accommodated by using multi-pass deposits. GTAW is mostly a manual process but automation can be used when making multiple joints. The process is particularly suitable for making initial high-quality deposits – called a 'root pass' – prior to undertaking multi-pass operations on thick sections with a higher deposition welding process.

GTAW is a controllable, clean technique and is widely used for welding stainless

steels and reactive alloys such as titanium, zirconium, aluminium & magnesium.

Disadvantages

The rate of metal deposition is low and welding speed thus limited. Excessive welding current or poor welding technique can cause melting of the tungsten electrode and may results in tungsten inclusions being transferred into the weld zone.

Gas metal arc welding (GMAW) often described as metal inert gas welding (MIG) or metal active gas welding (MAG)

An arc is established between a continuously fed filler wire electrode and protection provided using an inert gas such as argon to protect the wire electrode and the molten weld pool. Helium or inert gas mixtures based on argon and helium are beneficial for some applications. The active gas process, in which carbon dioxide or mixtures of argon, carbon dioxide and oxygen are principally used for welding carbon and low alloy steels, **Fig. 3**.

Advantages

A gas shield protects the weld, filler wire and heat affected areas from contamination. Both the inert gas and active gas techniques offer relatively high weld deposition rates compared to the GTAW process.

Disadvantages

The inert gas process is difficult to use in the vertical position but generally requires less operator skill than the active gas alternative

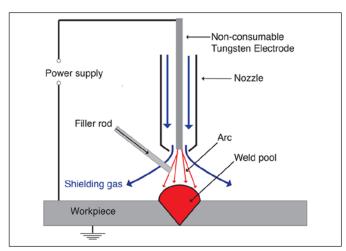


Fig. 2 • The principles of gas tungsten arc welding.

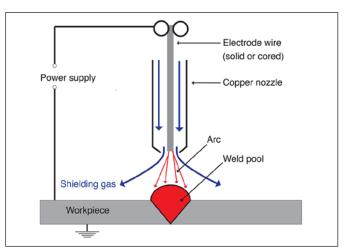
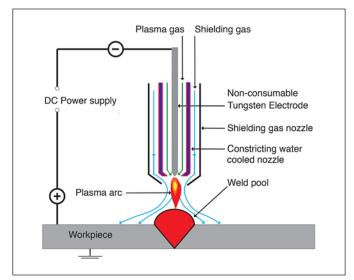


Fig. 3 • The principles of gas metal arc welding.



Servo Control

Submerged Arc

Flux

Weld pool

Supply

Workpiece

Electrode wire

Flux Hopper

Fig. 4 • The principles of plasma arc welding.

Fig. 5 • The principles of submerged arc welding.

Drive Rolls

Plasma arc welding (PAW)

The technique is similar in some aspects to GTAW and GMAW welding but heat is generated by a constricted arc between a tungsten electrode and a water-cooled nozzle (non-transferred arc) or between a tungsten electrode and the joint (transferred arc), **Fig. 4.** Filler metal is added separately into the molten weld pool.

Advantages

The tungsten electrode is recessed in the nozzle, so minimising the chance of weld metal contamination. It is not so sensitive to arc length variation as GTAW or GMAW and therefore requires less operator skill for welding. High welding speeds are possible.

Disadvantages

PAW is considerably more complicated than other arc welding processes and requires careful control over the electrode tip configuration and positioning and orifice selection. Equipment is generally more expensive

Submerged arc welding (SAW)

Shielding of the filler wire and workpiece is effected here not by inert gas but with an inert granular flux. The arc is totally hidden by the flux which melts as the arc generates heat. The flux solidifies as the arc traverses along the joint, continuing to protect the weld during cooling, and is replaced by new flux from a hopper, **Fig. 5.**

Advantages

Heat losses are low because the arc is submerged in an inert and insulating flux. It is possible to add alloying materials to the flux to control weld metal composition. Welding speeds and deposition rates can be much higher than other arc processes. SAW is mostly used for joining thick sections.

Disadvantages

It is difficult to weld unless the joint is horizontal in order to prevent the flux from falling off due to gravity. The high heat input can lead to distortion of the workpiece.

Arc welding hazards Welding fume

There are hazardous substances in fumes created during welding. These arise from inert gases, coatings on consumables and metal vapours [1-3]. Two methods can be used to reduce and often eliminate the effects: the integration of local exhaust ventilation systems and respiratory protective equipment (RPE).

Tungsten toxicity

Pure tungsten has a high melting point, but other characteristics render it unsuitable. The addition of thoria offers improvements although various bodies have published health warnings because of the potential toxicity. Alternatives to thoriated tungsten are readily available and should be used. [4-6]

Inert gas hazards

Although argon is non-toxic, it is 38% denser than air and therefore considered a dangerous asphyxiant in closed areas. Removal of excess inert gas by extraction during welding is useful but when used more widely as a weld purging technique

the risk of inhalation is increased significantly [7].

Arc eye

This is a painful condition caused by exposure of the eye to the ultraviolet radiation from an electric arc. Special glass filters are a necessary accessory to protect eyes against damage. [8]

Intense heat

Large amounts of heat are generated during arc welding and care needs to be taken to protect exposed areas of skin. The use of insulating gloves and face/ head shields is seen as essential.

M. J. Fletcher, Delta Consultants

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Information from the DVS

The international welding world met online: DVS took part in the "IIW On-line Annual Assembly"



Of course, DVS also took part in the "IIW On-line Annual Assembly", as here Marvin Keinert, M. Sc., technical consultant at DVS and contact person for the DVS-IIW Young Professionals. (Photo: DVS)

Presentations, discussions and interaction – this is what the "IIW On-line Annual Assembly" promised in the run-up to the event. And it kept its word: Due to the current situation, the International Institute of Welding (IIW) had invited to the virtual Annual Assembly for the first time, which was attended by over 500 delegates from 60 nations. With over 100 participants, the DVS made up the largest online delegation worldwide. Numerous DVS-IIW young professionals were also present.

The IIW General Assembly took place on 15 July. The participants could follow the speeches and elections live. For the DVS-IIW Young Professionals, the program for students and the various working groups were of particular interest from 17 to 25 July. The young researchers were not only able to expand their knowledge digitally, but also to make international contacts online. In doing so, they took advantage of the opportunity created by the IIW "going on-line staying together virtually".

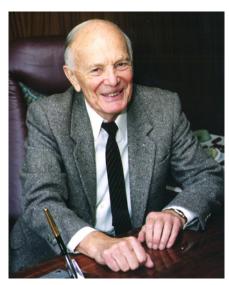
Prof. Boris E. Paton Obituary

The DVS mourns the death of Prof. Boris E. Paton, Kiev/Ukraine, who died on 19 August 2020 at the age of 101. He was the author and co-author of more than 720 inventions and of over 500 patents, as well as author and co-author of more than 1,200 published works and 20 scientific monographs. His international reputation is the result of his extensive scientific activities and his great efforts to apply the results of basic research to solve urgent social challenges. Because of his developments, Paton is considered one of the founders of the first nationwide production of high-quality large-diameter pipes, including high-performance gas pipelines.

From 1953 on, he headed the globally recognised research and development center "E. O. Paton Electric Welding

Institute" of the "National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine". Among other things, he built up the organisation of the institute's research activities, established business contacts with company managers, national economic councils and ministries of the Soviet Union. The USSR became a world leader in the field of welding processes, equipment, materials and technologies.

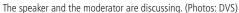
For more than 50 years he was president of the "Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR" and later of the "National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine". For his numerous merits he received honours from all over the world. The DVS, with which he maintained friendly contacts for many decades, appointed him an honorary member in 1997.



Prof. Boris E. Paton died on 19 August 2020 at the age of 101.

Successful online premiere: For five days, DVS CONGRESS 2020 informed the experts







The technical supervisor monitors the online congress.

Over 320 participants met online for the first time from 14 to 18 September 2020 for the DVS CONGRESS. Participants from Brazil and the USA also took part in the extensive technical programme on "Additive manufacturing", "Occupational health and safety", "Modern welding processes", "Surface technology" and many other topics from joining, cutting and coating technology. The DVS as the organiser was satisfied with the course of the event, the results and the thoroughly positive response.

"We were a little nervous when the first presentation of the DVS CONGRESS was held online, but we were well prepared, so that everything worked out very well," says Simone Weinreich, organiser of the event and head of the "Transfer & Network" department at DVS. Within just two months, DVS, together with its associated company DVS Media GmbH, had planned and carried out the annual congress online for the first time. The fact that this led to such a successful result is also due to the speakers of the technical lectures. Weinreich explains: "Without the large number of presentations, the DVS CONGRESS could not have taken place in this form. Special thanks therefore go to all those who prepared their presentation and answered the questions during the event in a live broadcast."

Amelie Felde, B. A., Digital Media Division at DVS Media, agrees: "The speakers recorded their presentations in just a few weeks, usually with video recording, and

then joined in live to answer the questions of the platform visitors. The cooperation with them and also with the presenters and our technical support was excellent." Felde, who together with two colleagues was responsible for the technical implementation and support of the DVS CONGRESS, sees the format as a solution that could be a trend-setter for further DVS online events.

In addition to the lectures and the chat function, a discussion forum and the possibility of networking were also available online as part of the DVS CONGRESS.

The next DVS CONGRESS is planned from 14 to 17 September 2021 in connection with the international "SCHWEISSEN & SCHNEIDEN" trade fair.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Dilthey Obituary

DVS mourns the death of Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Dilthey, Aachen, who died on 14 August 2020 at the age of 79. The long-standing head of the Welding and Joining Institute at the RWTH Aachen University has gained an excellent reputation in the expert world through numerous scientific publications as well as through lectures at national and international conferences. For decades, he was involved in the DVS District Branch Aachen, of which he was Honorary Chairman since 2019, and in the DVS North Rhine Federal State Branch. From 1998 to

2009 he was chairman of the DVS Technical Committee and thus a member of the DVS Presidium and Board of Directors.

With great commitment, he was involved in the committees of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) for joint work in joining technology. From 2008 to 2011, he was President of the IIW. A member of DVS since 1969, he was awarded the DVS Ring of Honour in 1996 for his extraordinary services to joint welding technology work and DVS, and in 2011 he received the DVS Plaque, the highest distinction awarded by DVS.



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ulrich Dilthey died on 14 August 2020 at the age of 79.

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NEWS

October - December 2020

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WELDING INSTITUTE

Editorial

Q&A with Outgoing Younger Members' Committee Chair, Matthew Haslett



The Welding Institute's Younger Members' Committee (YMC) works to engage young professional engineers to encourage and assist their professional and career development. In addition, the Committee also provides science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) outreach activities around the UK to promote these subjects to school children and students of different ages.

Matthew Haslett MWeldI served as the chair of the Committee from 2013 until he stepped down in October 2020. It seemed like this was the perfect opportunity to ask Matt about his work over this time and how he has seen the Committee grow and encourage others.

Firstly, why did you decide to chair the Younger Members' Committee?

I have always had a strong interest in both promoting STEM subjects to children and young people, and supporting those in the early stages of their careers. The Chair position of the YMC was the perfect opportunity for me to shape and direct the way that the Institute delivers these activities.

What do you think the Committee provides to young engineers who are just embarking on their career paths?

The Committee provides support to young engineers directly from their peers, other engineers and scientists who have had similar experiences and can give help and advice from a first-hand perspective. I think that being able to get support from someone of a similar age and academic/work background makes it more meaningful and useful.

Of course, a lot of the work of the Committee is about encouraging children and students to look at STEM subjects – why do you think this is important?

Education outreach, in my opinion, is the most important activity of the professional engineering institutions. Children and

young people need to know about the fascinating and varied careers that are available to them in STEM, and hearing and seeing those working in these areas, through school workshops, careers talks, etc, allows them to visualise what it might be like to work in this area. We need the brightest minds to take up STEM careers, and introducing children to the possibilities at an early stage of their education is vital, to allow them to make informed decisions on careers further down the line. My own interest in engineering came from local engineers visiting my school and running a STEM club, and I like to think that I am now 'giving something back' to the profession by promoting it to the next generation.

Do you have any notable, or amusing, highlights from your time as chair?

The thing that gives me a warm feeling is when I think back to the countless 'Welding with Chocolate' workshops that I have run, and the eagerness and enthusiasm of the kids participating. They really do put in a lot of effort welding up and testing the little bridges, and probably don't realise at the time, the amount of engineering theory that they have learned!

One amusing thing that occurred during one of these workshops was after one girl, during Q&A at the end, put up her hand and stated, 'I like chocolate'. This ended up with most of the rest of the class putting up their hands to state the same phrase, slightly derailing the Q&A process, and providing much hilarity to both teachers and volunteers!

What does the future hold for the Committee?

I am pleased to say that we have found the ideal candidate to take over the YMC Chair in Catherine Leahy. Catherine is enthusiastic, driven and motivated, both in her work and her passion for supporting young people, and will bring a new perspective to the role. I am looking forward to keeping some involvement on the outreach side and supporting Catherine as she continues to drive the Institute's commitment to the younger generation.

The Welding Institute would like to thank Matt for his enthusiasm, time, and effort as Chair of the Younger Members' Committee and the contribution he has given to the outreach programme over the past seven years.



Benefits of Membership for Training and Examination

The Welding Institute is a professional engineering institution with over 6,000 members.

Its main responsibility involves assessing candidates for the globally recognised registration qualifications of:

- Engineering Technician (EngTech)
- Incorporated Engineering (IEng)
- Chartered Engineer (CEng)

What else does membership offer for me?

Regardless of whether you want to gain professional registration with the Engineering Council, membership of The Welding Institute offers membership benefits to suit you:

Through completing Training and Examination courses you are already contributing to your professional development including your CPD. Membership with The Welding Institute allows you to display your professional accomplishments for employers and clients to see!

Already a Member of another Professional Engineering Institu-

Email our membership team who can advise you on the best route to becoming a Member of The Welding Institute!

Join Now!





New Professional Members (6 Aug – 5 Oct 2020)			
Name	Member Grade	EngC Registration	Prev. Member Grade
SKYRME, Michael	FWeldI	CEng	SenMWeldI CEng
MWEEMBA, Martin	SenMWeldI	CEng	SenMWeldI
DHANABAL, Bharanidharan	MWeldI	CEng	
RADCLIFFE, Kevin	MWeldI	CEng	MWeldI IEng
AMSUPAN, Satanphop	MWeldI	CEng	MWeldI
CHRONOPOULOS, Konstantinos	MWeldI	IEng	AWeldI
PEIRIS, Saman Kumara	MWeldI		
DAVIES, Andrew John	MWeldI		AWeldI
CALLAGHAN, Mark	MWeldI		
BIN ABU HASAN Amirul	TechWeldI	EngTech	
BRIONES Randy	TechWeldI	EngTech	
CHHANA Kriveshin Dinesh	TechWeldI	EngTech	
DA COSTA GONCALVES Paulo Jorge	TechWeldI	EngTech	
GERAGHTY Simon Peter	TechWeldI	EngTech	
JI Xu (Michael)	TechWeldI	EngTech	
LUCAS Brian Robert	TechWeldI	EngTech	
NELSON Scott Ian	TechWeldI	EngTech	
WESTCOTT Hayley Vanessa	TechWeldI	EngTech	
CADER, Salman	TechWeldI	EngTech	0

Deceased members – C	October 2020		
Name	Grade	Joined	Branch
Richard Raymond Roberts	FWeldI	1947	West Midlands
Robert Sandham	MWeldI CEng	1999	Highlands and Islands
Derek Patten	MWeldI IEng	1979	Eastern Counties
Peter Houldcroft	FWeldI	1954	Eastern Counties



THE WELDING INSTITUTE NEWS



Peter Thomas Houldcroft - 1923-2020



It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Peter Thomas Houldcroft, a former Director of Research for TWI. He passed away peacefully, aged 97, on 3 August 2020, with his family rightfully announcing that "he was much loved and will be hugely missed."

As a metallurgist, Peter began his career with the aluminium producer James Booth before moving to join the research arm

of The Institute of Welding, the British Welding Research Association (BWRA). He worked from the London Park Crescent office, which was where the BWRA's metallurgical research was undertaken, and worked on the welding of Al alloys. His early work focused on TIG welding behaviour before he began to research the joint properties of the newly-invented MIG welding process, which had been imported from the USA. As MIG welding became the worldwide process of choice for welding thicker Al alloys, Peter was a team member of the first UK-based demonstration project of an all-welded Al superstructure for a Thames launch.

It was around the same time that Peter developed the Fishbone test to quantify the cracking resistance of welded Mg alloys for aircraft fuel tanks and nuclear fuel canisters. He was then was at the forefront of a BWRA team developing weldable high strength Al alloys for military bridging and aircraft undercarriages.

BWRA's Engineering Department had been based at Abington near Cambridge since 1946 and, in 1956, the London-based Metallurgy Group was moved to the same location. Peter moved with the group and went on to propose that welding research activities should be separated from metallurgy and engineering research, leading to the creation of a new Welding Technology Group, which Peter headed up. By 1964, Peter had taken over from Alan Wells as Director of Research after Alan left for the Queens University of Belfast.

It was during the early 1960s that Peter developed what was possibly his greatest contribution to engineering with the creation of what would later become a multi-billion pound industry. The BWRA was working with the British Navy and the Services Electronic Research Laboratory (SERL) on the development of laser welding. Peter used his expertise in metal cutting to propose the use of coaxially delivered oxygen for the laser cutting of metals. Despite being refused a patent application by the German examining body of the time, the

idea and ensuing research eventually went on to create the world-wide laser cutting industry.

This ground-breaking research was not Peter's only breakthrough at BWRA, as he also directed the build of the world's first 2kW fast axial flow CO₂ laser. This was the beginning of a new era concerned with the development of high power gas lasers for welding and cutting of metals, which was rapidly pursued worldwide.

