

 DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY <i>Inspiring Minds</i> Safe Work Instructions for Wire Feed Welding Machines	Policy Sponsor: Assistant Vice President Facilities Management	Approval Date: September 2010
	Responsible Unit: Trade Services	Revisions: August 2018

Hazards Identified:

Electrical shock, fumes, gases, fire, explosion, insufficient or inadequate PPE, location conditions, noise, molten metal

Personal Protective Equipment Required:

Safety footwear, insulated welding gloves, helmet with filter lens (based on lens shade selector chart) and cover plate, safety glasses with side shields, fire resistant welders cap, ear muffs or plugs, oil free protective clothing preferable leather aprons, leggings, capes and sleeves, respiratory protection

Training Required:

Before using this type of equipment employees must be properly trained by a competent person in its proper use. The operator's manual must be understood and followed by the operator at all times and reviewed regularly.

Employees must be trained in the proper use of all required PPE before operating this equipment.

These safe work practices must be followed at all times when using this equipment.

1. As part of their training operators of this equipment must read and understand the operating instructions before using this equipment.
2. If the equipment is hard wired or plugged into a wall outlet it must be set in the OFF position or unplugged and properly locked out as defined in the FM Lock Out Program before any attempt is made to repair, service, clean, replace parts, adjust or perform any other activity where an employee may be injured by the equipment being energized.
3. DO NOT use this equipment for anything other than its intended purpose.
4. Check the equipment before use and if defective DO NOT USE.

5. Ensure that the welder is set-up in a safe area.
6. Always keep the work area free of oil, grease and other flammables.
7. Ensure others are protected from UV flash by erecting and using UV curtains or screens.
8. Ensure that the equipment is properly / correctly set for current, voltage, wire feed and shielding gas flow rate.
9. Ensure that adequate ventilation for fume extraction is available and that it is used.
10. Always wear the required PPE when operating this equipment.
11. Use respiratory protection if necessary.
12. Always ensure the equipment work area and PPE are kept dry to help avoid electrical shock.
13. Ensure that welding return cable (ground) is properly connected to provide good electrical contact.
14. Ensure that the item to be worked on is free of any paint, oxides or other surface finishes that would prevent good electrical contact.
15. Ensure you take steps to prevent accidental UV welding flash to the skin or eyes.
16. Make sure that you know the location of the ON / OFF and EMERGENCY STOP buttons are located.
17. Always keep hand clear of work piece and away from the electrode.
18. Never leave a MIG welder unattended and running.
19. Regularly inspect the welding tip and shield for damage.
20. When you complete your welding, or if you are interrupted and must stop, TURN OFF the shielding gas at the regulator, turn of the machine and secure the hand piece safely.

Post Work

1. Upon completing work ensure that the welding gun and hoses are stored safely.

2. Close gas cylinder valve.
3. Clean up the work area and equipment when your job is finished.