October 2017

Inside This Issue
1 OCTOBER TECHNICAL MEETING
2 COMMITTEE CHAIRS
2 CHAIR’S MESSAGE
2 SAVE THE DATE
2 COMING EVENTS
4 OCTOBER HOTLINE
5 LADIES NIGHT
7 EDITOR’S NOTE
8 ASK THE WELDING ENGINEER
9 STUDENT NIGHT RECAP
9 WOMEN WHO WELD
11 PATRONS LETTER
12 MEET OUR MEMBERS

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DETROIT SECTION

AWS Detroit Section October Technical Meeting
Thursday, October 19, 2017
Location: 32471 Industrial Dr., Madison Heights, MI 48071
Speaker: Frank Wennberg
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AGENDA
5:00 - 6:30pm Welcome and Dinner
6:30 - 7:15pm Advancements in Welding Coated Materials. Automation products, Weld Cells, Positioners, Body Shop Equipment
7:15 - 8:00pm Plant Tour and Welding Demonstration
8:00pm Closing

RSVP by October 13, 2017 to ensure dinner and a seat!

RSVP to Amanda Davis amanda.davis@fcagroup.com

Disclaimer: AWS Technical nights are open to all members and non-members of the American Welding Society. We encourage that members bring students and non-members to learn more about our organization and industry.
Well the days are getting shorter and Fall is upon us. I would like to thank all the instructors and parents who attended our September Student night. We had a great presentation by our District Director Phil Temple and honored our scholarship winners who were able to attend the dinner at Schoolcraft college. The theme we typically focus on, when so many students are in the room is mentoring. We are in an economic uptick here in the Metro area with help wanted signs cropping up all over the area. I frequently am asked if I know of any welders looking for work as many companies are expanding. Being a mentor to a young person is a wonderful way to influence the next generation of skilled trades and engineers. I sometimes hear comments about the differences in generations but the success of young people is directly linked to the involvement of elders. The Executive Committee is working hard this year to create activities that engage our membership. The people and companies who provide support through funding and volunteering their time make all of this possible. If there are any suggestions or areas you or your company think you may be able to contribute, please contact me directly. As we near the end of October beware of the ghosts and goblins on Halloween. I hear king size Snicker bars ward off evil spirits.

Have a good month
Wes

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~ Nathan D. Miller ~
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October Hotline

Career Moves

Welker Engineered Products welcomed Rodney Bereznicki, as their new Chief Engineer in June 2017. Rod was previously at KUKA Systems Corporation NAO as a Design Manager, Standards and Structures Supervisor and Structural Analyst Supervisor. Rod brings with him many years of experience in the world of automation and design. He is the webmaster for the AWS Detroit Section Website and has served and continues to serve on AWS Detroit section board in various positions and various volunteer events.

Models and Tools welcomed Robin Michon as their new Structural Analyst in August 2017. Robin was previously at KUKA Systems Corporation NAO as a Structural Analyst. Robin is the editor of the AWS Detroit Section e-bulletin. She continues to serve on the board and volunteers for various events.

New Products

DENGESHA To Feature High-Strength Steel Resistance Welding Solutions

Bedford, Oh… At Fabtech Booth #B27049, Dengensha America will be featuring resistance-welding solutions specially created for high-strength steel and aluminum. That includes two resistance welder solutions to maximize quality, minimize heat transfer and eliminate heat distortion on high-strength steel and aluminum. It also includes a new lightweight high-force reduction gear X-gun that is extremely effective on high-strength steel as well.

Dengensha’s Flexwave Capacitor Discharge Welder combines the benefits of a CDW with an MFDC Welder, providing unique and enhanced capabilities for making larger or special welds. Its NDZ series variable-output Capacitor Discharge Welder is ideal for smaller projection welds. At Fabtech, Dengensha will introduce its newly redesigned Flexwave Welder. This design change creates a shorter and more compact Flexwave Welder with a smaller footprint, using much less floor space.

