MEETING & SEMINAR

UPdate

CWS SCS WPMAC AFPSC

Edition 4, Volume 4 Canadian Welding Association - Toronto Chapter March 2002

Plan to Attend our Tour!

Tuesday, March 12, 2002

Co-Steel Lasco, Hopkins Street, Whitby, Ontario

Tour starts 7:00 pm, sharp. Dinner served on the bus

Directions: Take Hwy 401 east to Whitby, exit Thickson Rd right (south) to Victoria St. Right on Victoria St to Hopkins, left on Hopkins.

Please reserve your Tour Tickets
by leaving a message at
our Administration Office
905-821-6916 by
Monday afternoon, March 11, 2002

TOUR

Co-Steel Lasco Tour

Reserve Now! Space is Limted.

Season ticket holders must register for events!

Co-Steel Lasco in Whitby is one of the worlds largest minimills with an annual melting capacity of 1.0 millon tons and a rolling capacity of 1.2 millon tons. Co-Steel has one of the widest product ranges of any single site in the industry. Some of the products they produce are steel bar and rod, structural shapes, flat rolled steel and reinforcing bar. Onsite, there is an electric arc furnace with a ladle, a continuous caster, an 18" standard mill with continuous cut-to-length, a structural mill and a new finishing end.
This is a must see!

Reserve right away.
There is a limit of 50 people for the tour, please make your reservations ASAP.

Bus Pickup and Drop off!
We are planning on having a bus for pick up and return drop off at Yorkdale Mall (Hwy 401 and Dufferin Rd). Please indicate if you plan on taking the bus. The bus will leave at 6:00 pm sharp; tour starts at 7:00 pm. Dinner will be served on the bus. Please leave a phone number where you can be contacted.

Payment
If you do not have a dinner ticket, payment must be made in advance. Pay by MasterCard, Visa or cheque. Provide Credit Card information by phone when you register. *Cost for members* is $30, (includes the bus and dinner) or $10 for the tour only. *Cost for non-members* is $35. If you are a non-member this would be a good time to sign up for $50.

Next Event

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

Student Appreciation Night

Presentations from University of Waterloo, Northern College and Conestoga College

Contact any Toronto Chapter Board Member for Tickets!

Know your Specs

Many companies do not fully understand and/or follow the requirements of a project specification. Projects get stalled for weeks due to remedial repairs and delay back charges resulting from specification related deficiencies. Why does it happen? Unfortunately, it's because someone who should know - doesn't.

One example that comes to mind was the substitution of ASTM A500 instead of the specified CAN/CSA G40.21 (American grade hollow structural section (tube) versus its Canadian cousin). The oversight was picked up by the independent inspector after the fabrication was complete. The steel supplier stated that there was no grade listed on the PO and therefore supplied the cheapest product they had in stock. The fabricator carried the full financial brunt of the oversight. Refer to CISC (Canadian Institute for Steel Construction) website for details on HSS grades.

A careless disregard for written specifications can double the scope simply by missing one tiny line hidden in the body of a spec. Ensure you read and understand the specifications. Have all relevant industry standards at your company and refer to them at time of bidding and during the project. Quote relevant standards and/or grades in your PO's when purchasing material. Demand mill certificates are shipped with the load and verify prior to unloading.

With the slim margins involved these days, companies cannot afford major hiccups.

EDUCATIONAL INFO:

Hazards of Burns and Fires

In addition to the risk of burns from radiation, there is the obvious hazard of burns and fires from hot metal. Most arc welding produces sparks and spatter - small droplets of molten metal ejected from the weld zone (Fig. 1) -which may travel considerable distances.

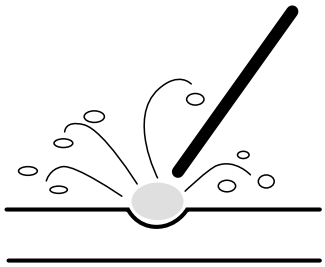

Fig 1. Spatter. Small droplets of molten metal ejected from the weld zone.

These could cause burns if allowed to strike exposed skin, and could ignite fires if they come into contact with flammable materials. In addition, the workpiece will be hot after welding and in some cases may be preheated before welding. It may not be obvious by its appearance that a piece if metal is hot, therefore, all hot pieces should be marked (Fig 2).

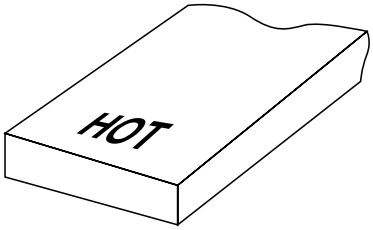

Fig 2. Pieces of hot metal should be marked to warn others.

Clothing

To reduce the risk of burns from hot metal, proper clothing and gloves must be worn. Protective clothing should be heat and fire resistant, long sleeved, and pants should not have cuffs that could trap hot metal. Gloves should be of the gauntlet type that offer protection to the wrist area. Do not wear rings or jewelry. Ears should be protected from burns and particulate matter (ie: ear plugs)

Fire

Hot metal, spatter and arc itself may present a risk of igniting a fire or causing an explosion if flammable material is nearby. Ensure that no containers of cleaning fluids or other flammable materials are near the welding station. If welding high up, remember that sparks and spatter can travel great distances and post a hazard to other workers or may cause a fire (Fig. 3).

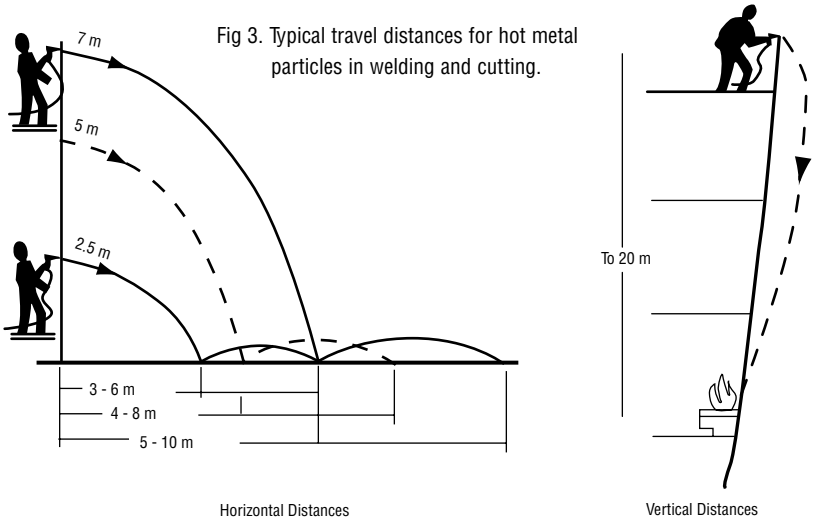

Fig 3. Typical travel distances for hot metal particles in welding and cutting.

When welding you should always be alert to the possibility of fires. Fire extinguishers should be provided and you should know how to operate them. After welding, carefully check the area to ensure there are no smouldering fires, sparks, or hot metal that could ignite a fire. It is not uncommon for fires to ignite in a time period after the welding has been completed.

Extracted from Gooderham Centre For Industrial Learning - Module 1 “Welding Health and Safety

Visit Us on the Welding WEB

Toronto Chapter has a web site! You can see the entire line-up of this years events and activities along with contacts and links. Come see where all the action is! http://www.cwa-acs.org/toronto

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