His contributions to laser technology led to Peter being awarded the first ever UK Association of Industrial Laser Users' medal in 1997, some eleven years after his retirement. Speaking at the time, Peter announced, "It has been 30 years since I invented gas assisted laser cutting at TWI and 11 years since I retired, so I quite expected that the event would have been forgotten."

Of course, Peter's expertise in laser processes could not be easily forgotten as he remained an expert in laser welding technology and in Al alloys until he retired from TWI (as the BWRA became) in 1986.

However, his influence over the continuing work of TWI can be felt today as Peter set up the first integrated Research Board in 1966 after all of the previous Research Committees were disbanded. This programme continues to work with many of the leading names in industry to guide the direction of TWI's Core Research Programme. As part of his work with the Research Board, Peter won a succession of government grants to support a large programme of basic and applied research. Many TWI developments, which had worldwide impact, originated from this pioneering programme.

Outside of his work for TWI, Peter gave his time and support to the Institution of Metallurgists, becoming President in 1981 and then being elected to the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1985. He also authored many papers and books on welding technology, including 'Which Process?' and 'Welding and Cutting - a Guide to Fusion Welding and Associated Cutting Processes', which was co-authored with Bob John.

Following retirement, Peter wrote a 50 year history of the BWRA/TWI, which was published in 1996. The excellent book provides a detailed record of the early years of the BWRA, its staff and the formation and subsequent growth of TWI into an internationally recognised centre of excellence in joining and associated technologies.

For all of his many achievements, it is perhaps the tributes paid by those who worked alongside him that demonstrate the calibre of Peter Houldcroft as a person.



Richard Dolby, himself a former TWI Director of Research and Technology, said, "In all my dealings with Peter Houldcroft, he was always polite and kind, an inherently modest man and a mentor and role model to me for many years. Looking back, we had almost identical career paths and we were both fortunate to be able to contribute to an expanding and successful engineering organisation, which was internationally recognised as a centre of excellence. Peter's contribution to laser technology worldwide has been well documented and is a wonderful legacy coming from a long and successful career."

A former colleague of Peter's from TWI, Steve Jones, revealed, "Peter was the first person I met at TWI when I arrived for interview in early 1971. He struck me as a man with wide interests - in

addition to a technical discussion we spent a fair amount of time talking about Stonehenge!" He continued, "Peter's technical contributions were correspondingly wide-ranging, including working with Arthur Smith and George Salter on the development of $\rm CO_2$ welding and the first development of laser cutting. I remember Peter as a supportive manager, concerned with staff welfare as well as technical excellence," adding, "In retirement he took a great interest in the history of Royston cave, publishing an analysis of its original internal structure and possible use by the Templars."

Peter Houldcroft not only impacted engineering and the work of TWI with his many years of service, but also had a profound effect on all those who met him and will be greatly missed.

Remembering Derek Patten



It is with deep regret that we have to inform you of the passing of Derek Patten, who died on the weekend of 5-6 September 2020, aged 80.

Derek and his family had a long association with TWI and The Welding Institute, having even once lived together in a cottage on the site of TWI at Abington near Cambridge. Having provided 50 years of faithful service to TWI between 1955 and 2005, he was the Supervisor of the Arc

Welding Laboratory at the time of his retirement.

Of course, given his many years of loyal service to TWI, Derek was involved in a great number of innovative and important projects. One notable example came when The Flying Scotsman locomotive was undergoing refurbishment for its 75th birthday in 1998. TWI was contacted to help solve problems of wear on the boiler and it was found that there was erosion as well as pressure changes within the boiler, which was causing flexing, leading to small cracks and thinning of the wall material. Derek was heavily involved in the project as worn material was ground away before the boiler was restored to its original dimensions through the use of manual metal arc welding. Electron beam welding was also used during the repairs, making The Flying Scotsman the first steam locomotive to include an EB-welded component anywhere in the world!

When Derek wasn't helping push engineering innovations at work, he was actively involved in his local village of Abington, alongside

his wife, Ros. In fact, Derek was even able to use his engineering skills to help the community when, in 1997, the Parish Council decided to build a new footbridge to celebrate the turn of the Millennium. TWI was contacted and Derek was among those who helped with the construction of the bridge, which was installed in the November of that year. This was no mean feat, since there was no vehicular access to the site, and there is a plaque on the bridge to commemorate the opening and thereby, the hard work put in by Derek and his colleagues from TWI.

Hugely respected by his peers and much loved by family and friends, Derek is a great loss to The Welding Institute. We are just proud that his many achievements continue to have an impact to this day.





UK's First Stainless Steel Road Bridge Built in Lake District



The UK's first stainless steel road bridge is being constructed in Cumbria to replace an original three-span 18th century structure that collapsed when Storm Desmond hit the area in 2015. The innovative new Pooley Bridge, which is composed of a mixture of steel and concrete, is being built over the River Eamont at the end of Ullswater Lake after the original bridge, built in 1764, collapsed due to the force of water from the storm.

The £5 million three-level composite structure was due to be opened in Summer 2020, but that original date was delayed with the bridge now due to open in October 2020 (at the time of writing). However, the bridge needed to meet three important factors within the design; flood resilience, compliance with Environment Agency regulations, and meeting the wishes of local residents.

Because the bridge is sited in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty it was important that the design did not alter the site or impact the local scenery. The project began in January this year, as the first



sections of steelwork arrived, having been fabricated 190km away in Darwen, Lancashire.

The steel elements of the structure were transported to the site in two parts before being joined together and lowered into place by a crane. The next stage was to pump concrete into the formwork or the arch to support the deck, while a temporary tie bar across the bottom chord held the ends until the loads were fully transferred into the abutments.

The new bridge has at least one important difference to the original bridge in that it is single span, where the 18th century version was supported by three piers in the river. These piers were swept away as scour and erosion from the force of the water from Storm Desmond undermined the structure. This design change means that the new 40 m single-span bridge doesn't need to undergo the same biennial checks.



The deck itself is made from a slender concrete slab, measuring 250mm in depth and between 7.5 and 9.5 metres wide. This deck fits onto a duplex stainless steel plate which is then supported by a concrete arch.

The design is intended to last at least 120 years, meaning that post-tensioning was disregarded as an option over concerns about durability. Pre-stressed bridges have had problems in the past due to corrosion and this new structure will avoid these potential difficulties.

The construction was further complicated by the quality of the ground on either bank. Due to the banks being a variable glacial till, the project could not use piled abutments to hold the span in place. Instead, steel framed backspans have been used to transfer loads from the arch and deck directly into concrete slabs that have been cast on either side of the river.

THE WELDING INSTITUTE NEWS



However, it is the stainless steel that is perhaps most note-worthy. Despite being two and a half times more expensive when compared to ordinary steel, its light weight and durability offers a number of advantages. This includes ease of construction as a temporary pier was not required to support the bridge, which also reduced costs.

The environmental conditions also posed a few challenges, including dealing with high winds and mixing concrete in cold weather

where the water it is mixed with could freeze, expanding and damaging the concrete as it sets. Other environmental factors included how the use of steel minimised the need for concrete and reduced the carbon footprint of the new bridge.

For all of the challenges posed by the innovative construction, the local response has been positive, with brewers in the town even producing a beer to celebrate the new structure!

International Institute of Welding holds successful virtual Welded Art Exhibition

The International Institute of Welding (IIW) reacted to the COVID-19 pandemic by moving their 'Welded Art Photographic Exhibition' to a virtual, online format. The exhibition ran from 15-25 July, 2020, to highlight some amazing feats of welding art.

Welded art, like all art, can provide great benefits to improve mental health as a hobby or simply as something to enjoy as an art-lover. It is also a wonderful tool to improve the image of welding as well as providing an income for those with the appropriate artistic skills.

This year's exhibition included work from the young artist, Thomas Huisman from Australia who, now aged just 9, began welding a year ago.

The final booklet containing the digital collection has been made available online for you to view and the IIW are also now seeking feedback and ideas for new categories ahead of next year's exhibition

The booklet is available to view at this link (https://iiw2020.online/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/WELDEDARTEXHIBITION-DEF.pdf) and you can find out more information on the proposed new categories from page 56 onwards.

Anyone with feedback or ideas for the IIW is invited to email Chris Smallbone at allbones@iinet.net.au.

Technical Group Meeting: Welding in the Railway Industry Sectors

The Welding Institute held a Structures and Infrastructure Technical Group Meeting at The Derby Conference Centre about 'Welding in the Railway Industry Sectors.'

The meeting took place just before lockdown, on 10 March 2020, and was well-attended with around 60 people present at the venue for the series of talks that began at 10am.

Eur Ing Alan Denney CEng FWeldI KD Materials Consulting Ltd, opened the event before Robert Sawdon, the director of RW Sawdon Engineers Ltd, gave a talk on rail welding.

Peter Roberts, the managing director of Collis Engineering Ltd, followed with a discussion of the challenges of joint design before a short coffee break.

The morning session continued with David Gaulthier, who works in business development for NobelClad, delivering an interesting talk on welding aluminium to steel in car body design, including innovative solutions with transition joints.

Jeff Garner, a consulting welding engineer with Manor Welding Technology, spoke next before a well-earned break for lunch during which there was plenty of opportunities to network and share ideas.

Lunch was followed by a talk on the welding of power transfer equipment courtesy of Stephen Norrish before John Hempshall, a senior engineer of rail welding at Network Rail, offered his own insights and information to the attendees.

A tea break was then followed by a discussion of standards with lead assessor Bill Mosely, who gave an introduction to BS EN 15085 as well as a comparison with ISO 3834. Over tea, some delegates recalled previous training sessions at the same venue, which was formerly a Midland Railway Training School which still retains many of its original 1930s architectural features. A very appropriate venue for this event!

Alan Denney returned to bring the informative meeting to a close and we sincerely hope it isn't too long until we can return to these interesting events in-person once more.

https://thederbyconferencecentre.com/conferences/

73rd IIW Annual Assembly: Virtual conferencing revolutionises tradition for the international welding community



The virtual conference centre for the 73rd IIW Annual Assembly.

Designing the concept

After the worldwide pandemic outbreak in February 2020, the International Institute of Welding (IIW; iiwelding.org) took the difficult decision to cancel the Annual Assembly originally planned in Singapore and instead develop the concept of an on-line Annual Assembly, to be held around the same dates of 15 to 22 July. This would be a major undertaking as the Assembly involves over 25 IIW Working Units (WUs) meeting simultaneously with a targeted participation of over 500 experts located around the world.

The IIW, supported by a professional event organiser, developed the concept of a virtual conference centre which would ensure participation experiences as close as possible to a face-to-face Assembly. This enabled the progression of all IIW activities as well as social engagement, while ensuring the safety of members participating remotely from their own homes or offices.

The concept included the following points:

- All the meetings were held between 13:00 and 16:00 CEST, to best accommodate participants' home time zones.
- Up to 10 session were offered from Monday to Saturday, allowing participants to virtually jump from one session to another and participate in different WUs.

- Opening and closing speeches as well as the IIW Awards Ceremony were available on-demand to all participants.
- Virtual booths were created for sponsors, including pre-recorded videos and presentations of products, displays of products and a live chat feature to facilitate their interact with the audience.
- A Welded Art Exhibition was included, displaying welding from around the world and explaining the artists' perspective.
- Special group registration enabled multiple participants from the same organisation at a discounted rate.

The on-line Annual Assembly project was developed over a period of three months by the new IIW Secretariat which commenced in 2020, led by Dr Luca Costa and managed by IIS, the Italian Institute of Welding. The event was supported by the following sponsors:

- Kiswel,
- Fronius International GmbH,
- Cavitar.
- Panasonic.

Registration started on 1 June and the virtual conference centre was opened for meetings on 8 July 2020.

Figures of a great success

During his opening speech at the 73rd IIW Annual Assembly, the IIW President Mr Douglas Luciani said that "Any organisation must be fluid and flexible to adjust to circumstances, and there is no better example than what we're currently dealing with under the Covid-19 pandemic". Referring to the on-line platform, he commented "This environment, although unique, I'm sure will provide us the opportunity to interact and further enhance the global welding and joining industry".

All agreed that the virtual on-line IIW Annual Assembly was a great success with the number of participants exceeding the target audience and no reduction in significant and prolific technical outputs, and:



Discussions during the on-line meeting of the IIW General Assembly.



A page of the welded art exhibition catalogue: The welded art 'Mouse' was made of metal waste, sheet material and pipes.



Mr Douglas Luciani, IIW President 2017-2020, during his inaugural speech.

- 39 countries represented
- 50 sessions of different WUs
- 150 hours of meetings in 48 sessions
- 240 scientific papers, standards and IIW position papers, best practice documents and guidelines presented, discussed and developed
- 37-180 participants in each session.

As usual, participants were grouped in delegations managed by the IIW Members, the national welding organisations from 50 countries, with 38 Members represented at the 73rd IIW Annual Assembly. The largest delegations came from Germany (101 participants), Japan (94), China (72), USA (60) and Italy (30).

Recognising excellence

During the Assembly the announcement of the 2020 IIW Prizes and Awards recognised individuals for their outstanding contributions to welding, joining and allied processes and their support for the work of the organisation:

- Walter Edström Medal, awarded to Dr Ernest Levert,
- Fellow of IIW, awarded to Prof. Yoshinori Hirata, Dr Eric M. Sjerve and Prof. Adolf F. Hobbacher,
- Arthur Smith Award, awarded to Dr Glenn Ziegenfuss,
- Chris Smallbone Award, awarded to Dr Jim Guild,
- Thomas Medal, awarded to Dr Vincent Van Der Mee,
- Yoshiaki Arata Award, awarded to Dr Stephen Liu,
- Halil Kaya Gedik Award, awarded to Prof. Zuheir Barsoum,

- Welding in the World Best Paper Award, awarded to Dr Alexis Chiocca,
- Henry Granjon Category B Award, awarded to Dr Klaus Schricker,
- Henry Granjon Category C Award, awarded to Dr Mohan Subramanian.

 A booklet about the 2020 IIW Awards and the winners is available as a pdf file at: https://user-36910767433.cld.bz/IIW-

Booklet-of-awards-2020.

Within the virtual Annual Assembly IIW also held the second IIW Welded Art Exhibition, with participation from 33 artists from all over the world. Special categories included "Emerging Joining Technologies", "Young Artists" and "Photography" and it is planned to expand these categories in future exhibitions. Participants ranged from world renowned artists and sculptors to hobbyists and part-time business owners. They included researchers experimenting with newer processes such as additive manufacturing, a photographer showing welding from the perspective of fine art and an up-and-coming nine year old representing the face of the next generation. A booklet presenting the artworks and artists can be viewed or downloaded here: https://iiw2020.online/wp-content/ uploads/2020/07/WELDEDARTEXHIBI-TION-DEF.pdf

Changing IIW Presidency

In line with the IIW Constitution, Mr Douglas Luciani (Canada) ended his three-year term as IIW President with the closure of the Assembly, the position now being taken up by Mr David Landon

(USA). In the absence of a physical ceremony, the handover was managed with recorded videos.

"When I look back over the last three years, it's extremely gratifying to see what we have accomplished together," said Luciani during his closing speech at the Assembly. He then highlighted some of these achievements, such as the new IIW Five-Year Strategic Plan and IIW Vision "To be the leading global community linking industry, research and education to the advancement of welding and joining for a safer and sustainable world". Also noted were the shifting of the Secretariat of the organisation to IIS in Italy after numerous years of great services delivered by the Institut de Soudure in France,



Mr David Landon, IIW President 2020-2023.

and the new five-year agreement with the European Welding Federation (EWF) for the global delivery of the IIW qualification and certification schemes.

"When future generations will look back into the history of the IIW, there's no doubt in my mind they will come back at your Presidency as being some of the most impactful through years of the IIW's history," commented Landon. He has worked for the last 28 years at Vermeer Corporation, a global manufacturer of industrial and agricultural equipment. Landon has been active in IIW since 1997 and served as a member of the IIW Board of Directors for the last four years. He is also an active member of the USA welding community, having been a member of the American Welding Society (AWS) Board of Directors and AWS President in 2015.

During his speech, he underlined that participating in IIW has provided a positive impact to his company both from a technical standpoint as well as the IIW qualification and certification products. His participation had facilitated Vermeer in finding team members and international partners and sharing in the development of welded products and technologies. He concluded "When I look at IIW and to the value proposition in participating to the IIW, I'm



The venue for the 74th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference in Genoa, Italy, on 20 to 25 July 2021.

looking through the eyes of an end user of IIW products."

The future of IIW events

With the current uncertainty associated with the Covid-19 pandemic, IIW is closely monitoring the situation in relation to the exciting calendar of IIW events planned in the following months. The experience with the virtual 73rd IIW Annual Assembly demonstrated the viability of on-line meeting technology and proved the strength and dedication of the IIW community, but also highlighted the

importance of personal interactions as they were greatly missed during these unprecedented times.

The IIW is hoping to gather the welding, joining and associated processes community together again during 2021 at IIW International Congresses, Welding Research and Collaboration Colloquia and Associated Events held in cooperation with its partners, and in particular at the 74th IIW Annual Assembly and International Conference planned for Genoa, Italy on 20-25 June 2021. (According to press information from IIW)

Visitors from over 100 countries are expected to attend "wire" and "Tube" in December in Düsseldorf

From 7 to 11 December 2020 the two international trade fairs for the wire, cable and tube and pipe industries, "wire" and "Tube", will open their doors in Düsseldorf/Germany. The two leading trade fairs for these industries were originally planned for April, but then had to be postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. They will now be held in compliance with strict new hygiene and social distancing rules at a perfectly prepared Düsseldorf fairground.

