



Media Contact:

Adrienne Zalkind

800-443-9353 (ext. 416) or azalkind@aws.org

AWS AND RWMA RESISTANCE WELDING SCHOOL COMES TO THE BOOMING SOUTHEAST AUTO INDUSTRY

Meet Industry Experts in One of the Country's Newest Auto Manufacturing Hot Spots While Attending the Largest Welding Trade-Show of the Year

Miami, FL, August 3, 2006 – The American Welding Society (AWS) and the Resistance Welding Manufacturing Alliance (RWMA), a standing committee of AWS, will bring together several industry and research experts in the Southeast United States – a production hotbed for the automotive industry – to offer a course geared at the advancement of resistance welding skills and real-life application. The Emmet A. Craig Resistance Welding School, an AWS and RWMA sponsored educational program covering the foundation and future of resistance welding, will be held on November 1 and 2, 2006 at the FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show in Atlanta, at the Georgia World Conference Center. AWS is the world's largest nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing the science, technology and application of welding.

Resistance welding, the application of electricity and pressure to form a bond between two metals, is one of the most widely used welding processes. From office products, such as shelves and desks, to home and kitchen appliances, such as microwave ovens and washing machines, to hundreds of automobile components and accessories, resistance welding is a critical part of the production stage across a multitude of industries. This program's first-ever Southeast setting highlights the importance of resistance welding in the region's booming auto manufacturing industry, providing registrants with the opportunity to learn about resistance welding in a place where it is widely used and continues to expand. Home to major auto manufacturers, such as General Motors, Nissan, Hyundai, and DaimlerChrysler, the Southeast automotive industry continues to remain strong. In fact, according to the Federal Reserve Bank, automakers in the region represent about 15% of total U.S. auto production, employ approximately 32,000 people, and create numerous jobs at parts suppliers located near auto plants.

About the Program

This career enhancing opportunity is designed for operators, production supervisors, engineers, and others who want to further their knowledge in the theory, applications, and equipment used in resistance welding processes. The program will spotlight the basic evolution and future of resistance welding as well as its application. Additionally, all registrants will have access to the three-day welding trade-show beginning on October 31, 2006.

Subjects and speakers include:

- **Electrodes and Tooling:** This session focuses on the classification, selection and maintenance of electrodes and fixtures as they pertain to numerous applications. This will include a review of powerful problem/evaluation/solution techniques to enhance production time and operation. *Speaker: Bill Brafford, Technical Liaison Manager; Tuffaloy Products, Inc., Greer, SC*

- **Welding Controls:** This session focuses on the selection, descriptions and applications of welding timers, contactors, and accessories.
Speaker: Don Sorenson, Director of Engineering, ENTRON Controls, Inc., Greer, SC
- **Electrical Power Systems:** This session reviews the descriptions and maintenance of electrical power components and conductors from the weld control to the electrode.
Speaker: Kurt Hofman, President; RoMan Engineering Services, Grand Rapids, MI
- **Welding Processes and Machines:** This session reinforces the very essence of how the resistance welding process works and how the process relates to each of the four resistance welding processes. Examples from all four processes will be shown.
Speaker: Tim Foley, Sr. Applications Engineer; Automation International, Inc., Danville, IL
- **Troubleshooting and Maintenance:** Delivered from a veteran with over 30 years experience in the auto industry, specifying, installing and troubleshooting resistance welding systems, this session will provide critical welding tips, such as reasons why welds don't turn out as planned. This presentation is filled with real life examples of hard-to-solve problems.
Speaker: Bruce Kelly, President, Kelly Welding Solutions, Grand Ledge, MI
- **Initial Machine Set-up:** This session focuses on the selection and maintenance procedures of proper weld schedules and preventive maintenance programs designed to make your resistance welding operations profitable. Hands on demonstrations peak this presentation.
Speaker: Bob Matteson, Director-Product Development; Taylor-Winfield, Inc., Brookfield, OH

For further details and/or to register for this seminar as well as other AWS conferences and seminars, please call Martica Ventura at 800-443-9353, ext. 224, or visit the AWS Resistance Welding School website at <http://www.aws.org/expo/rwma.html>.

About AWS

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes, including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves nearly 50,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with more than 200 local Sections. For more information, visit the Society's website at <http://www.aws.org>.

About RWMA

The Resistance Welding Manufacturing Alliance is a standing committee of AWS with a mission to advance resistance welding technology, broaden its use, and promote its economic benefits. Since 1935, RWMA has been the source of authoritative information and experience for the resistance welding industry. The committee develops equipment standards for the protection and benefit of buyers and users of resistance welding equipment and accessories. For more information, visit the Alliance's website at <http://www.aws.org/rwma/>.

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