Specifically, the Flexwave Welder combines the capabilities of a Capacitor Discharge Welder (CDW) with a 15,000 Hz Bipolar Medium Frequency Converter (MFC). Benefits include better quality parts, optimum weld nugget quality, weld parameters that are easier to set, and energy savings. Flexwave technology provides direct current configuration of weld current values, making it easier to set parameters. New Flexwave technology also maximizes waveform flexibility, which allows necessary parameter settings such as tempering, demagnetization, upslope, etc. The Flexwave Welder series includes NICP-050, NICP-100, and NICP-150 with the maximum weld current of 50,000, 100,000, and 150,000 amps respectively.

Dengensha’s NDZ series variable-output Capacitor Discharge Welder is compact and cost-efficient, easy and intuitive to set-up, readily available off-the-shelf, and offers manufacturers numerous features to help maximize part quality. It easily handles weld current as high as 50KA, yet requires only a small 6kVA power supply. High current in short bursts minimizes heat transfer and work-piece distortion, even when the power supply is unstable. Along with offering manufacturers a broad range of part production opportunity and potential, the NDZ-CDW is ideal for welding small projection parts on high-strength steel.

Dengensha’s new High Force Lightweight Reduction Gear X-Gun is also extremely effective for high-strength steel applications. Lighter in weight and having a smaller frame, users can count on production efficiency. With its new high torque reduction gear, it is capable of an electrode force ranging from 4.8 to 7kN. The new lightweight design integrates a new structure, an optimal layout of primary parts, and a gun arm made from aluminum, all combining to achieve a total weight that is much lighter, ranging from 90 to 97kg. This same proprietary design enables the new Reduction Gear X-Gun to operate seamlessly with Dengensha’s newly developed heavy-duty lightweight MFDC transformer. Users can count on a maintenance-free reduction gear drive unit that is adaptable with a high-speed servomotor. The Lightweight High Force Reduction Gear X-Gun is compatible with Fanuc, Nachi, Yaskawa, Kawasaki, Kuka, and ABB robots with a small footprint.

Dengensha America Corporation offers automotive, agricultural and general manufacturers the most complete line of resistance welding equipment in the world. Dengensha America’s resistance welding product line includes projection and spot welders; weld guns, feeders and controls, consumables, and spare parts. Training and field service complete a single source capability.

For more information about Dengensha’s new high-strength steel resistance welding solutions, contact Steve Andrassy at Dengensha America Corp/ 7647 First Place Drive, Bedford, Ohio 44146/ Phone: 1-440-439-8081/ Fax: 1-440-439-8217/
Email: sandrassy@dengensha.com
Visit us: www.dengensha.com

Dengensha’s new High Force Lightweight Reduction Gear X-Gun is also extremely effective for high-strength steel applications.
The 2018 AWS Detroit Section Ladies Night Gala will take place on Saturday, April 14 at the MotorCity Casino.
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Editor’s Notes

Welcome to the October e-bulletin! Hopefully, everyone is back into the swing of things with school schedules, AWS tech meetings and events coming up, college and NFL Football (Go Lions!) and the fall weather that is just starting to come into play in October.

We have a lot of great events coming up where you can participate. Come out to the tech meeting this month, at Easom in Madison Heights, Michigan. Upcoming in November, there is the biggest welding event of the year, FABTech which is in Chicago this year, and then, don’t forget that the AWS Detroit section is putting on an educational night the evening of November 16th. Look for more information to come on that in the next e-bulletin and on our AWS Detroit section website.

And, I know it’s just October, but don’t forget to look for information next month on the Annual AWS Detroit Section’s Christmas Party in December. It’s a fun evening, and gives you a chance to meet a lot of other people in the welding industry. Friends, fun, and networking.

There’s a lot of great things going on in this section. The new grant program is being rolled out this year, and we have a lot of interest from the section in supporting our community and the future of welding. I’m hoping to feature on article on this new venture in a few months. If you’re interested in getting involved, you don’t have to be on the board, and we welcome you. Please contact this year’s chair, Wesley Doneth for more information.

Thank you for your readership, and until next month...KEEP ON WELDING
~ Robin M. Michon, e-bulletin editor
Ask the Welding Engineer
By Donald F. Maatz, Jr.