2018 saw 71,500 trade visitors (69,000 in 2016) from 134 countries visit the exhibition halls on the Rhine river over five days to learn about innovations in their sectors and conclude business deals. For December the organisers expect stable numbers of visitors from Europe despite the tight situation in the global economy. So far, one third of visitors at both trade fairs came from Germany while two thirds were international visitors.

This means that "wire" and "Tube" are among the most internationally attended trade fairs care of Messe Düsseldorf.

80% of international visitors expected to hail from Europe

80% of international visitors in December are expected to hail from Europe. Although strong producer and visitor countries such as Italy, France and Spain are seriously impacted by the consequences of the Corona crisis, these are the European countries – alongside the Netherlands, Spain, Poland, Russia, United Kingdom and Turkey – where most European trade visitors will come from to visit the two trade fairs. If the EU and national stimulus packages take effect in the European countries, then an economic recovery and increase in investment can be expected by the end of the year.



International Wire and Cable Trade Fair



International Tube and Pipe Trade Fair Internationale Rohr-Fachmesse

Visitors to "wire" come from the wire and cable industries, the iron, steel and NF-metal industries, from automotive and construction, the chemical industry, trade and the services sector. At "wire 2020" they will be on the look-out for innovations, trends, new business partners and suppliers or seeking to deepen existing contacts. Visitors' main interests focus on machinery and equipment for wire manufacturing and finishing, as well as process technology tools, finished products, auxiliary materials, forming technology and fasteners and springs as well as wire mesh welding machinery.

At "Tube" most visitors are interested in the latest news from the fields of tubes, plant and machinery for pipe and tube processing (as well as for finishing and manufacturing pipes and tubes), raw materials, accessories, profiles and pipe and tube trading. Likewise, pipelines, OCTG (Oil Country Tubular Goods) technology and sawing as well as saw blade grinding



machines meet with avid interest among visitors to "Tube 2020".

For current information visit the Internet portals at: https://www.wire-tradefair.

com/ and https://www.tube-tradefair.com/. (According to press information from Messe Düsseldorf; https://www.messe-duesseldorf.com/)

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Mechanical plate edge bevelling – The key to high speed weld preparation and improved weld quality



In heavy fabrication shops bevelling is one of the most critical production processes, which has historically not received its due importance. Invariably poor edge preparation is the first and the most basic cause of improper fit-ups which can lead to poor quality welds due to inaccurate 'V' joint preparations, which will result in excessive welding, higher heat input, and higher consumption of welding consumables (and extra welding man-hours). All these factors can contribute to lower productivity and have a bearing on the final weld quality.

The importance of accurate plate edge preparation can be well understood if one looks at some of the important segments in heavy fabrication, e.g. shipbuilding or fabrication of windmill tubular (WMT) towers.

The fabrication of wind mill tubular towers is comparatively not as complex as ship building, but it still must address the need of plate edge preparation of a large number of plates with consistent accuracy which goes into forming of shells for fabrication of a tower as high as 100 m or more. This application demands bevelling of at least 1,500 m in a day (three shifts) for a production level of a 'tower a day', Fig. 1.

Both the examples above give rise to the need to identify a fast, accurate, consistent and economical process of plate edge bevelling with a minimum or no heat input to facilitate good quality welds for carbon

steels, high tensile steels, stainless steels, and also as importantly aluminium and other alloy steels.

Selection of process

Selecting the most suitable process can be complex because there are many factors that must be considered. There may be a few options that could be suitable for an application; however, the final choice usually depends upon capability to economically produce the required quality bevels. Such factors may include:

- Type of material,
- Range of thickness of plates to be bevelled,
- Quality of cut required,
- Complexity of edge preparation,
- Accuracy of the cutting process,
- Number of plates/components to be prepared,
- Allowable distortion from the process. The oxy-fuel cutting (bevelling) is the most common used process for cutting of carbon steel plates, **Fig. 2**. The equipment is low cost and can be used manually or can be mechanised.

The disadvantages of using this process could be low speeds, high thermal input, possible inaccuracies in the bevel angles (leading to excessive weld deposition), need of finishing the bevelled surface (based on the material and joint requirements). In addition, it entails significant cost of gases and other grinding consumables inclusive of inevitable wastages and manpower. If CNC oxyfuel cutting machines are used, the plates need to be fed to the machine and it entails the use of a crane, which is a time consuming and costly operation.

In contrast, Gullco International have a range of mechanical plate edge bevelling machines, which work on a rotary shear principle and are highly effective due to their portability and manoeuvrability with high speeds of bevelling ranging between 240 to 300 cm per minute, **Fig. 3.**

These bevellers can bevel 6 to 50 mm thick plates and can offer accurate and consistent "V", "K" or "X" bevel preparations. Various materials like carbon steels, alloyed steels, stainless steels, high tensile steels, and aluminium can be very successfully





bevelled using these machines, **Fig. 4.** Mechanical bevelling being a non-thermal process has an important metallurgical advantage of not creating a heat affected zone (HAZ) and not causing thermal distortion.

Some of the other distinct advantages of the mechanical bevelling are:

- 1. Noise-, pollution-, and vibration-free operation.
- These machines can be easily brought to the job and are self-propelling types following the edge of the plate while bevelling without any help of operator.
- 3. Spring loaded carriage allows the machine to run on an undulating floor and negotiate the sag in the plate.
- 4. Easy and quick adjustment of the root face is possible.
- Five standard bevel angles can be adjusted. Non-standard bevel angles within the min-max range are also available on request.
- No special skills are needed to operate these machines and an operator can be trained to operate such machines in a relatively short period of time.
- 7. Top and bottom of the plates can be bevelled simultaneously by using two machines in tandem.

Upside down bevellers used simultaneously along with the standard bevellers can produce a double "V" preparation without turning the large plates, thereby saving on crane time, handling time and repeat process time compressing the total throughput cycle time and increasing the productivity at an optimised cost.

There is no doubt that all of these positive factors are making mechanical edge bevellers a preferred choice in the fabrication industry and are helping to deliver on



the requirement of high quality edge preparation and thereby the overall final finished weld quality.

These features are also contributing to reducing the overall welding costs, and due

to the simple operation of these machines reduce the need for skilled trades people to operate them.

(According to press information from Gullco International; www.gullco.com)

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Refill friction stir spot welding parameter development for transport industry aluminium alloys (Technology Briefing)



Fig. 1 • RFSSW top surface.

Background

Refill friction stir spot welding (RFSSW) has several advantages compared with other mainstream single-point joining or mechanical fastening processes. Although many companies have acknowledged these advantages and benefits, further research is required to implement this technology into largescale production and increase the current technology readiness level. This report describes the impartial gathering of baseline mechanical properties and microstructure characterisation of RFSSW welds on various transport aluminium alloys, intending to promote industrial uptake.

Objectives

- Determine the welding process window of different transport industry aluminium alloys.
- Assess the mechanical performance and characterise the microstructure of each weld condition.
- Quantify the effect of the presence of an interfacial sealant on the mechanical strength and microstructural properties of RFSSW.
- Provide a benchmark of the RFSSW properties on various transport industry aluminium alloys.

Fundamentals of the process

Refill friction stir spot welding (RFSSW) or friction spot welding (FSpW) is a relatively new variant of the friction stir spot welding process, which was patented by Schilling and dos Santos (2004). Using the same rotating tool elements as other friction stir processes, designated as shoulder and probe, the major improvement to this variant is their independent vertical movement which allows refill of the exit hole with the material displaced by the tool. The addition of an external static clamping ring enables the production of flush surface welds, as shown in Fig. 1, by preventing material losses in the form of flash.

The RFSSW process occurs over four stages in one continuous process as shown in Fig. 2. The welding cycle begins with the movement of the tool components to the surface of the top sheet to clamp the overlapped sheets. The rotating components remain at this stage for a set period to produce the initial frictional pre-heating. Stage 2, the plunging stage, initiates with the shoulder and probe moving in

the opposite vertical direction to each other. Depending on the plunging tool component, the RFSSW process can be designated in one of two variants, shoulder-plunge or probe-plunge. The plunging component travels into the base material to a pre-defined depth while the retracting component moves to a pre-defined height, maintaining volume equilibrium to accommodate the displaced material. The contact between the plunging component and the base material leads to further heat generation and material softening via friction coupling. Once the plunging component reaches the pre-defined depth, the plunging and retracting components offset their positions and return to the top sheet surface, refilling the weld region with the displaced material. The extraction of the tool from the base material and unclamping the welded sheets concludes the welding cycle.

Approach

A full-factorial design of experiments (FFDoE), varying the rotation speed and plunge depth, was used to determine the

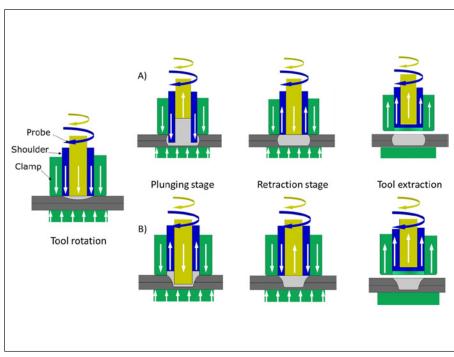


Fig. 2 • Schematic drawing of the RFSSW process (TWI, 2018): A) Shoulder-plunge variant, B) Probe-plunge variant.

RFSSW weldability range. Emphasis was placed on cross-section integrity and static mechanical properties to determine the strongest process parameter combination for various transport aluminium alloys. The fatigue life was determined, and the influence of interfacial sealant was evaluated using the strongest process parameter combination. Fracture surfaces and failure modes were investigated and described using scanning electron microscopy (SEM).

Results and discussion

Within the process parameter window explored, the welding process window was determined by either equipment limitation or process boundary. All the process parameter combinations used in this investigation surpassed the strength requirements for resistance spot welding (AWS D17.2/D17.2M:2019), one of the competing single-point joining processes. In the bare condition, the strongest process parameters for the aerospace alloys used in this investigation achieved a static strength of around 95% of the strength requirements of an equivalent sized aluminium rivet. In the presence of an interfacial aerospace sealant, an increase of around 50% of the static strength of the bare condition was observed, a novel and encouraging result for the aerospace industry sector. The fatigue life was determined for all alloys, in the bare condition and with interfacial sealant. S-N curves were plotted with a fitting coefficient higher than 95%. Specimen failure occurred before the first million cycles for the specimens in the bare condition,

because stress concentration from outof-plane bending promoted crack development at the hook. In the presence of an interfacial sealant, fatigue life improved by a factor ranging from 2 to 10 times the values obtained for the bare condition, which is believed to be due to minimised weld nugget rotation during welding.

Main conclusions

- All the process parameter combinations used in this investigation surpassed the strength requirements for resistance spot welding, one of the competing single-point joining processes.
- Under lap shear conditions, average strength values showed small scatter and consistent failure modes within the same parameter combination. Low rotation speed and high plunge depth values improved the mechanical performance on all alloys tested in this investigation.
- Similar failure loads under cross tension conditions were obtained across all alloys. This was attributed to the increased stress concentration at the hook tip from this testing method, leading to early failure of the specimen.

- 4. Fatigue test results were used to establish an equation for the S-N curve. Acceptable fitting coefficients were found for each test condition. Failure before the first million cycles was observed for the specimens in the bare condition.
- 5. The presence of an interfacial sealant improved the static and fatigue strength of the alloys tested, without compromising weld integrity.

Recommendations

- Based on the results reported in the literature, the choice of interfacial sealant must consider the requirements of the application as well as the characteristics of the joining method. An incorrect choice can have a detrimental impact on the mechanical performance of the joint.
- Users wishing to assess the technology for other materials or thicknesses should be aware that results cannot be transferred directly; additional investigation to identify the optimum process is likely to be required quality.

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INFO

The full report is available to TWI members from: https://www.twi-global.com/what-we-do/research-and-technology/research-reports/industrial-member-reports/refill-friction-stir-spot-welding-of-aluminium-1137-2020

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Multi Material Jetting – Additive manufacturing of multi-functional parts



Fig. 1 • System for Multi Material Jetting of high-performance components with combined properties or functions. (All pictures Fraunhofer IKTS)

Additive manufacturing is currently one of the most significant trends in industry. A team from the Fraunhofer Institute for Ceramic Technologies and Systems IKTS, Dresden, Germany has now developed a Multi Material Jetting system that allows different materials to be combined into a single additively manufactured part. This makes it possible to create products with combined properties or functions. The new system can be used with particularly high-performance materials such as ceramics and metal.

Additive manufacturing of multimaterial parts

Additive manufacturing technologies such as 3D printing involve building up a desired product layer by layer instead of producing it from a single piece. This enables high-precision custom manufacturing with precisely defined product characteristics – and the technology is continuously being improved. Although the early years of additive manufacturing were dominated by polymers, this expanded some time ago to include metals and ceramic-based materials.

Fraunhofer IKTS has now taken another major step forward. Researchers have developed a system that enables additive manufacturing of multi-material parts based on thermoplastic binder systems. Known as Multi Material Jetting, or MMJ, this process combines different materials and their various different properties into a single product, Fig. 1. "Right now, we can process up to four different materials at a time," says Uwe Scheithauer, a researcher at Fraunhofer IKTS. This opens the door to a diverse range of applications, allowing companies to produce highly integrated multi-functional components with individually defined properties.

Manufacturing products drop by drop

The new system manufactures parts in a continuous process. In the first step, the ceramic or metal powder from which the part will be made is distributed homogenously in a thermoplastic binder substance. The slurries produced this way are loaded into micro-dosing systems (MDS) in order to commence the actual manufacturing process, Fig. 2. These slurries are melted in the MDS at a temperature of around 100 degrees Celsius, creating a substance that can be released in very small droplets. The IKTS researchers also developed a corresponding software program to ensure precise positioning of the droplets during manufacturing. The micro-dosing systems operate in a high-precision, computer-controlled process, depositing the droplets one by one in exactly the right spot. This gradually builds up the part drop by drop at rates of up to 60 mm and 1,000 drops a second, Fig. 3. The system works with droplet sizes of between 300 and 1000 µm, creating deposited layers with heights of between 100 and 200 µm. The maximum size of parts that can currently be manufactured is 20 cm \times 20 cm \times 18 cm. "The critical factor here is the custom dosing of the metal or ceramic slurries. Getting the dosing right is key to ensuring that the additively manufactured final product takes on the required properties and functions during subsequent sintering in the furnace, including properties such as strength,

thermal conductivity and electrical conductivity," says Scheithauer.

Ceramic satellite engine with built-in ignition

The new IKTS system can be used to make highly complex parts such as the ignition system in a satellite propulsion engine made of ceramics. Satellite engine combustion chambers reach extremely high temperatures, so the ability of ceramics to withstand heat makes them an ideal choice of material. MMJ can be used to produce an ignition system that is directly integrated within the engine. This ignition system combines electrically conductive and insulating areas in a single, extremely robust component. In this case, the MMJ process requires three dosing systems: one for a support material that disintegrates during heat treatment in the furnace, a second for the electrically conductive component, and a third for the electrically insulating component. MMJ also has plenty of conceivable applications in the consumer products market - for example, a two-tone ceramic watch bezel made for an individual customer as a one-off item.

Thanks to its high precision and flexibility, the MMJ system is suitable for more than just manufacturing multi-functional components. "We could also use it to

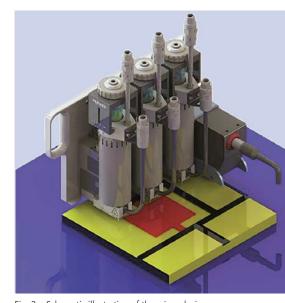


Fig. 2 • Schematic illustration of the micro-dosing systems.

make blanks for carbide parts, for example. Thanks to the tremendous precision of the dosing systems, the contours of the blanks would already be very close to those of the end product. They would therefore require very little subsequent grinding as compared to conventional methods. That is a big advantage when you are working with carbide," says Scheithauer.

Validation and commercialisation

The project at Fraunhofer IKTS has demonstrated that the technology also

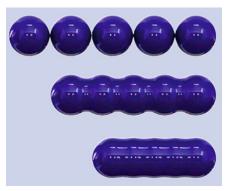


Fig. 3 • High-precision material deposition at a rate of up to 1,000 drops a second.

works in practice and is scalable. The next step is to validate the technology for industrial use. As well as supplying the hardware, Fraunhofer IKTS can also help industry customers develop the materials and software required for process monitoring and automation. Customers can therefore get everything from a single source, all tailored to their specific requirements.

(According to press information from Fraunhofer IKTS)

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Influence of nitrogen in process atmospheres on the corrosion and fatigue behaviour of brazed stainless steel joints

Stainless steel components, such as heat exchangers for energy and air-conditioning technologies are commonly manufactured using nickel-based brazing fillers in vacuum furnaces or continuous furnaces. In vacuum furnaces, nitrogen is commonly used as cooling gas. In continuous furnaces, nitrogen interacts with the parts during the entire brazing process. The arising nitrogen enrichment of the braze metal and the base material can influence the corrosion behaviour as well as the fatigue behaviour of the brazed joints. Therefore, the corrosion and the fatigue behaviour of the joints were investigated with regard to the process conditions. The amount of nitrogen in the braze metal as well as in the base material was determined using the carrier gas hot extraction technique. The braze metal is more enriched with nitrogen in comparison to the base material. The corrosion measurements were carried out on the braze metal and the base material using a capillary microcell. It was determined that the joints brazed in process gas are more susceptible to corrosion attack in comparison to vacuum brazed joints. A corrosive aging was carried out in the exhaust gas condensate K1.2 at 70°C for 15 h. All joints exhibit a monotonic tensile shear strength of 185 MPa. Fatigue tests were carried out at ambient temperature on a resonance pulsator up to a number of cycles of N = 2×10^6 used to define the endurance limit. Before and after corrosive aging, the vacuum brazed joints reached the defined maximum number of cycles at a stress amplitude of 25 MPa. The corrosion attack did not influence the fatigue behaviour of the vacuum brazed joints. In contrast, after corrosive aging, the endurance limit decreased for the joints brazed in process gas. The joints reached only 1.3×10^6 cycles at a stress amplitude of 25 MPa.