Q: “Which type of transformer is better for the resistance spot welding of sheet metal, especially the new high-strength materials that are becoming more common, AC or MFDC? I ask as I have an old AC machine that runs great and has handled everything I have thrown at it so far”

A: “In the past four columns, we have provided a brief overview detailing the migration of resistance spot welding (RSW) power supplies from Alternating Current (AC) to Medium-Frequency Direct Current (MFDC). The first column (Mar-17 ATWE) discussed some of the motivation for this change and provided just a bit of historical context. The second column (Apr-17 ATWE) took a look into several of the facility and tooling considerations that one would need to be aware of when dealing with either type of power supply, while acknowledging that it was not initially easy to switch from AC to MFDC. But the sales data reveals that these issues are now essentially behind us. For our third column (May-17 ATWE) we discussed the wider secondary current capability of the MFDC unit and its effect on tooling design and associated reduction of spare parts inventory. The fourth column in this series (Sep-17 ATWE) addressed the maturation process of the MFDC units themselves and pointed out some actual differences between each type of power supply. All of this has lead up to our attempt at answering the question we were originally asked – Which is better for RSW of AHSS, an AC or MFDC power supply? So, after four columns spread out over more than as many months, can we finally answer which is better for RSW of AHSS, an AC or MFDC power supply? The answer is, from my perspective, a qualified yes. So, let’s begin...

Facilities: As we noted in our prior columns, the MFDC unit has it all over the comparable AC unit when it comes to many key and really non-welding related facility issues. From the number of variants needed to equip a body shop, the ease of packaging those units in the tools due to their reduced weight and size, and the lower primary demand the typical MFDC unit places on the electrical grid, it is easy to see why that anyone that comes in contact with these power supplies cannot wait to integrate them into their system. The differences are so vast that even if the weldability aspect of an MFDC unit compared to an AC unit was only the same, or even slightly worse, I feel the migration would still have occurred. And this only makes sense as the history of the MFDC power supply is really a story of trying to make a weld with a transformer that weighed less so that the robots of the day could carry it. Thus, eliminated the need for the massive hip-mounted AC units that have literally now vanished from the welding landscape. Score: MFDC-1, AC-0

Weldability: There have been multiple peer reviewed papers published in many forums regarding the different welding characteristics of AC vs. MFDC with regards to the RSW of steel, and the results are not always conclusive, or consistent in determining which process is capable of producing better weld quality. These studies, which included AHHS, looked at many aspects of the two welding processes and ranged in scope from the physical properties of the weld to the effect of weld current conduction angle and its direct effect on the inherent inter-cycle cooling associated with AC power vs. the lack of inter-cycle cooling with MFDC. One automotive OEM performed an in-house study to determine whether the polarity effects of MFDC current were significant. The responses studied included weld range comparisons, electrode life evaluations, and static and dynamic mechanical studies of weld strength. Despite all this hard work and analysis, an all-inclusive answer still has not been found. Put another way, while a particular application or specific material may benefit from utilizing either AC or MFDC, the results to date do not permit anyone to make broad statements with regards to material weldability such as ‘all galvanized materials weld better with AC’ or that ‘all stack-up ratios in excess of 4:1 weld better with MFDC’. The area where MFDC really shines is being able to provide a means of monitoring and controlling the secondary current that AC can only dream of. Again, this makes perfect sense when you look into the integrating periods of each type of power supply. And with this better feedback the adaptive nature of the MFDC welding control can be very impressive to see in action. That being said, I still do not see across the board MFDC “Push-Button” welding taking place for the foreseeable future. Why? From my perspective, most RSW welding concerns are related to physical issues rather than electrical ones. Maladies such as bad part fit-up, worn/loose guns, incorrect force, poor cooling water, etc. can rarely be corrected by switching from AC to MFDC. Score: MFDC-1, AC-0

So, which is better?

At one point in my career when asked which was better for spot welding steel, AC or MFDC, my answer was a question. Specifically, which is better, a car or a truck? Without clarifying the criteria for a particular application, the answer is really hard to determine. But with the passage of time, a growing familiarity with the capabilities of the MFDC system, and a better understanding of what it actually takes to repeatedly make a successful RSW in any kind of steel, I am now firmly in the MFDC camp. And as we have shown, I am by no means a trend setter – The industry has been voting for MFDC with their wallets for many years. So, while a capable AC machine is often more than up to the task of making an acceptable spot weld in steel, much more often than not the method of choice is MFDC, and for good reason. I just wish we could have kept the same sound when the welder fires – I sometimes miss that deep, booming AC grunt that you can feel through your feet.

On a final note: We did not look into the world of projection welding, or resistance spot welding of aluminum with this review of AC vs. MFDC. And while much of the discussion is the same, there are some key points to keep in mind with regards to these topics. And, of course, they will be the subject of a future column.

If you have more questions about this topic, Contact Don Maatz at: R&E Engineering Services A subsidiary of R&E Automated Systems, LLC 70701 Powell Road, Bruce Township, MI 48065 (586) 228-1900 – Office (734) 793-2304 – Direct dmaatz@reautomated.com

References:
Student Night Recap

The AWS-Detroit section held its annual student night on September 14, 2017 at the VisTaTech Building of Schoolcraft College in Livonia, MI. This year the section was able to award 38 scholarships totaling $60,000 to students from 11 different schools. The recipients of the 2017 – 2018 Scholarships will be attending Ferris State University, LeTourneau University, Macomb Community College, Michigan Technological University, Northern Michigan University, Oakland Community College, Pennsylvania College of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, Schoolcraft Community College, St. Clair County Community College, and Washtenaw Community College.

The section’s scholarships are made available to Michigan and select Canadian residents and/or students enrolled in a welding or welding related programs at a college or university in the State of Michigan and the following counties in the province of Ontario; Essex, Chatham-Kent, and Sarnia-Lambton. The candidates all submitted an application, including transcripts of their academic achievement, and a brief letter about their background, their goals and ambitions, and any additional factors that would help the Section Scholarship Committee determine eligibility for an award.

The Section also heard from Phil Temple AWS National District-11 Director. Mr. Temple and others delivered a talk on the subject their experience in the welding industry.

Women Who Weld

Women Who Weld is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, based in Detroit, that teaches women how to weld and find employment in the welding industry. Women Who Weld offers an annual intensive, 6-week training program in which unemployed and underemployed women learn how to MIG weld and operate various metalworking tools and machines. Participants receive training for the American Welding Society Certified Welder (CW) test and guidance in resume and interview prep, financial literacy, and home buying. Graduates of the program are prepared for full-time jobs or apprenticeships related to welding. All 6 participants in the July 2017 program obtained employment in welding within 6 weeks of completing the program. The program is funded through donations and grants.

At this time, the 6-week training program occurs once per year and the next program will likely be held in Summer 2018. Women Who Weld is actively looking for private donations, sponsorships, and grant funding to host more programs. Donations via PayPal can be made here: [https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WUGN7Q8FTCXQ](https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=WUGN7Q8FTCXQ).

Women Who Weld also offers intensive, weeklong training classes for women who are interested in learning how to MIG and/or TIG weld. All participants of the weeklong programs have obtained employment in welding. The next weeklong ‘Intro to MIG’ class will occur October 16-20, 2017 at TechShop Detroit. More info here: [https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-who-welds-intro-to-mig-welding-workshop-tickets-37358238497](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/women-who-welds-intro-to-mig-welding-workshop-tickets-37358238497).
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2018-2019 Patron’s Fund Donations

Our goal at the AWS Detroit Section is “to advance the science, technology and application of welding.” We accomplish this by promoting education and Section participation.

It is time again this year to ask you for your generosity in contributing to the Patron’s Fund. We will, as always, contribute 100% of these funds directly towards scholarships for students who are pursuing careers in Welding Engineering and Welding Technology. Each year the American Welding Society Detroit Section sponsors many students with these funds, and because this is such an important part of giving back to the industry that supports us, we hope you can help us by being a proud supporter in this effort. I have included the announcement letter which shows the many 2017-18 scholarship recipients that were helped in part by contributions from our Patrons in past years.