THE AUTHORS



Dipl.Ing. Vasilii Fedorov, born in 1989, is a research assistant at the Professorship for Composites and Material Compounds at Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany. He was concerned with tasks in the field of brazing as well as with the fatigue investigation of brazed mixed joints. In 2012 he defended his diploma thesis on "Characterization of the defect structure in TRIP steels using the combination of EBSD, ECCI and TEM" at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg. During his studies in Russia and at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg, he acquired extensive knowledge in the field of materials science with a focus on metal physics and materials analysis.



Dr.-Ing. Thomas Uhlig, born in 1985, is a research assistant at the Chair of Composite Materials at Chemnitz University of Technology, Germany. He works on innovative alloy concepts for brazing and coating materials. He defended his diploma thesis on the topic: "Contribution to the characterization of the melting behaviour of Fe-V-Nb-C alloys" in 2012. Already during his mechanical engineering studies with a focus on manufacturing technology and machine tool design he investigated the machinability of wear protection coatings.



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Guntram Wagner studied general mechanical engineering at the Technical University of Kaiserslautern, Germany and received his doctorate in 1996 on ultrasonic welding of glass/glass composites and glass/metal composites. From 1997 to 2014, he was head of the Joining and Ultrasonic Technology Research Department at the Department of Materials Science at Kaiserslautern Technical University, most recently as Academic Senior Councillor. In 2014 he was appointed to the Technical University of Chemnitz. His current research areas are composite materials, brazing, low-temperature joining processes and fatigue of composite materials and material composites. Furthermore, the professorship is equipped with extensive modern methods for sample preparation and analysis.



Dipl.-Chem. André Langohr, born in 1963 in Dortmund, studied chemistry at the University of Dortmund, Germany. After graduating, he continued working there in the field of physical chemistry for several years. Since 2005 he has been a research assistant at the Institute for Materials Science at Leibniz University Hannover. His main focus of activity is the development of brazing alloys, taking into account physicochemical modelling and materialographic analysis.



Dr. rer. nat. Ulrich Holländer, born in 1965, studied Chemistry at the Dortmund University of Technology in Dortmund, Germany. The subject of his doctorate was the investigation of the thermodynamic properties of liquid sodium/antimony alloys. Then, he worked as a Scientific Employee at the Professorship of Materials Technology (LWT) at the University of Dortmund and, since 2001, has been responsible for the management of the Specialist Group "Brazing and Thermal Process Engineering" in the IW-FORTIS Division at the Institute of Materials Science (IW) at the Leibniz University of Hanover/Germany.



Prof. Dr.-Ing. Hans Jürgen Maier, born in 1960, studied Materials Sciences in Erlangen, Germany and, in 1990, obtained his doctorate on the subject of the influence of ambient media on the fatigue behaviour of steels. Thereafter, he assumed responsibility for the management of the Electron Microscopy Working Group and moved to the University of Siegen as a Senior Engineer in 1993. After stations in the USA and at the University of Paderborn, he has been the Director of the Institute of Materials Science at the Leibniz University of Hanover since 2012.

1 Introduction

Brazing of stainless steels is commonly carried out using nickel-based brazing fillers, which provide a high corrosion and oxidation resistance of the resulting joints [1-3]. These brazed stainless steel joints are mostly used for the manufacturing of heat exchangers for energy and air conditioning technologies. The alloying with the elements silicon, boron and phosphorus lead to a reduction of the melting temperature of the nickel or the nickel-chromium alloy. Hence, brazing temperatures between 1000°C to 1200°C are possible. Moreover, the brazing fillers feature excellent flowing and wetting properties, because they are able to eliminate the oxide film on the surface of the base materials. However, the alloying elements adversely affect the microstructure and the mechanical properties of the joints when the gap size exceeds 50 µm [4]. The processing, structure and properties of the resulting brazed joints have been extensively studied, e.g. [5-7]. These joints are commonly brazed in vacuum furnaces or continuous furnaces. In vacuum furnaces, nitrogen (N2) is often added during the cooling process. N₂ or mixtures of nitrogen and hydrogen (N₂+H₂) are typically used as process gases in continuous furnaces. Consequently, a nitrogen enrichment can take place in the braze metal and in the near-surface area of the base material. In previous work [8], the influence of the process parameters holding time and N2 content in the process gas on the N₂ contents of the base material and the braze metal of the joints, brazed using different nickel-based brazing fillers, was investigated. The brazing process in the conveyor belt furnace was carried out using different holding times of 5 min and 10 min and different process gases, 100% N2 and 50% $N_2/50\% H_2$.

It was found out that the process parameters holding time and N2 content in the process gas do not have a significant influence on the N2 contents of base material and the braze metal. However, the results show that the nitrogen enrichment of the braze metal and the base material has a significant influence on the corrosion behaviour of the brazed joints [8]. This can be critical as the joints often need to endure high pressures in a corrosive environment during application. Therefore, the influence of the nitrogen enrichment in combination with a corrosive attack on the fatigue behaviour of the joints must be considered. In the present study, the influence of nitrogen in process atmospheres on the fatigue behaviour of brazed stainless steel joints before and after corrosive attack was investigated. The nitrogen content in the braze metal as well as in the base material was determined using the carrier gas hot extraction technique (CGHE). A corrosive aging was carried out in the exhaust gas condensate K1.2 according to VDA 230-214 [9]. The fatigue behaviour of corrosively affected and unaffected brazed joints was investigated. Fatigue tests were carried out at ambient temperature on a RUMUL resonance pulsator under load-controlled conditions with a load ratio of R = 0.1. The microstructure of the brazed joints and the fracture surfaces of the tested samples were investigated by scanning electron microscopy (SEM) using a backscattered electron detector (BSD). The fatigue behaviour of the joints without and after corrosion attack was compared.

2 Experimental procedure

Austenitic stainless steel (AISI 304) was used as the base material. The components to be brazed (circular and semicircular blanks with a diameter of 30 mm) were sectioned from finely rolled sheets by laser cutting, which led to burr-free and distortion-free samples. The brazing filler Ni60CrPSi, a nickel-based brazing alloy with 30 wt.% chromium, 6 wt.% phosphorous and 4 wt.% silicon, was applied onto the base material as powder. The thickness of the produced brazed joint was set to 50 μm using inserted spacer foils. The quantity of applied filler was the same for all samples and was dimensioned so that a joint thickness of at least 50 μm was ensured. The use of binder was avoided to eliminate carbon residues and their consequences, for example, the formation of chromium carbide in the braze metal.

The brazed single lap samples, used for the analysis of the nitrogen enrichment were produced at 1125° C in a vacuum furnace and a conveyor belt furnace with process gas. To induce the maximum effect of the nitrogen enrichment in the base material as well as in the braze metal, a N_2 content of 100% N_2 and a holding time of 10 min were used. The brazing temperature was recorded by a trailing thermocouple attached just below the sample surface. A brazing process in a vacuum furnace using free cooling was carried out as a reference. The heating and cooling rates were set to 50 K/min in both furnaces. The quantitative determination of the nitrogen enrichment in the braze metal as well as in the base material was carried out using CGHE according to previous work [8].

3 Microstructure of brazed joint

In Fig. 1, the microstructure of a joint, brazed in vacuum using Ni60CrPSi, is shown. The microstructures of joints, brazed in process gas, were similar. Due to the diffusion of Fe into the braze metal, Fe-enriched Ni-Cr-Si solid solutions (1) are formed at the interface to the stainless steel and inside the braze metal. Additionally, the resulting braze metal consists of Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallics (2) and chromium phosphides (3).

4 Analysis of the nitrogen enrichment

In previous work [8], low nitrogen contents of $0.04\,\mathrm{wt.\%}$ in the brazing filler Ni60CrPSi and $0.07\,\mathrm{wt.\%}$ in the base material AISI 304 were determined for the as-received condition. As expected, the vacuum brazing process did not influence the N_2 contents of the base

KEYWORDS

strength, corrosion, brazing, nickel, nickel alloys, material questions

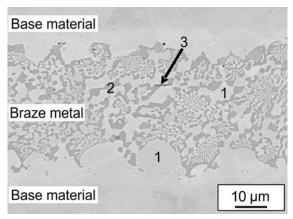


Fig. 1 • Microstructure in BSD contrast of the vacuum brazed joint: 1 – Fe-enriched Ni-Cr-Si solid solution, 2 – Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallic, 3 – chromium phosphide.

material and the braze metal in comparison to the as-received condition. After vacuum brazing, N2 contents of 0.04 wt.% in the braze metal and 0.07 wt.% in the base material were determined. In contrast, the nitrogen content in samples brazed in a conveyor belt furnace, was strongly affected by the process gas. The N2 content in the braze metal increased to 1.14 wt.% while the base material was enriched by $\ensuremath{N_2}$ to a value of 0.4 wt.%. In comparison to the as-received condition, the N2 contents of the base material and the braze metal increased significantly. The enhanced diffusion of nitrogen atoms into the braze metal and the base material is caused by the high brazing temperature as well known from nitriding processes of steels [10]. Additionally, it can be seen that the braze metal was more intensively enriched with N₂ in comparison to the base material. During the brazing process, the braze metal is liquid and can absorb a higher amount of N2 in comparison to the base material in its solid state.

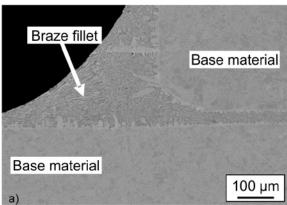
5 Corrosive aging

The results reported in [8] show that the nitrogen enrichment has a significant influence on the corrosion behaviour of the brazed joints. As many brazed components experience cyclic loads as well, the fatigue behaviour of corrosively affected brazed joints was studied. The corrosive aging was performed in the model exhaust gas condensate K1.2 at a temperature of 70°C for 15 h according to [11]. The selected condensate is essentially a chloride-containing, mineral acid solution with a pH of 1.2 [9].

The fatigue behaviour was determined before and after corrosion attack. In **Fig. 2**, cross-sections of the brazed samples after corrosion attack are presented. It can be seen that the vacuum brazed joints are not visibly affected by corrosion, **Fig. 2a**. In contrast, the joint brazed in process gas demonstrates significant corrosion. The damage due to corrosion occurs in the braze fillet as well as in the base material, **Fig. 2b**.

6 Fatigue tests

To evaluate the mechanical properties and the fatigue behaviour of the joints, monotonic tensile tests as well as fatigue tests at ambient temperature were carried out. Single lap samples with a joining area of $6 \text{ mm} \times 5 \text{ mm}$ were used for mechanical testing. The tensile tests were conducted in a Zwick Allround-Line 20 kN material testing machine. For all joints brazed with Ni60CrPSi, a monotonic tensile shear strength of 185 MPa was determined. The fatigue tests were carried out on a RUMUL resonance pulsator under load-controlled condition with a load ratio of R = 0.1 and resonance frequency of 100 Hz. Three samples per stress level were tested for the joints brazed in vacuum and in process gas. The fatigue tests were carried out in the high-cycle fatigue (HCF) range up to $N = 2 \times 10^6$ cycles. Three stress levels (70, 50 and 30%) were set based on the measured tensile shear strength of the brazed joints. In Fig. 3, the results of the fatigue tests of the investigated brazed joints before and after corrosion testing are presented. For the vacuum brazed joints, the comparison of the S-N data shows that similar numbers of cycles were reached at all stress levels employed. At the highest stress level (58 MPa), which corresponds to 70% of the monotonic tensile shear strength, failure occurred at 5×10^4 cycles. At a lower stress level of 37.5 MPa, which corresponds to 50% of the monotonic tensile shear strength, the number of cycles to failure increases to 5×10^5 . At the lowest stress



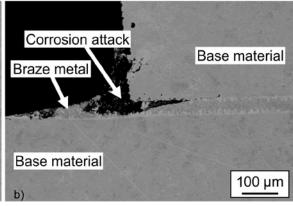


Fig. 2 • Cross-sections of samples brazed in: a) vacuum, b) process gas (BSD) after exposure to the model exhaust gas condensate K1.2; see main text for details.

level, which corresponds to 30% of the monotonic tensile shear strength, the samples reached the set limit of 2×10^6 cycles at a stress amplitude of 25 MPa in both cases. In essence, the corrosive aging did not influence the fatigue behaviour of the vacuum brazed joints.

In contrast, the endurable number of cycles decreased at all stress levels for the joints brazed in process gas due to the corrosion attack. Without corrosive aging, the joints reached the same numbers of cycles as the vacuum brazed joints. After corrosion aging, at the highest stress level of 58 MPa, the number of cycles to failure decreased from 5×10^4 to $1.5\times$ 10⁴ cycles, which corresponds to a 70% decrease. At the lower stress level of 37.5 MPa, the number of cycles to failure decreased to 2.6×10^5 , which corresponds to a 48% decrease. At the lowest stress level of 25 MPa, these joints did not reach the set limit of 2×10^6 cycles. The number of cycles to failure decreased to 1.3×10^6 , which corresponds to a 35% decrease. Clearly, the nitrogen enrichment results in significant corrosion fatigue susceptibility for these joints.

7 Fractography

In order to determine the damage mechanisms for the fatigue tested joints without corrosive aging and after corrosive aging, the fracture surfaces were investigated by SEM. In **Fig. 4** and **Fig. 5**, cross-sections of the fracture surfaces of the fatigue tested samples are presented. It turned out that the fatigue tested joints without (**Fig. 4**) and after (**Fig. 5**) corrosive aging show the same fracture mechanism at all stress levels employed.

It can be seen that the cracks occur in the Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallics in the eutectic and run through the braze metal. This is caused by the high hardness of these intermetallics with small grain size. The same fracture mechanism occurs during micro-hardness measurements. In **Fig. 6**, an indent in the eutectic of the braze metal is shown. During the hardness measurements, the cracks arise in the hard and brittle Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallics, while the Fe enriched Ni-Cr-Si solid solution shows a ductile behaviour. The actual micro-hardness values were not evaluated due to the small size of the intermetallics,

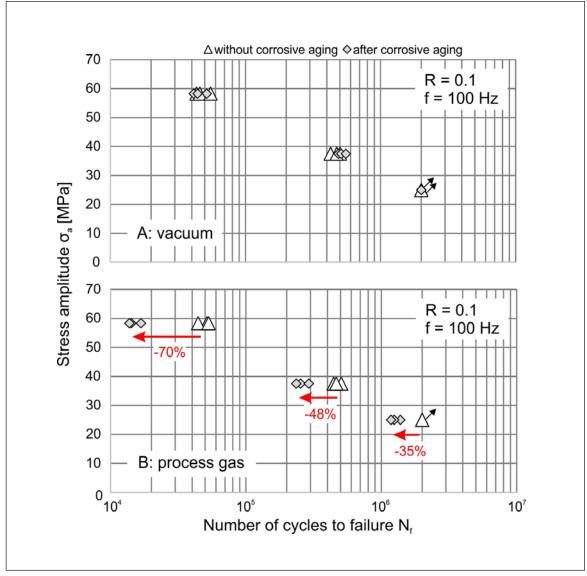


Fig. 3 • S-N data demonstrating the difference in corrosion fatigue behaviour of the stainless steel joints brazed in: a) vacuum, b) process gas.

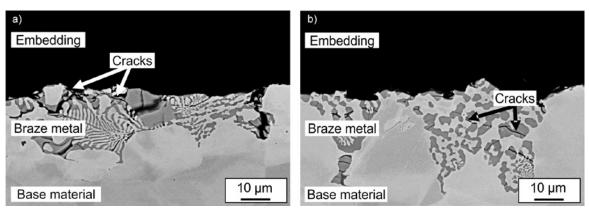


Fig. 4 • Cross-sections of the fracture surface of fatigue tested samples brazed in: a) vacuum ($\sigma_a = 37.5$ MPa, N = 5 × 10⁴), b) process gas ($\sigma_a = 37.5$ MPa, N = 5 × 10⁴) without corrosive aging (BSD contrast).

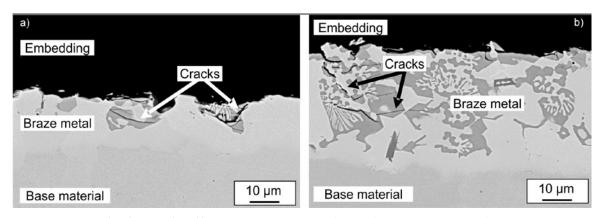


Fig. 5 • Cross-sections of the fracture surface of fatigue tested samples brazed in: a) vacuum ($\sigma_a = 37.5$ MPa, N = 5×10^4), b) process gas ($\sigma_a = 37.5$ MPa, N = 1.5×10^4) after corrosive aging (BSD contrast).

which are smaller than the indents. Apparently, the main trigger for fatigue crack initiation in stainless steel joints, brazed with the Ni60CrPSi filler, is the difference in the hardness of solid solution and intermetallics.

8 Conclusions

Brazed specimen made of austenitic stainless steel (AISI 304) and a nickel-chromium based filler metal (Ni60CrPSi) were produced at 1125°C in a vacuum furnace and in a conveyor belt furnace applying nitrogen containing process gases. The nitrogen content in the braze fillets and brazed seams, respectively, as well as in the base material was determined by carrier gas hot extraction. It was determined that the braze metal is more intensively enriched with nitrogen in comparison to the base material. The results of the corrosive aging show that the joints brazed in nitrogen containing process gas are more susceptible to corrosion attack than the vacuum brazed joints. For all joints brazed with Ni60CrPSi, a monotonic tensile shear strength of 185 MPa was determined. In addition, it was observed that without corrosive attack, the fatigue behaviour of joints brazed in vacuum and process gas is similar. The fatigue endurance limit defined at 2×10^6 cycles was around 25 MPa. After corrosion attack, the vacuum brazed joints reached the same numbers of cycles to failure at all

stress levels as without corrosion attack. Consequently, the corrosive environment did not influence the fatigue behaviour of the vacuum brazed joints significantly. In contrast, the number of cycles to failure decreased at all stress levels for the joints brazed in process gas. At the lowest stress amplitude of 25 MPa, these joints reached only 1.3×10^6 cycles. Consequently, the nitrogen enrichment results in significant susceptibility to corrosion fatigue of these joints.

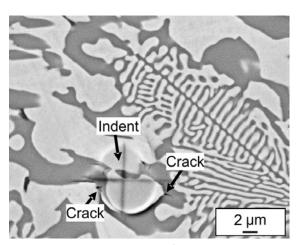


Fig. 6 • Indent in the eutectic consisting of Fe-enriched Ni-Cr-Si solid solution and the Cr-enriched Ni-P intermetallic resulting in crack formation (BSD contrast).

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Development and evaluation of alternative materials for friction stir welding of steel

During the friction stir welding process (FSW) of steel, the tool is subjected to extremely high temperatures of approximately 1200°C and corrosive and abrasive wear. Therefore, the requirements for mechanical, chemical and tribological resistance at high temperatures demand material systems with outstanding properties. Thus, occurring stresses of the tool and its interaction with the workpiece to be welded is of particular importance. The article reports about development and evaluation of ceramic tools for the FSW.

Introduction

Friction Stir Welding (FSW) was developed in 1991 at The Welding Institute (TWI) in the UK and has become a widely used method of welding aluminium and copper structures. The method is based on a simultaneous application of pressure and friction which generates heat that leads to the softening of the join parts to be welded. Due to stirring the tool in the softened metal

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Dipl.-Ing. Steffen Risse completed his studies of mechanical engineering with a specialisation in design at the HTW Berlin — University of Applied Sciences. After his studies he qualified as a welding engineer and is employed at the SLV Berlin-Brandenburg in the field of research and development. In 2015 he successfully completed his Master (M.Sc.) in mechanical engineering and lightweight construction.



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KEYWORDS friction stir welding

the connection of the components is ensured, as shown in Fig. 1. Besides the resulting high quality of the welds, FSW offers a multitude of advantages such as the ability to join materials that are difficult to fusion weld, for example aluminium alloys, magnesium and copper, and a good suitability for automation and adaptability for robot use. Due to low distortion and shrinkage even in long welds, excellent mechanical properties in fatigue, tensile and bend strengths can be achieved. In contrast to conventional processes, no arcs or fumes are produced, which is beneficial for health and environmental protection aspects. The welding process also shows benefits due to the lack of need for welding consumables and auxiliaries along with high potential for saving resources and energy. From an environmental point of view, it can be noted that FSW produces less waste in the form of slag, weld residue, pre-treatment, as compared to molten welding processes, and thus does not result in environmental stress from contained alloying elements, i.e. expensive recycling processes are not required [1, 2].

As a potential group of users, in particular shipbuilding, vehicle construction and general steel construction

can be seen, in which long welds of large-area components and structures are prefabricated in assembly halls. Through the use of friction stir welding, the production costs of welds due to the shorter joint preparation and post-processing times, and faster welding speeds can be drastically reduced, and thus competitiveness is increased.

Numerous investigations have already examined the transferability of FSW to the welding of steel structures. Besides conventional construction steels, the principle of weldability has been demonstrated on various steel systems as austenitic steels, dual phase steels and stainless steels. Here the sheet thicknesses that could have been welded amounted to up to 20 mm in a single-layer process. [3-13]

During the welding process of steel, the tool is subjected to extremely high temperatures of approximately 1200°C and corrosive and abrasive wear. Therefore, the requirements for mechanical, chemical and tribological resistance at high temperatures demand material systems with outstanding properties. Thus, occurring stresses of the tool and its interaction with the workpiece to be welded is of particular importance. The current standard is, in addition to special alloys (e.g. tungsten-rhenium, tantalum base materials) and solid carbides, the use of pcBN tools (polycrystalline cubic boron nitride). While metallic tools do not show sufficient wear resistance, pcBN, due to its atomic structure, has a very high hardness and excellent wear resistance, but also shows the brittleness that is common for ceramic hard materials, increasing the risk of fractures during use under overload. Moreover, as a consequence of high raw material and production costs and a limited number of manufacturers, the availability of tools for the FSW of steels is insufficient. [14, 15]

Hence, in course of the present work, common ceramic materials are to be tested, in order to find a more economical and adequate replacement for pcBN-tools. Ceramic material systems have already proven their application potential and in particular their cost-effectiveness in many areas of steel production

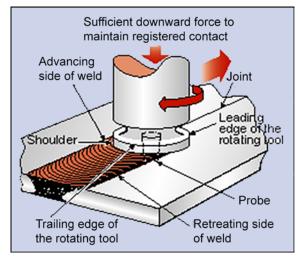


Fig. 1 • Scheme of the operating principle of FSW.

and processing. From the materials used in the field of smelting metallurgy in the lining of blast furnaces and casting machines to high-performance cutting tools, the performance of ceramic materials in interaction with steel has been demonstrated.

Experimental results

For the experimental setup the following materials were used as tool material: Al_2O_3 , ZrO_2 (both BCE Special Ceramic GmbH, Germany) SiC and Si_3N_4 (both FCT Ingenieurkeramik GmbH, Germany). The respective material properties can be found in $\mbox{Tab. 1}$. In case of tested steels, the unalloyed steel S235JR / 1.0038 as well as the austenitic stainless steel X5CrNi18-10 /1.4301 were used.

For the determination of the wear resistance of the respective tool material against steel, a tribology test stand, equipped with a steel disk with a diameter of 200 mm, a rotating speed of appr. 120 rpm and a contact force of 10 N was used. The contact time between steel and ceramic material amounted to 2 h, in order to overcome the detection limit. For the quantification of wear, an optical profilometer, based on a chromatic white light

Table 1 • Material properties of the tested ceramics.

Material property	Al ₂ O ₃	ZrO ₂	Si ₃ N ₄	SiC
Fracture toughness [MPa·Vm]	4,3	7	6	3,5
Hardness [MPa]	1800	1200	1600	2600
Bending strength [MPa]	340	500	990	400
Poisson number [-]	0,22	0,3	0,26	0,15
Young's modulus [GPa]	380	200	320	400
CTE RT-1000 °C [10 ⁻⁶ K ⁻¹]	8,5	10,5	3,0	4,5
Thermal conductivity [W/mK]	30	2	30	140
Thermal shock parameter R2 [W/m]	0,0025	0,0003	0,0229	0,0264

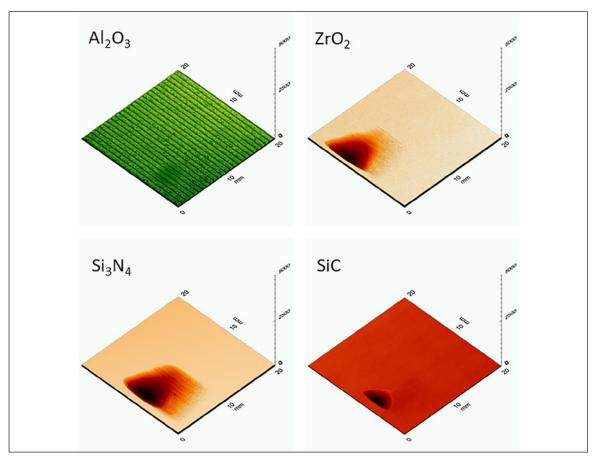


Fig. 2 • Determination of the wear resistance of the respective ceramic materials against steel.

measurement, was used. The results of the tribology test can be seen in Fig. 2.

It shows that in good agreement with e.g. the hardness, the materials are subject to different wear. Hence, alumina as well as silicon carbide show a promising resistance towards wear, due to steel. In contrast, the less hard zirconia and silicon nitride show more pronounced tribologically related effects. During FSW process the tool suffers from, besides those tribological stresses, thermally induced damage. Therefore, the determination of the resistance of the ceramics against steel at elevated temperatures took place at 1100°C, 1200°C or 1300°C, respectively. The different steel and ceramic combinations we realized by putting them on top of each other without the application of any additional forces within the furnace. Under oxidizing atmosphere, the dwell time amounted to 5 h. The influence

of the temperature on the thermo-chemical resistance of ceramic tool materials against steel at the example of Si_3N_4 and construction steel S235JR is depicted in Fig. 3. It shows that the reactivity between steel (solid state) and the respective ceramic materials increases with increasing temperature. This trend could be observed in case of every combination, irrespective of the kind of steel as well as of ceramic material. Fig. 4 indicates the great influence of the ceramic material on the thermo-chemical resistance against steel. As can be clearly seen, the reaction zone is much less pronounced in case of oxidic tool materials. In contrast, the silicon nitride shows deep penetration zones, favouring thermo-mechanical wear of the tool during operation. The SiC sample led to the formation of silicides and the reduction of the melting point of the steel already at 1200°C and therefore proved to be inadequate.

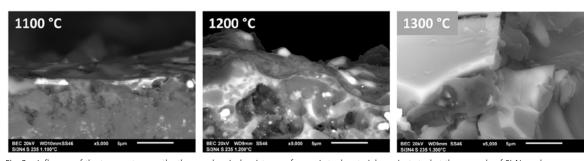


Fig. 3 • Influence of the temperature on the thermo-chemical resistance of ceramic tool materials against steel at the example of Si₃N₄ and construction steel S235JR.

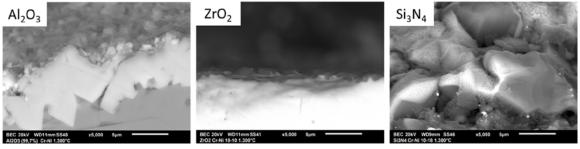


Fig. 4 • Influence of the ceramic material on the thermo-chemical resistance against steel at the example of 1300°C and austenitic stainless steel X5CrNi18-10.



Fig. 5 • Experimental set-up for test under realistic conditions with FSW-machine from HLR Systems, Germany (left), tool holder including Si₃N₄-tool (middle), test route (right).

After the pre-evaluation, the respective tool materials were tested under realistic conditions. Therefore, the experimental set-up, shown in Fig. 5, was used, which included a FSW-machine (HLR Systems, Germany), the tool holder as well as test steel sheets, made of either S235JR / 1.0038 or X5CrNi18-10 /1.4301 with a dimension of 200 mm \times 200 mm \times 6 mm. The welding

parameters were a contact force of appr. $25\,\mathrm{kN}$, number of revolutions of 670 rpm and a feed motion of $5\,\mathrm{mm/s}$. A test route length of 600 mm was chosen.

Interestingly, the experiments under real conditions show exactly the opposite behaviour compared to the previous results, as can be seen in Fig. 6. Irrespective of the used steel grade both the alumina as well as the

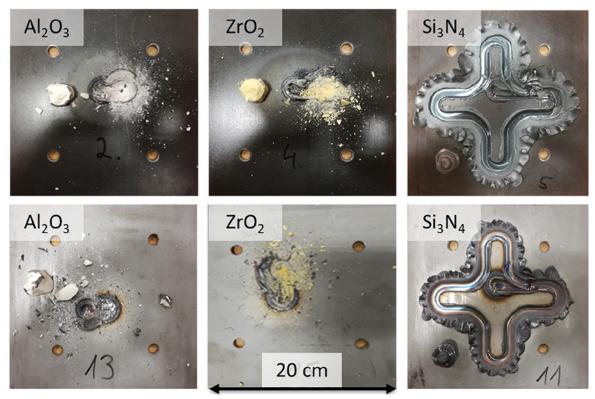


Fig. 6 • Results of the tests of oxide as well as non-oxide tools in combination with steel S235JR (top row) or X5CrNi18-10 (bottom row) under realistic conditions.



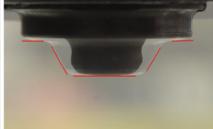


Fig. 7 • Experimental set-up for wear resistance determination (left), Si₃N₄-tool before and after 12 immersions and 9,5 m welding length (right).

zirconia tools were completely destroyed after applying the feed motion. This was preceded by a clearly audible cracking noise immediately after the shoulder, which corresponds to the largest diameter of the tool, hit the steel sheet. The tools are tested in the cold state and begin to glow red only after a few seconds after immersion, which leads to a thermal shock of the ceramic material. In case of the $\mathrm{Si}_3\mathrm{N}_4$ -tools, however, no noise could be observed. As a matter of fact, the entire test route could be driven off, without the formation of defects in the tool. Taking Tab. 1 into consideration, it becomes clear that $\mathrm{Si}_3\mathrm{N}_4$ has significantly better thermal shock resistance and is therefore able to withstand the harsh conditions during welding.

In order to evaluate the wear and thus the long-term stability, a $\rm Si_3N_4$ -tool was immersed into a S235JR steel sheet with a thickness of 6 mm for 20 times and additionally a welding length of 9,5 m was generated. The tool was still intact even after these stresses, even though significant wear is recognizable, as depicted in Fig. 7. The most pronounced wear is detectable in the cross-section of the pin, which is to be traceable back to the feed motion as well as the convection of the steel.

After confirming the suitability of $\mathrm{Si}_3\mathrm{N}_4$ as material for friction stir welding, its influence on the mechanical properties of the weld had to be checked. Therefore, steel sheets (S235JR) with a thickness of 8 mm had been welded on both sides with a $\mathrm{Si}_3\mathrm{N}_4$ -tool and the following

Table 2 ◆ Comparison of the failure-relevant material characteristics of the new composite material with those the standard material pcBN.

Material property	WC-ZrO₂	pcBN
Fracture toughness [MPa*m ^{1/2}]	10,4	6
Hardness [MPa]	2285	-
Bending strength [MPa]	1139	800
Poisson number [-]	0,25	0,25
Youngs modulus [GPa]	189	400
Thermal expansion coefficient RT-1000 °C [10 ⁻⁶ K ⁻¹]	7	4,9
Thermal conductivity [W/mK]	50	100
Thermal shock parameter R2* [W/m]	0,0323	0,0306

parameters; contact force: 25 kN, number of revolutions: 475 rpm, and a feed motion of approx. 300 mm/min. As evident from **Fig. 8**, the fracture-causing defect and hence, the failure of the tensile test is located in the base material. As a logical consequence, the determined tensile strength equates to that of steel S235JR. This shows that despite any contamination by the FSW-tool material, no negative influence on the mechanical properties of the join parts is observed.

In order to generate tools with improved wear resistance and taking into account the previous results, the composite WC-ZrO₂ was chosen. This is due to the fact that ZrO₂ has proven itself in preliminary tests, with the exception of thermal shock resistance. WC, however, has good thermal conductivity (60 - 80 W/mK) and lower CTE (about $5 \times 10^{-6} \text{ K}^{-1}$) and thus improves thermal shock resistance. Moreover, the use of WC can result in the improvement of wear resistance, due to its high hardness, and enables the component to be inductively heated. The material based on 60 vol.-% ZrO₂ and 40 vol.-% WC was initially ground using an agitator bead mill. Subsequently, drying optimizations were carried out by means of freeze dryers and drying chambers. The optimum pressing conditions were determined by creating a compression pressure curve. By varying the sintering conditions, it has finally been possible to generate a nearly dense component. For this purpose, the cold isostatically pressed green bodies were sintered at 1550°C under nitrogen atmosphere for two hours. The sintered component was finally machined by BCE (see Fig. 9).

The determination of the material characteristics for the new composite material shows that it can be considered extremely promising, as shown in **Tab. 2.** Not only does it have better properties compared to the materials tested so far, but even a better performance than the costly pcBN can be expected. Friction stir welding tests have already confirmed its suitability.

Conclusions

In the course of the present work the problems of limited availability of tools and high prices were supposed to be addressed, which lead to the demand of commonly available ceramic alternatives. In this regard oxides show good tribological and thermo-chemical resistance towards steel, in contrast to non-oxides. However, tests under realistic conditions have shown that the thermal shock resistance as well as the fracture toughness of the tool materials is of great importance. Here, on the one

hand, the $\mathrm{Si_3N_4}$ possesses the best stability. On the other hand, the wear resistance is still in need of improvement, even though possible contaminations resulting from tool abrasion do not affect the mechanical properties of the weld negatively. Therefore, a new composite tool (WC-ZrO_2) has been developed that has outstanding properties and, consequently, can be classified as very promising.

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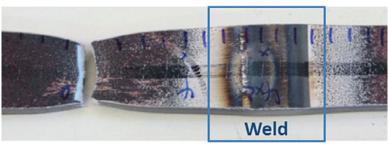


Fig. 8 • Steel sheets (S235JR) after welding on both sides (top), and after determination of the tensile strength (bottom).



Fig. 9 • First produced FSW tool made of WC-ZrO₂.