To be a Patron, simply send a check made out to the American Welding Society Detroit Section for a minimum of $100 or visit our website at [www.awsdetroit.org](http://www.awsdetroit.org), click on “Scholarships” in the blue banner then scroll down to the “Pay Now” button. I encourage you to please consider a contribution of more than the $100.00 minimum, and here’s why.

This year my plea for your support is with more intensity than ever before. The last three years were remarkable years for Patron contributions. Through you, our Patrons, we were able to raise $10,000 last year. Over the last three years the Patrons have helped us raise nearly $32,000. This year again my goal is $15,000. That may sound ambitious, but I’m sure that many, if not all of you, have had an opportunity to interview applicants for welding related positions within your company. If so, you’ve probably noticed that although the ambition may be there with these potential new hires, the skill sets may not. That’s where the funding comes in. The cost of education is high, and with your help we can provide students that are seeking careers in welding related positions with financial assistance to improve those skills. And that adds up to a stronger, better educated workforce and a more efficient and profitable company for you. Additionally, you’ll be recognized in the industry for your contributions. Patrons are made known to the membership in the monthly technical bulletin, to the industry on the AWS website, and are further acknowledged with a listing in the annual Ladies Night Program.

If you are a Patron, we thank you for your support, and ask you to please consider increasing your contribution. Whether a long-time Patron or a first-time Patron, your help will assist us to bring about an educated future workforce.

I thank you in advance for your contribution, and await your rapid response for the 2018/2019 season.

Please make contributions payable to: AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY DETROIT SECTION and mail to: Amanda Davis; FCA US LLC; CIMS: 482-00-13; 800 Chrysler Dr.; Auburn Hills, MI 48326.

Thank you for your support.

Amanda E. Davis, AWS Detroit Section-Patron’s Committee, Chair
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- Ohio State University Welding Alumni
Welcome to the first 2017/2018 season’s Meet our Members column.

Our featured member this month is Nick Dinsmore.

Hello, Nick! Please tell us a little bit about yourself.

My name is Nick Dinsmore and I am a CWI (certified weld inspector) at Models and Tools in Shelby Township, Michigan.

As a CWI, what do you like about your position?

I like the variety, constant challenge and the people I work with.

Why did you join AWS?

I joined the American Welding Society for the vast resources, information and the chance to stay connected in this industry.

That’s great, Nick. What kind of things do you like to do outside of work?

I like to spend time with family & friends. My hobbies include hunting, fishing and camping.

I always like to ask our featured members if they have a funny moment or story they’d like to share – be it on the job, in training or in school.

I saw a young welder in training ask a veteran welder to identify a G.T.A.W. welding rod. The veteran welder then ran the rod under his nose smelling it and reply ER705-6. The rookie was so amazed he could identify it by smell!

That’s amazing! What would you say is your most memorable moment when it comes to AWS and/or welding?

My most memorable moment would have to be getting the notice about passing the CWI exam.

Another question I like to ask if there’s anything that’s near/dear to your heart?

Spending time with my girls.

Mentoring is a great advantage in any career. Have you ever been a mentor? Or, is there someone who has mentored you?

Yes, I have had many people mentor and help out along the way. When I was studying for the exam a CWI I worked with at the time, Attilio Ellul, helped me out.

Nick, how did you get your start in welding?

I took welding at a technical school while I was in high school.

What do you see as the biggest challenge for the welding community in the future?

I think the biggest challenge will be getting younger people interested in a “hands on” career. Technology is overtaking manual labor more and more every day.

What would you tell someone who may be “on the fence” about getting into welding as a career?

I would tell them that welding is a great career with a lot of opportunity to advance if you are willing to work hard and learn.

Would you encourage more schools (both high school and junior high) to encourage more young people to look into technical schools and jobs and not just degree positions?

Absolutely. Hands on training is invaluable. Skilled workers are in high demand. I do not know many welders who are unemployed. That should be encouragement enough.

Finally, if you weren’t involved in the welding industry, what would be your dream job?

My dream job would be to be a fishing or hunting guide someplace remote like Alaska.

Nick, thank you for taking the time out of your schedule to share some of your time with us today.

If you’d like to be featured in our Meet Our Members column, please contact Brian Hanhold via email at bhanhold@ford.com.

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