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Orbitalum Tools GmbH

Josef-Schüttler-Straße 17, D-78224 Singen

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Internet: www.otc-daihen.de

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▼ Submerged arc cladding

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Carl-Cloos-Straße 1, D-35708 Haiger

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E-Mail: contact@dodek.de Internet: www.dodek.de

pro-beam GmbH & Co. KGaA

Zeppelinstraße 26, 82205 Gilching

★ +49 89 899 233-0 ♣ +49 89 899 233-11

E-Mail: info@pro-beam.com Internet: www.pro-beam.com

PTR Strahltechnik GmbH

E-Mail: zentrale@ptr-ebeam.com Internet: www.ptr-ebeam.com

▼ Orbital welding equipment

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Internet: www.fronius.de

Orbitalum Tools GmbH

F-Mail: tools@orbitalum.com Internet: www.orbitalum.com

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▼ Leasing of welding plant and welding Equipment MSS Magdeburger Schweißtechnik GmbH

An der Sülze 6 D-39179 Barleben

other production processes

E-Mail: info@mss-schweisstechnik.de Internet: www.mss-schweisstechnik.de

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production processes

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HKS-Prozesstechnik GmbH Heinrich-Damerow-Straße 2, D-06120 Halle		▼ Radiographic testing	4710	Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG Otto-Hausmann-Ring 101, D-42115 Wuppertal
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Internet: www.hks-prozesstechnik.de		Helling GmbH Werkstoffprüfung und Gerätebau		E-Mail: info@karldeutsch.de
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Staalindustrieweg 15, NL-2952 AT Alblasserdam 2 +31 78 691-7011		E-Mail: info@helling.de Internet: www.helling.de		▼ ultraviolet lamps 57
E-Mail: info@valkwelding.com Internet: www.valkwelding.com		internet. www.neiling.de		KARL DEUTSCH
monot manages.		▼ Dye-penetration testing	4820	Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG
▼ Calibration	4220	KARL DEUTSCH		Otto-Hausmann-Ring 101, D-42115 Wuppertal Postfach: 132354, D-42050 Wuppertal
EWM AG		Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG Otto-Hausmann-Ring 101, D-42115 Wuppertal		★ +49 202 71-920
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E-Mail: info@ewm-group.com Internet: www.ewm-group.com		E-Mail: info@karldeutsch.de		Helling GmbH Werkstoffprüfung und Gerätebau
HKS-Prozesstechnik GmbH		Internet: www.karldeutsch.de		Spökerdamm 2, D-25436 Heidgraben
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Internet: www.hks-prozesstechnik.de		E-Mail: info@helling.de Internet: www.helling.de		
▼ Measuring devices for resistance welding (pulses, periods,		Helmut Klumpf		15 Testing Technology – Testing Procedures/ Testing
current and voltage) and Rogovski belts	4310	Technische Chemie KG		Facilities
HKS-Prozesstechnik GmbH Heinrich-Damerow-Straße 2, D-06120 Halle		Industriestraße 15, D-45699 Herten → +49 2366 1003-0 ♣ +49 2366 1003-11 E-Mail: klumpf@diffu-therm.de		▼ Test tables 61
 ★ +49 345 68 309-0		Internet: www.diffu-therm.de		Absaugtechnik Kalkhof Borker Straße 96, 45731 Waltrop
Internet: www.hks-prozesstechnik.de				雷 +49 2309 784763 島 +49 2309 784765 E-Mail: mail@absaugtechnik-kalkhof.de
▼ Coat-thickness, wall-thickness and crack-depth		▼ Design and analysis of welded structures	4905	Internet: www.absaugtechnik-kalkhof.de
measurement	4370	Ingenieurbüro Jürgen Bialek Halsbrücker Straße 34, D-09599 Freiberg		V Contract work and services for joining, separat-
KARL DEUTSCH		★ +49 3731 1625-29 長 +49 3731 1625-30 E-Mail: bialek@bialek-ing.de		Contract work and services for joining, separat- ing and coating
Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG Otto-Hausmann-Ring 101, D-42115 Wuppertal		Internet: www.bialek-ing.de		
Postfach: 132354, D-42050 Wuppertal ■ +49 202 71-920				
E-Mail: info@karldeutsch.de		▼ Magnetic testing	5110	
Internet: www.karldeutsch.de		KARL DEUTSCH Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG		2 Sub-contracting – Processing of specific materials
▼ Monitoring devices for arc welding	4440	Otto-Hausmann-Ring 101, D-42115 Wuppertal Postfach: 132354, D-42050 Wuppertal		▼ Coated and plated materials 70
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E-Mail: info@valkwelding.com		Helling GmbH		E-Mail: info@durum.de Internet: www.durmat.com
Internet: www.valkwelding.com		Werkstoffprüfung und Gerätebau Spökerdamm 2, D-25436 Heidgraben		VAUTID GmbH
▼ Monitoring devices for resistance welding	4450	★ +49 4122 922-0		Pioneering Wear Protection Brunnwiesenstraße 5, D-73760 Ostfildern
HKS-Prozesstechnik GmbH		Internet: www.helling.de		2 +49 711 4404-0
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E-Mail: info@hks-prozesstechnik.de				
Internet: www.hks-prozesstechnik.de				

Welding Alloys Dediscillatio dilibit		▼ Ivicial spraying	7000
Ostring 52, D-47669 Wachtendonk		DURUM VERSCHLEISS-SCHUTZ GMBH	
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Internet: www.welding-alloys.com		★ +49 21 54 48 37-0 ♣ +49 21 54 48 37-78	
3		E-Mail: info@durum.de	
▼ Platinum, gold, silver	7320	Internet: www.durmat.com	
	7320		
Johnson Matthey & Brandenberger AG Glattalstrasse 18. CH-8052 Zürich		▼ Robot welding TIG/MIG/MAG	7940
☎ +41 44 307 19-30 ♣ +41 44 307 19-20		Panasonic Industry Europe GmbH	
-Mail: info@matthey.com		Jagenbergstraße 11a, 41468 Neuss	
nternet: www.johnson-matthey.ch		2 +49 2131 60899-0	
		E-Mail: robots@eu.panasonic.com Internet: www.panasonicrobotics.eu	
▼ Superalloys (hot isostatic pressure)	7390		
		Valk Welding B.V. Staalindustrieweg 15, NL-2952 AT Alblasserdam	
DURUM VERSCHLEISS-SCHUTZ GMBH Carl-Friedrich-Benz-Straße 7, D-47877 Willich		2 +31 78 691-7011	
☎ +49 21 54 48 37-0 🖶 +49 21 54 48 37-78		E-Mail: info@valkwelding.com	
E-Mail: info@durum.de		Internet: www.valkwelding.com	
Internet: www.durmat.com			
		▼ Friction stir welding	7960
Sub-contracting – Application of joining and of some sub-contracting – Application of some sub-contr	other	RRS Schilling GmbH Industriestraße 30, D-21493 Schwarzenbek (Hamburg)	
manufacturing processes		1 +49 4151 87945-71	
		E-Mail: buero@schweissen-aber-sicher.de	
▼ Surfacing	7710	Internet: www.schweissen-aber-sicher.de	
DURUM VERSCHLEISS-SCHUTZ GMBH			
Carl-Friedrich-Benz-Straße 7, D-47877 Willich +49 21 54 48 37-0		▼ Maintenance, servicing, repair	8070
- +49 21 34 46 37-0 🖨 +49 21 34 46 37-76		KEMPER GmbH	
nternet: www.durmat.com		Von-Siemens-Straße 20. D-48691 Vreden	
MUTID O		≅ +49 25 6468-0	
/AUTID GmbH Pioneering Wear Protection		E-Mail: mail@kemper.de	
Brunnwiesenstraße 5, D-73760 Ostfildern		Internet: www.kemper.de	
		Welding Alloys Deutschland GmbH	
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nternet: www.vautid.com		★ +49 2836 9119-0 ♣ +49 2836 9119-18	
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2 +49 2836 9119-0			
E-Mail: info.germany@welding-alloys.com Internet: www.welding-alloys.com		Commissions advantion and training and final	
internet. www.wording anoys.com		5 Organizations, education and training, certification research, information transfer, technical literature	
▼ Flootron locar beam wolding	7770	regulations	t allu
▼ Electron, laser beam welding	7770	rogulatione	
Listemann AG		▼ Accreditation and certification organizations	8090
Werkstoff- und Wärmebehandlungstechnik Sulzer Allee 25, CH-8404 Oberwinterthur		DVS – Kursstätten	
* +41 52 2625 622		Internet: www.DVS-Bildungseinrichtungen.de	
-Mail: b.kuntzmann@listemann.com			
nternet: www.listemann.com		Acceptance approval examination and aunorvicery	
oro-beam GmbH & Co. KGaA		 Acceptance, approval, examination and supervisory organizations 	8100
Zeppelinstraße 26, 82205 Gilching			
≅ +49 89 899 233-0 ≜ +49 89 899 233-11		DVS – Kursstätten	
E-Mail: info@pro-beam.com nternet: www.pro-beam.com		Internet: www.DVS-Bildungseinrichtungen.de	
·			
PTR Strahltechnik GmbH		▼ Technical publishers, Libraries (literature, codes of practice,	
Am Erlenbruch 9, D-63505 Langenselbold +49 61 84 20 55-0		educational films, software, CD-ROM services,	0100
= +49 61 64 20 55-0		audiovisual media, digital media)	8130
nternet: www.ptr-ebeam.com		DVS Media GmbH	
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-Mail: info@sst-ebeam.com			
nternet: www.sst-ebeam.com			
▼ High-temperature brazing in vacuum	7805		

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Index to Companies

Company	Product
Absaugtechnik Kalkhof	1390, 1450, 1510, 6125
AS - Arnhold - GmbH	20
BAVARIA Schweißtechnik GmbH	2200, 2250, 2300
Bergmann & Steffen GmbH	30, 180, 250, 280, 410
Chemetall GmbH	3830
Carl Cloos Schweißtechnik GmbH	80, 180, 250, 280, 360, 420, 1030, 2860
Deloro Wear Solutions GmbH	280, 460, 2220, 2270, 2300, 2380, 2410
Demmeler Maschinenbau GmbH & Co. KG	1390, 1760, 1910, 2040
KARL DEUTSCH Prüf- und Messgerätebau GmbH + Co KG	4370, 4820, 5110, 5730, 5755
Dodek GmbH & Co. KG	1020, 1030, 1390, 1400, 1450, 1460, 1510, 2740, 2860
Paul Druseidt Elektrotechnische Spezialfabrik GmbH & Co. KG	2020, 2030
DURUM VERSCHLEISS-SCHUTZ GMBH	100, 180, 280, 2220, 2250, 2270, 2280, 2290, 2360, 2370, 2380, 2400, 2410, 2440, 2450, 2460, 2470, 7050, 7390, 7710, 7890
DVS – Deutscher Verband für Schweißen und verwandte Verfahren e. V.	8090, 8100
DVS Media GmbH	8130
DWT GmbH	1250, 1380, 1910, 2060, 2090, 2900
Evobeam GmbH	60, 180
EWM AG	100, 190, 200, 250, 280, 420, 490, 600, 2160, 2200, 2220, 2270, 2280, 2320, 2960, 4200, 4220
Fronius Deutschland GmbH	100, 190, 200, 240, 250, 270, 360, 420, 490, 600, 1010, 1040
Füchtenkötter GmbH	1390, 1450, 1460, 1480, 1510, 1530
Harnischmacher GmbH Löttechnik & Wärmebehandlungen	560
Helling GmbH Werkstoffprüfung und Gerätebau	4670, 4710, 4820, 5110, 5580, 5755
HKS-Prozeßtechnik GmbH	4150, 4200, 4220, 4310, 4450
HPS Filtertechnische Anlagen GmbH	1390, 1450, 1510, 1540, 1550
Hyundai Welding GmbH	2160, 2200, 2280
igm Robotersysteme AG	250, 270, 360

Company	Product
Inelco Grinders A/S	420
Ingenieurbüro Jürgen Bialek	4561, 4562, 4905, 5505
INNOBRAZE GmbH	2580, 2590, 2610, 2690, 2700, 2720, 3960
JÄCKLE & ESS System GmbH	190, 200, 250, 420, 2860
Johnson Matthey & Brandenberger AG	2510, 2530, 2540, 2570, 2580, 2590, 2600, 2610, 2620, 2630, 2650, 2660, 2670, 2680, 2690, 2700, 2710, 2720, 2730, 3890, 7320
Josch Strahlschweißtechnik GmbH	60
KEMPER GmbH	1390, 1430, 1450, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1550, 1670, 8070
Helmut Klumpf Technische Chemie KG	4820, 5110
Köster & Co. GmbH	20, 1000
LaVa-X GmbH	60, 180
Listemann Technology AG	7770
Lorch Schweißtechnik GmbH	190, 200, 250, 420, 490
MERKLE Schweißanlagen-Technik GmbH	190, 200, 250, 270, 420, 1760
MIG·O·MAT Mikrofügetechnik GmbH	280
MIGATRONIC Schweißmaschinen GmbH	190, 200, 250, 270, 280, 420, 600
MSS Magdeburger Schweißtechnik GmbH	1091
Optrel AG	1670
Orbitalum Tools GmbH tools for piping systems	200, 420, 490, 1040, 1250, 1300, 1330, 2090
OTC DAIHEN EUROPE GmbH	180, 190, 200, 250, 270, 420, 600, 2860, 3000
Panasonic Industry Europe GmbH	180, 200, 250, 270, 360, 490, 7940
PFARR Stanztechnik GmbH	2550, 2600, 2630, 2680, 2690
PLYMOVENT GmbH	1390, 1430, 1450, 1510
pro-beam GmbH & Co. KGaA	60, 180, 1030, 3030, 7770
PROTEM GmbH	1240, 1250, 1300
PTR Strahltechnik GmbH	60, 1030, 2810, 3030, 7770
REHM GmbH u. Co. KG Schweißtechnik	250, 420
RRS Schilling GmbH	7960

Index to Companies

Company	Product
SBI GmbH	270, 280, 450
Bernd Siegmund GmbH	1390, 1910, 2040
simufact engineering gmbh	2950, 3010
SKS Welding Systems GmbH	190, 200, 250, 270, 600, 1750, 2960, 3010
SLV Service GmbH	7770
Solvay Fluor GmbH	3890
Heinz Soyer GmbH Bolzenschweißtechnik	20, 1000
Lothar Spahn Konstruktionsbüro	490, 500, 2740
Steigerwald Strahltechnik GmbH	60, 2810, 7770
Technolit GmbH	250, 2270
TEKA Absaug- und Entsorgungstechnologie GmbH	1390, 1430, 1450, 1480, 1490, 1500, 1510, 1650

Company	Product
J. Thielmann Gesellschaft für Automatisierungstechnik mbH	1010
Valk Welding B.V.	200, 250, 420, 490, 1740, 1750, 2160, 2190, 2200, 2220, 2270, 2320, 2740, 2860, 4200, 4440, 7940
VAUTID GmbH Pioneering Wear Protecion	2220, 2250, 2270, 2280, 7050, 7710
Welding Alloys Deutschland GmbH	100, 490, 500, 2160, 2170, 2180, 2190, 2200, 2210, 2220, 2280, 2400, 2930, 7050, 7710, 8070
DiplIng. K. Weinhold GmbH & Co. KG	1960
Weldas Europe B.V.	1660
Westfälische Drahtindustrie GmbH	2200, 2270, 2310, 2450
H.P. Wirth GmbH	2560, 2580, 2610, 2630, 2670, 2680, 2690, 3890

1	Plant and equipment for joining,	6 10	Light beam brazing and soldering	□ 1092	leasing of welding manipulators
'	surfacing and cutting processes	1 620	Bath, wave and drag soldering	1032	leasing of welding manipulators
	carrier g area carrier g processes	□ 630 □ 640	Microbrazing and soldering Furnace brazing and soldering		
		□ 650	Friction soldering	II	Plant and equipment for heat
1	Plant and equipment, including auto-	□ 660 □ 670	Salt bath brazing		treatment and other production
	mation, mechanization and industrial	□ 670 □ 680	Wave soldering Wave Soldering		processes
	robots, for the welding of metal, cera- mic and composite materials	□ 690	Dip brazing and soldering		
	•	700 710	Ultrasonic soldering Hot gas soldering		
□ 10 □ 20	Flash welding Stud welding	720	Resistance brazing	1	Plant and equipment, including auto-
3 0	Projection welding	7 30	Reflow soldering		mation, mechanization and industrial robots, for heat treatment
4 0	Diffusion welding			- 1100	•
□ 50 □ 60	Electrogas welding Electron beam welding	,	Dlant and anythmant including out	☐ 1100 ☐ 1110	Diffusion annealing Flame stress relieving
7 0	Electroslag welding	4	Plant and equipment, including auto- mation, mechanization and industrial	1 120	Flame straightening
□ 80 □ 90	Narrow gap welding Tubular wire welding		robots, for the welding of plastics	☐ 1130 ☐ 1140	Flame heating Hardening, tempering, annealing
1 00	Flux cored arc welding	1 740	Extrusion welding	1 150	Induction heating
☐ 110 ☐ 120	Gas pressure welding Gas welding	7 50	Heated tool welding	☐ 1160 ☐ 1170	Normalizing Furnace heating
1 130	Thermit welding	□ 760 □ 770	High frequency welding of plastics Infrared-welding	1 1180	Stress relief annealing
1 40	Induction welding	770 780	Laser welding of plastics	1190	Soft annealing
□ 150 □ 160	Cold pressure welding Enclosed resistance fusion welding	790	Light beam welding of plastics	□ 1200	Resistance heating
1 70	Capacitor discharge welding	□ 800 □ 810	Friction welding of plastics Rotational friction welding		
□ 180 □ 190	Laser welding Manual metal arc welding	□ 820	Ultrasonic welding of plastics	2	Plant and equipment, including auto-
2 00	Pulsed arc welding	□ 830 □ 840	Vibration welding of plastics Hot gas welding of plastics		mation, mechanization and industrial
☐ 210 ☐ 220	Light beam welding Linear friction welding, Friction stir Welding	3 0.0	The gas wording of plastics		robots, for other production processes
230	Magnetic pulse welding			1 210	Bending, pipe bending
□ 240 □ 250	Multiple-wire welding MIG/MAG (GMA) welding	5	Plant and equipment and joining	□ 1220 □ 1230	Millining, compressing, drawing Drilling
2 260	Microwelding		elements, including automation, mechanization and industrial robots, for	1240	Turning, milling, planing
□ 270 □ 280	Plasma-TIG welding Plasma welding		positive and non-positive joining	1 250	Edge preparation (e.g. plate and pipe chamfering machines)
290	Resistance butt welding	□ 850	Flanging	1 260	Casting
□ 300 □ 310	Seam welding	□ 860	Wire netting, wire weaving	□ 1270 □ 1280	Surface preparation and finishing Polishing
320	Butt seam welding with rotary transformer Frictin stir welding	□ 870 □ 880	Tamp joining Hanging, expanding, clamping, wedging,	□ 1290	Cold dressing
330	Explosive welding	□ 000	extending	□ 1300 □ 1310	Sawing Sintering and hot isostatic pressing
□ 340 □ 350	Butt seam welding with sliding contacts Magnetically impelled arc butt (MIAB) welding	□ 890 □ 900	Seaming Joining by extrusion or drawing	1320	Grinding
□ 360	Tandem welding	910	Joining by extrusion of drawing Joining by forming	□ 1330 □ 1340	Cutting (e.g. plate shearing), slamping, nibbling
□ 370 □ 380	Ultrasonic welding Firecracker welding	920	Joining by lockforming (lockseaming)	1 1345	Welding conditioning Impact treatment
□ 390	Submerged arc welding	930 940	Joining by compression or squeezing Joining by widening or tightening (rolling in of	1350	Blasting
□ 400 □ 410	Roll butt seam welding Resistance spot welding		tubes, botting, beading)	□ 1360 □ 1370	Vibratory stress relieving Pumping
420	TIG (GTA) welding	□ 950 □ 960	Joining by winding Stapeling (using by wirestaples)		
		9 70	Riveting		
		□ 980	Pressure joining (press-fitting, shrink-fitting, expansion-fitting)	3	Workshop and workplace equipment,
2	Plant and equipment, including auto- mation, mechanization and industrial	□ 990	Screwing		safety equipment
	robots, for weld surfacing and cladding	□ 1000	Joining elements (rivets, tubular rivets, tap rivets, pop rivets, blind rivet nuts, bolts, screws)	□ 1380	Slinging gear, cranes and elevators (crane systems, lifting forks and beams, slewing
4 30	Additive manufacturing				cranes, lifting magnets, electric chain hoists)
440	Electroslag cladding			□ 1390 □ 1400	Work tables (e.g. welding and cutting tables) Heat recovery systems
□ 450 □ 460	Laser cladding Plasma cladding	6	Plant and equipment, including auto-	1 410	Load turning devices
470	Friction cladding		mation, mechanization and industrial robots, for special applications	□ 1420 □ 1430	Transparent/opaque screens Soldering fume filters
□ 480 □ 490	Explosive and roll cladding Gas shielded arc cladding			☐ 1430 ☐ 1440	Machine protection gates
5 00	Submerged arc cladding	1 010	Torch cleaning, automatic torch cleaning systems	1 450	At-source welding fume extraction systems
		1 020	Systems for feeding, positioning, tipping or	1 1460	(stationary, mobile) Sound absorbing materials, soundproof
2	Dignt and aguingment including auto	1 1030	conveying (e.g. nut feeding systems) Production equipment and production lines	1 1470	chambers
3	Plant and equipment, including auto- mation, mechanization and industrial	□ 1040	Orbital welding equipment	14/0	Safety device for industrial robots (e.g. door locking systems, control boards,
	robots, for brazing and soldering	□ 1050 □ 1060	Stack cutting Repair welding and cutting	1 1490	visual supervision systems)
5 10	Surfacing by brazing and soldering	□ 1063	Welding trainer	□ 1480 □ 1490	Welding booths Welding curtains
5 20	Hot bar reflow soldering	□ 1070 □ 1080	Underwater cutting Underwater welding	□ 1500	Protective screens
□ 530 □ 540	Electron beam brazing Debrazing, desoldering	☐ 1080 ☐ 1090	Welding, brazing, soldering and thermal cutting	□ 1510 □ 1520	Weld fume filters and filtration systems Protection devices against fires and explosions
5 50	Flame brazing and soldering		and surfacing in aerospace applications	1 1530	Protection equipment against high energy
□ 560 □ 570	High-temperature brazing Induction brazing and soldering			1 1540	radiation (e.g. X-rays, laser radiation) Stationary vacuum cleaners for industrial use
580	Bit soldering, block brazing, roller tinning	7	Services	□ 1550	Exhaust and ventilation systems
□ 590 □ 600	Laser beam brazing Arc brazing	, 1091		1 1560	Work benches, workshop lockers
□ 000	ATO DIAZING	□ 1091	Leasing of welding plant and welding Equipment		

List of Products

The ABC of Joining - International Industry Guide

	1570	Workshop stools, aids to stability	6	Gas supply accessories	2490	Filler materials for coldgas spraying (powder)
	1580 1590	Workshop trolleys, cylinder trolleys Tools			□ 2500	Filler materials for suspension spraying (suspension)
	1600	Other protective and safety devices (e.g. signs	1 2110	Gas sources/tanks with pipework and valves (storage tanks, tankers, containers, cylinder		(Suspension)
		warning against possible Hazards,		racks and batteries, individual cylinders)		
		fire extinguishers, fire blankets)	1 2120			0-14 (-1:64 b
				units, gas mixing units and valves for supply	11	Solders (classified by composition)
				pipework (switching, pressure regulating and	1 2510	Lead-tin solders
4		Health and safety (personal protective		safety devices, valves, gas filters, gas flow and	□ 2520	Solders for aluminium
		equipment)	1 2130	pressure meters) Equipment for gas take-off stations (stop valves,	□ 2530	Tin-lead solders with or without Cu, Ag,
_	1610	Despiratory protection (filters, insulating		pressure regulators, gas mixers, safety devices,	1 2540	P additions Leadfree solders
	1610	Respiratory protection (filters-, insulating devices)		take-off boards)	2550	Other solders
	1620	First aid equipment, medicines	1 2140			
	1630	Externally ventilated welding helmets	2 150	anti-flashback and backflow devices)		
	1640	Ear protection (wadding, ear plugs, ear muffs)	LJ 2130	Special equipment and general accessories (automatic switching and pressure control	12	Brazing fillers (classified by
	1650	Laser protection		systems, gas analyzers, pipe identification	12	composition)
	1660	Protective clothing (helmets, aprons, garments, shoes, gloves)		stickers, clamps etc.)		•
	1670	Welder's head screens and shields, protective			2560	Aluminium brazing fillers
		goggles, eye protective filters			2570 2580	Gold containing brazing fillers Copper/brass brazing fillers
	1680	Other protective equipment	7	Filler materials for welding and coating	2590	Nickel base brazing fillers
				specific materials (classified by materi-	□ 2600	Palladium containing brazing fillers
				al groups)	1 2610	Phosphorus containing brazing fillers
5		General accessories	2 160	Filler materials for high alloy steels	2620	Platinum containing brazing fillers
	1690	Equalizing systems (e.g. for spot welding guns)	1 2170	0 ,	□ 2630 □ 2640	Silver brazing fillers Special brazing fillers (cobalt, titanium,
		Weld backings and adhesive tapes	1 2180		2040	zirconium base)
		(for one sided welding)	1 2190	*	□ 2650	Other brazing fillers
		Torch-neck changing systems	2200			
	1720	Torch and welding head manipulation systems	2 210	Filler materials for unalloyed and low alloy cast steels		
	1730	Controlled feeding devices (e.g. for adhesives, solders and powders)	2220		13	Forms of solders and brazing filler
	1740	Wire-guide spiral		resisting deposits		•
	1750	Wire feeders	223 0		□ 2660 □ 2670	Flux cored rods Flux coated rods
	1760	Turntables and tilt-turn positioners, lift tables	1 2240	Filler materials for other materials	2 2680	Brazing and soldering wires, rods and strips
	1770	Pressure cylinders for pressure and resistance			2 690	Preforms and foils
	1780	welding Workpiece storage equipment (belts, pallets,			1 2700	Brazing and soldering pastes
_	1700	stores)	8	Filler materials for welding, cutting and	2710	Filler precoated plates
	1790	Resistance welding electrodes		coating (classified by types)	□ 2720 □ 2730	Brazing and soldering powders Stranded rods
	1800	Materials for resistance welding electrodes	225 0	Wires, strips and plates for submerged arc	LJ 2/30	Stratiueu rous
	1810 1820	TIG (GTA) welding electrodes Electrode holders		and electroslag welding		
	1830	Electrode grinding devices	226 0			
	1840	Gas lighters	2270		III	Plant equipment, including
	1850	Globoidal drive	☐ 2280 ☐ 2290			automation, mechanization and
	1860	Clamps (terminals, earthing, workpiece) and	2295			industrial robots, for thermal
	1870	polarity testers Cooling systems		additive finishing as well as cored wire and rod		cutting and erosion
	1880	Magnetic valves		electrode manufacture		
	1890	Water-, oil-, air-cooler	□ 2300 □ 2310	•		
	1900	Magnets for welding, magnetic handling	2310 2320		1	Plant equipment, including automation,
_	1910	equipment	2 330	` '		mechanization and industrial robots, for
	1910	Assembly systems, assembling and positioning devices (clamps, roller blocks, line-up clamps)	2 340			thermal cutting and erosion
	1920	Plasma valves	2350		2 740	Oxy-fuel gas cutting
	1930	Spot welding guns	2360 2370		2750	Oxygen lancing
		Robot holding bracket		materials of lagor board following	2760	Flame scarfing
	1950 1960	Chipping hammers and wire brushes Hoses, hose couplings, hose connections,			2770	Flame gouging
۰	1000	hose packages	9	Filler materials for thermal enroving	□ 2780 □ 2790	Spark erosion and chemical machining Flame cleaning
	1970	Hose press	3	Filler materials for thermal spraying (classified by composition)	2800	Carbon arc cutting
	1980	Welding-sets, diesel or gasoline driven		, , ,	2810	Laser beam cutting and drilling,
	1990	Filler, wire spools	2380	•		electron beam drilling
	2000 2010	Welding flux feeding and recovery devices Welding mirrors	2390 2400		2820 2830	Air arc gouging
		Welding leads and connectors	2410	•	2840	Arc-oxygen cutting Flame and fusion cutting with metal or
		Secondary cables for resistance welding	1 2420		B 2010	mineral powder
	2040	Clamping systems, clamping elements	1 2430		□ 2850	Plasma scarfing
	2050 2060	Steel-wire brushes and hand brushes for welds Drying cabinets (electrodes and fluxes), heated			2860	Plasma cutting
	2000	quivers, baking ovens			1 2870	Water jet cutting, water abrasive jet cutting
	2070	Workpiece handling systems (lift and shift	10	Filler materials for thermal spraying		
		systems, dial tables) other accessories, pumps		(classified by process and type of spray		
_	005-	and other auxiliary equipment		material)	2	Plant for production of filler materials
	2080 2090	Tool changing systems Tools for joint preparation	2 440	,	□ 2880	Acetylene generators and filling stations
	2100	Other accessories, pumps and other		powders)	□ 2890	Conveying systems
_		auxiliary equipment	1 2450		□ 2900	Gas manufacturing and liquefying plants
			1 2460	Filler materials for plasma spraying (powders)		
			2470			
			1 2480	Filler materials for HVOF-spraying (powder)		

3	Plant for production of consumbales	3320	Design in adhesive bonding	3860	Anti-spatter compounds
	•	3330 3340	Characterisation of adhesives Quality management	□ 3870 □ 3880	Electro-burnish chemicals Paints and varnishes
2910	Brazing filler and solder production plants	3350	Auditing of processes	3890	Brazing and soldering fluxes
□ 2920 □ 2930	Welding wire production plants Welding electrode and flux cored wire	3360	Auditing of companies	3900	Auxiliary materials for thermit welding
LJ 2330	production plants	□ 3370	Plant construction (Plasma equipment)	□ 3910	Heat protection equipment for welding work
2940	Welding flux production plants	□ 3380	Paint/lacquer technology	□ 3920	Impregnating compounds
		□ 3390	Fibre reinforced plastic technology	□ 3930	Ceramic performs
		3400	Adhesive application	3940	Ceramic powders
n/	0	□ 3410	Integration into the production (production planning)	3950 3960	Solvents Solder masks and resists
IV	General productions equipment	□ 3420	Health and safety	3970	Surface cleaner
	for automation	□ 3430	Surface analysis	□ 3980	Deadener
		□ 3440	Adhesive development	□ 3990	Cleaning agents
		3 450	Electrochemistry/corrosion	4 000	Raw materials for electrode coatings
1	General productions equipment, sys-	3460	Testing of materials and components	4010	Anti-rust compounds
	tems for computer aided manufacture,	□ 3470	Simulation and calculation of adhesive bonded joints	□ 4020 □ 4030	Oxygen and powder lances Marking paints
	data processing, manual and automatic		bondou jointo	4040	Explosives
	control engineering			1 4050	Lubricants
2 950	CAD, CAM, CAQ, CIM and CAP systems	_		4 060	Cutting powders for concrete, cast iron and
2960	Capture, checking and processing of process	6	Research and development		other materials
	and production parameters	□ 3480	Adhesive selection	4070	Chalk
□ 2970	Industrial plant	□ 3490	Design in adhesive bonding	□ 4080 □ 4090	Weld primers Weld cleaning
2 980	Camera systems for monitoring design and	□ 3500	Characterisation of adhesives	1 4100	Sprays, technical
	production processes	3510	Plant construction (plasma equipment)	4 110	Abrasives
2 990	Seam tracking and welding head	3520	Paint/lacquer technology	1 4120	Cutting and snagging wheels
□ 3000	guidance systems Optics for laser beam welding and/or cutting	3530 3540	Fibre reinforced plastic technology Adhesive application		
3010	Programs (software)	3550	Integration into the production		
3020	Computers and other hardware (mini and	3 0000	(production planning)	11	Measurement and sensor technology
	microcomputers, PCs, mainframes, process	□ 3560	Surface analysis	- 11	measurement and sensor technology
	computers, printers, plotters, processors, etc.)	□ 3570	Molecular modelling	1 4130	Chemical analysis
3 030	Mass production, flexible production facilities	3580	Adhesive development	4140	Elongation, path and angle measurement
□ 3040	and welding lines Control engineering (pressure switches,	□ 3590 □ 3600	Electrochemistry/corrosion	□ 4150 □ 4160	Throughput and flow-rate measurement
□ 3040	solenoid and plasma valves, etc.)	□ 3610	Testing of materials and components Simulation and calculation of adhesive	1 4170	Scanning electron microscopes Ferrite-content measuring devices
	colonida and placina variou, etc.,	3 0010	bonded joints	4180	Photography and cinematography
				1 4190	Speed and rotational-speed measurement
	Adlanation			1 4200	Manual and miscellaneous measuring devices
2	Adhesives	7	Markfores qualification		for arc welding (current, voltage, wire-feed rate,
□ 3050	Epoxy resins (1C, 2C)	7	Workforce qualification		gas-feed rate, welding speed and energy
□ 3060	Polyurethanes (1C, 2C)	□ 3620	European Adhesive Bonder (EAB)	1 4210	per unit length)
3 070	Reactive hotmelts	□ 3630	European Adhesive Specialist (EAS)	4220	Holography Calibration
3080	Cyanoacrylates	3640	European Adhesive Engineer (EAE)	4230	Capacitance and inductance measurement
3090 3100	Anaerobically curing adhesives Curing on demand via UV radiation	□ 3650	Fiber Composite Assembler	1 4240	Force measuring systems
3110	Silan netted polymer adhesives			1 4250	Gauges and weld gauges
3120	Phenol-formaldehyde resol adhesives			4260	Power measurement
3 130	Pressure sensitive adhesives	8	Others	1 4270	Mass, density, force, torque and pressure
3 140	Acrylate adhesives	□ 3660	Specialist printer	1 4280	measurement Measuring devices for gases, fumes and dusts
3150	Silicones	3670	Technology broker	4290	Measuring devices for sound/noise
3160 3170	MS-polymers Structural pressure sensitive adhesives (PSA)	□ 3680	Certification body of the Federal	4 300	Measuring devices for radiation
☐ 3170	Structural pressure sensitive adriesives (PSA)		Railway Authority	4 310	Measuring devices for resistance welding
					(pulses, periods, current and voltage)
2	Adhasiya application			- 4000	and Rogovski belts
3	Adhesive application	9	Gases	1 4320	Measuring and monitoring devices for the electrode-penetration depth in
3180	Cartridges				resistance welding
3190	Application systems	□ 3690	Fuel gases (acetylene, butane, natural gas,	4 330	Microscopy
3200 3210	Automatisation Control system adhesive application	□ 3700	methane) Active gas	4 340	Surface quality (cut-surface quality)
3210	Metering appliances	3710	Doping and test gas	4350	Specimen-preparation installations
3230	Supply/Metering pumps	3720	Compressed air	1 4360	Roughness measurement of
3240	Mixers (dynamic, static)	□ 3730	Liquid gas	1 4370	surfaces / roughness depths Coat-thickness, wall-thickness and
		3 740	Hydrogen-nitrogen mixture	13 4070	crack-depth measurement
		3750	Inert gases (argon, neon, helium)	1 4380	Sensor technology
4	Surface treatment	3760	Carbon dioxide	1 4390	Miscellaneous measurement technology and
		3761 3762	lasing gas gas for laser welding and cutting processes		measuring devices
3250	Solvent containing systems	3770	Gas mixtures	4400	Photoelasticity
3260	Mechanical processes (grinding, blasting)	□ 3780	Oxygen	4410 4 420	Current and voltage measurement Temperature measurement (optical, electrical,
3270 3280	Water based systems (neutral, acid, alkaline) Wet chemical processes (etching,	□ 3790	Nitrogen	4420	chemical and mechanical)
L 0200	phosphatating, anodizing, others)	□ 3800	Hydrogen	1 4430	Thermography
□ 3290	Dry chemical processes (silicoater, low pressure			1 4440	Monitoring devices for arc welding
	plasma, atmospheric pressure plasma, others)			4450	Monitoring devices for resistance welding
3 300	Primer/Adhesion promoters	10	Other consumables	4460	Hydrogen determination
		1 2010	Achaetae cuhetitutae	□ 4470 □ 4480	Resistance and insulation measurement Time, event-number and frequency
		3810 3820	Asbestos substitutes (weld) backing	4400	measurement
5	Consulting	3830	Pickling pastes		
	_	□ 3840	Calcium carbide		
3 310	Adhesive selection	□ 3850	Leak-test materials		

List of Products

The ABC of Joining - International Industry Guide

		(5200	Mobile spectrometers	□ 5890	Kic test and crack-opening displace-ment
40	Tooking Tooks along New Dooks attended		5210	Neutron-beam testing		(COD) test
12	Testing Technology – Non-Destructive		5220	Surface testing devices	□ 5900	Weldability testing (cold-cracking and
	Testing		5 230 5 240	Optical testing Penetration installations and penetrants	5 910	hot-cracking testing and others) Miscellaneous and mechanical-technological
- 44	490 Acoustic measuring devices		5 5250	Physical tests	□ 3910	tests
	500 Acoustic microscopy		5 5260	Testing documentation	5 920	Static fracture testing (longitudinal-weld bend,
	510 Analysis devices	1	5270	Testing machines		bursting, deep-notch, bend, notched-bar bend,
	1520 Atomic-absorption spectrometers 1530 Auger probes		5280	Testing agents for magnetic-powder testing		notched-bar tensile and wide-plate tests)
	1530 Auger probes 1540 Automation and computer assistance for		5290	Testing-agent monitoring	5930	Universal testing facilities
□ 10	non-destructive testing		5 300 5 310	Testing of welded joints	□ 5940	Creep rupture and fatigue-endurance strength
1 45	550 Automatic testing systems		5 5320	Quality control Quality planning	5950	testing and vibration-fatigue testing installations Tensile, pressure, torsion and bend testing
1 45	Automation in measurement and testing		5330	Quality assurance in process monitoring	B 0300	renaile, pressure, tersion and bend testing
	technology		5 5340	Quality assurance in repair/maintenance		
1 45	Determination and testing of products, joining		5350	Quality assurance in series production		
- 45	processes and fabrication operations		5360	Radioactive materials	14	Testing Technology – Materials Testing
☐ 45	562 consultancy and planning of fabrication and application of materials, energy and processes		5370	Radiography	□ 5960	Plant monitoring and production monitoring
1 45	570 Betatron and linear accelerators		5380	X-ray film	5970	Parameter determination
	1580 Image-processing installations		5 5390 5 5400	X-ray apparatus X-ray diffractometers	□ 5980	Quality and defect testing
1 45	1590 Image intensifiers		5 5410	X-ray-film viewers	□ 5990	Environmental-protection tests
1 46	600 CAQ		5 5420	X-ray fluorescence analysis	□ 6000	Properties to be tested
	610 CCD cameras		5430	X-ray tubes	6010	Materials to be tested
	620 CIM		5440	X-ray carriages	□ 6020	Components to be tested (areas of application)
	1630 Computerised tomography 1640 Elongation and stress determination methods		5450	X-ray accessories		
	650 Elongation gauges		5 460	Scanners		
	1660 Densitometers Leak-testing installations		5 470 5 480	Damage analysis Acoustic-emission analysis	15	Testing Technology – Testing Procedu-
	and devices		5 5490	Acoustic-emission devices		res/ Testing Facilities
	670 Leak testing		5500	Coat-thickness measuring devices	□ 6030	Component testing / design testing
	7 Thickness measuring devices		5505	Supervision of welding and fabrication	6040	Fracture-mechanical parameters
	Dose and dose-rate measuring devices			operations, on site and in-plant	1 6050	Chemical tests
	1700 Darkroom facilities 1710 Radiographic testing		5510	Weld testing	□ 6060	Strength and toughness
	1720 Real-time radiographic systems		5520	Vibration measurement	1 6070	Structural investigations
	1730 Borescope		5 530 5 540	Safety technology Visual inspection	□ 6080	Resources for metallography (etching agents,
□ 47	Residual-stress measuring devices		5 5550	Signal and image processing	□ 6090	polishing agents and embedding compounds) Mechanical testing procedures
	Penetration testing installations		5 5560	Computional Modeling/Simulation	1 6100	Physical tests
	760 Electrical testing	1	5570	Software packages	6 110	Weldability tests
	770 Electrodynamic testing	1	5580	Miscellaneous non-destructive	1 6120	Technological testing procedures
	1780 Scanning electron microscopy 1790 Electronic measuring devices			testing procedures	1 6125	Test tables
	1800 Demagnetization installations		5590	Spectral analysis		
	810 Dye penetrants		5 5600 5 5610	Spectral-analysis devices Spectral photometers		
1 48	820 Dye-penetration testing		5 5620	Spectrometers	16	Quality Assurance (According to Ma-
	830 Color measuring devices		5630	Radiation measuring devices	,,,	sing's "QA Manual")
	840 Field-strength measuring devices	1	5640	Radiation-protection measuring devices,		,
	850 Production measuring devices			components and materials	□ 6130	A+F in QM
	9			•		
	860 Production monitoring		5650	Control systems	G 6140	Bilatrometry
1 48	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices	1	5660	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices	1 6150	Ergonomics of workplaces
☐ 48 ☐ 48	 1860 Production monitoring 1870 Configuration measuring devices 1880 Photographic devices 	1	5660 5670	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices	□ 6150 □ 6160	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use
☐ 48 ☐ 48 ☐ 48	 1860 Production monitoring 1870 Configuration measuring devices 1880 Photographic devices) () ()	5660 5670 5680	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis	1 6150	Ergonomics of workplaces
☐ 48 ☐ 48 ☐ 48 ☐ 49	1860 Production monitoring 1870 Configuration measuring devices 1880 Photographic devices 1890 Filling-level measuring devices 1900 Structural testing 1905 Design and analysis of welded structures	1 1 1 1	5660 5670	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices	6150 6160 6170	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers
48 48 48 49 49	9860 Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices	0 0 0 0 0	5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for OA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Hardness testing	0 0 0 0 0 0	5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations	□ 6150 □ 6160 □ 6170 □ 6180 □ 6190	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing,
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Hardness testing ICP spectrometers	0 0 0 0 0 0	5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5730	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190 6200	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Hardness testing		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5730 5740	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Hardness testing ICP spectrometers Information systems		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5730 5740 5750	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190 6200	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Protographic devices Protogr		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5730 5740	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing	☐ 6150 ☐ 6160 ☐ 6170 ☐ 6180 ☐ 6200 ☐ 6210	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades
- 48 - 48 - 49 - 49 - 49 - 49 - 49 - 49 - 49 - 49	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Structural testing Posign and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Pado liCP spectrometers Information systems Infrared measurement technology Infrared thermography Calibration Parameter determination		 5660 5670 5680 5690 5710 5720 5730 5740 5750 5755 5760 5770 	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing	☐ 6150 ☐ 6160 ☐ 6170 ☐ 6180 ☐ 6200 ☐ 6210	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades
	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Pard Gammagraphic devices Pard Hardness testing Gammagraphic devices Information systems Information systems Infrared measurement technology Infrared thermography Calibration Parameter determination Nuclear magnetic resonance		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5720 5740 5750 5750 5760 5770 5780	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190 6200 6210 6220	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades Quality assurance of software
48 49 49 49 49 49 49 49 49 60 49 60 49 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Productival testing Possible and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Possible and analysis of welded structures Possible and analysis of welded structures Possible an		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5720 5720 5750 5755 5760 5760 5770 5780	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis Video installations and cameras	☐ 6150 ☐ 6160 ☐ 6170 ☐ 6180 ☐ 6200 ☐ 6210	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades
48 49 49 49 49 49 49 60 49 60 50 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Filling-level measuring devices Structural testing Design and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Pard Gammagraphic devices Pard Hardness testing Gammagraphic devices Information systems Information systems Infrared measurement technology Infrared thermography Calibration Parameter determination Nuclear magnetic resonance		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5720 5720 5750 5755 5760 5760 5770 5780 5800	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis Video installations and cameras Thermal-conductivity measuring devices	6150 6160 6170 6170 6190 6220 6220 6230	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades Quality assurance of software Miscellaneous Training and education
48 49 49 49 49 49 49 60 49 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60 60	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Pfilling-level measuring devices Pfilling-level measuring devices Productival testing Posign and analysis of welded structures Gammagraphic devices Hardness testing Posign information systems Posign information systems Posign infrared measurement technology Posign infrared thermography Calibration Parameter determination Posign information Posign infor		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5700 5720 5730 5740 5755 5755 5760 5760 5770 5790 5800 5810	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic teaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis Video installations and cameras Thermal-conductivity measuring devices Materials testing	6150 6160 6170 6180 6190 6220 6220 6230 177 6240 6250	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades Quality assurance of software Miscellaneous Training and education Consultancy companies
48	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Pilling-level measuring devices Prilling-level measuring and testing		5660 5670 5680 5690 5700 5710 5720 5720 5720 5750 5755 5760 5760 5770 5780 5800	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic testing Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis Video installations and cameras Thermal-conductivity measuring devices	6150 6160 6160 6170 6180 6210 6220 6230 77 6240 6250 6260	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for QA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades Quality assurance of software Miscellaneous Training and education Consultancy companies Data processing
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48	Production monitoring Configuration measuring devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Photographic devices Pilling-level measuring devices Productival testing Possible and analysis of welded structures Possible analysis of wel		5660 5670 5680 5680 5710 5710 5720 5730 5740 5750 5750 5760 5770 5780 5780 5790 5800 5820 5830	Control systems Stray-flux testing devices Temperature measuring devices Thermal analysis Thermal testing Thermographic installations Ultrasonic applications Ultrasonic testing devices and installations Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic cleaning installations Ultrasonic transducers ultraviolet lamps Wear tests / erosion tests Confusion testing Vibration analysis Video installations and cameras Thermal-conductivity measuring devices Materials testing Eddy-current testing Eddy-current testing devices and installations	6150 6160 6160 6160 6170 6180 6190 6220 6220 6230 177 6240 6250 6260 6270 6280	Ergonomics of workplaces Instructions for use Mathematics, statistics and computers Measurement technology Organization for OA and insurance policies Quality planning and assessment Quality assurance in packing, storage and transport Quality assurance in small and medium-sized businesses and in skilled trades Quality assurance of software Miscellaneous Training and education Consultancy companies Data processing Service companies Trade journals / specialist books
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☐ 5190 Microfocus x-ray installations

V	Contract work and services for joining, separating and coating	7680 7 690	Sintered parts Extruded products	VI	Plant and equipment, including automation, mechanization and industrial robots, for thermal
2	Sub-contracting – Processing of speci- fic materials	4	Sub-contracting – Application of joining and other manufacturing processes		spraying
7030 7040 7050 7060	Aluminum Free machining steels Coated and plated materials Concrete	7700 7710 7720 7730	Flash welding Surfacing Pickling, sand blasting, polishing, deburring and/or grinding Stud welding	1	Plant and equipment, including auto- mation, mechanization and industrial robots, for thermal spraying
7000 7070 7080 7090 7100 71100 71100 7150 7150 7160 7170 7290 7290 7250 7250 7260 7270 7390 7310 7350 7360 7370 7380 7380 7380 7380 7380 7360 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7370 7380 7380 7370 7390 7400 7410 7420 7430 7450	Concrete reinforcing bars Lead, bismuth, cobalt, cadmium Cermets Chromium Duplex steels Termosets Elastomers Fiber reinforced materials Fine grained structural steels Refractory materials Glass Cast iron High alloy steels High temperature materials Ceramics Carbon Copper Laminates Leather Magnesium Brass Nickel Low alloy steels Niobium, manganese Cardboard, paper Platinum, gold, silver Compression moulding compounds (polymers) Pipe steels Rail steels Shipbuilding steels Sintered materials Cast steel Superalloys (hot isostatic pressure) Thermoplastics Titanium Unalloyed steels Tool steels Weathering steels Tungsten, tantalum, molybdenum Tin, zinc Zirconium, vanadium, beryllium New materials (high strength, light weight constructions and superhard materials, nanomaterials, light and electricity conducting materials, inght and electricity conducting materials, ingh and electricity conducting materials, ingh and electricity conducting materials, ingh and electricity conducting materials, implant materials etc.)	7740	Flame cleaning Flame cutting blanks Spark erosion Electron, laser beam welding Electroslag welding Gas pressure welding Gas pressure welding Adhesive bonding of plastics Adhesive bonding of metals Welding of plastics Plastic spraying Laser beam welding and/or cutting Manual metal arc welding Brazing and soldering Metallizing, dip coating and anodizing Metal spraying Oxidized ceramic spraying Computional modeling of processes Resistance spot and/or projection welding Friction welding Robot welding TIG/MIG/MAG Seam welding Friction stir welding Gas shielded arc welding Magnetically impelled arc butt welding (MIAB) Computional modeling/Simulation of structures Thermal cutting Ultrasonic welding Firecracker, electrogas and/or submerged arc welding Scrapping Vibratory stress relieving Heat treating and/or quenching and tempering Maintenance, servicing, repair Comutational modeling of materials waste containing precious metal Organizations, education and training, certification, research, information transfer, technical literature and regulations	6340	Flame spraying with wire or rod Flame spraying with powder Plastic Flame spraying High-velocity oxy-fuel spraying (HVOF) Detonation spraying Plasma spraying Suspension spraying Laser spraying Arc spraying Arc spraying Plasma transfer arc welding (PTA) Pressure & vacuum blasting Masking compounds & tapes Blasting media Finishing tools/grinding wheels Sand-blasting equipment Sealants Exhaust systems / bag houses Automated spraying systems Flow controller Air compressors Manipulators Wet collectors Testing equipment Powder feeder Robotics Soundproof rooms Spray booths Other powders Wires Intermetallic powders Carbide powders Ceramic powders (metal oxides/nitrides) Ceramic rods Metal powders Self Fluxing powders Powder mixtures Suspensions Thermoplastics Superfinishing Grinding Machining Other Education Market research Test coupons
3	Sub-contracting – Processing of speci-	8090 8100	Accreditation and certification organizations Acceptance, approval, examination and supervisory organizations Training, continuing education and examination	□ 6800 □ 6810 □ 6820 □ 6830	Testing services / equipment / supplies Virtual spraying Atmospheric corrosion Abradable applications
7490 7500 7510	fic semi-finished products Strip and wide strip Reinforcing bars and mesh Sheet, plate, checker plate, perforated plate	□ 8120 □ 8130	of specialist personnel Supervisory bodies, Chambers of Trade, Employers Associations Technical publishers, Libraries (literature, codes of practice, educational films, software,	6840 6850 6860 6870 6880	Electrical / electronics Clearance control High temperature corrosion Reclamation Vacuum plasma
7520 7530 7540 7550 7560 7570 7580 7590 7600 7610 7620 7630 7640 7650 7660	Wires Springs Foils, thin strip Castings Plastic films, strips, sheets Plastic pipes, flanges and other plastic semi-finished products Plastic tubes and sleeving Plastic troucts Copper pipes Brass pipes Sections (girders) Pipes and flanges Circular blanks Rails Hoses (metal) Forgings	□ 8140 □ 8150 □ 8160 □ 8170 □ 8180	CD-ROM and diskette services, audiovisual media) Joining research and education Consultants, experts Information services (literature and factual database searches, expert systems, expert certification, literature appraisal, state of the art and trend analyses) Codes of practice, standardization, patents (incl. organizations) Technical and scientific associations, industrial associations	6890 6900 6910 6920 6930 6940 6950 6960 6970 6980 7000 7010 7020	Wear resistance Thermal barrier Aluminizing Anodizing CVD (chemical vapor deposition) Electrolytic oxidation Enameling Painting, varnishing Flame cleaning and phosphatising Plastic coating Metallizing PVD (physical vapor deposition) Dip coating Tin, zinc, nickel, copper and chromium plating

Pricelist

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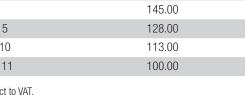


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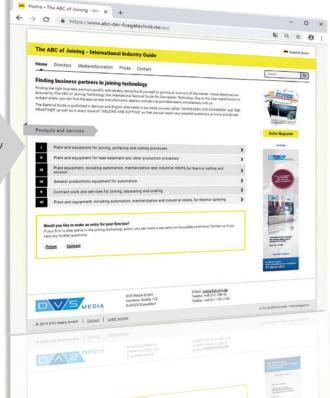
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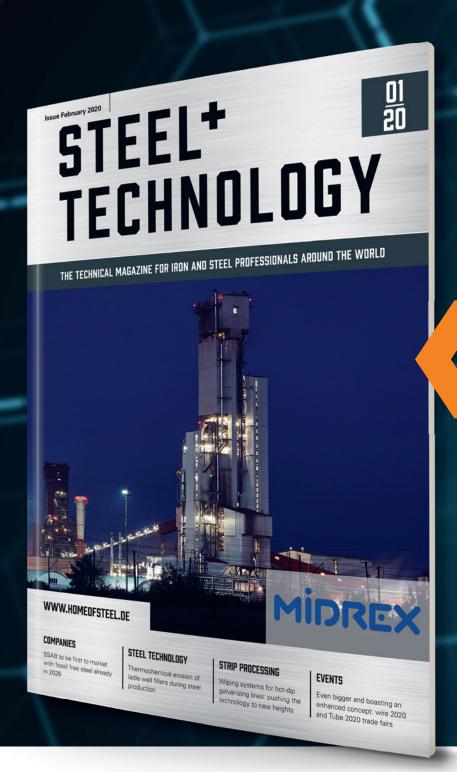
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