



AWS At-A-Glance

AWS Overview

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, AWS is supported by a staff of more than 100 professionals and serves nearly 53,000 members worldwide, including more than 7,000 international members. AWS is led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, and is composed of 22 Districts with more than 160 local Sections throughout the US and the world. AWS continues to lead the way in supporting welding education and technology development to ensure a strong, competitive and exciting way of life for all Americans.

**More Info: www.aws.org

AWS Membership

AWS' membership is made up of Student Members, Individual Members and Corporate Members. Individual Membership consists of engineers, educators, researchers, welders, inspectors, welding foremen, company executives and business owners. Corporate Members include welding manufacturers, independent welding shops, job shops, distributorships, end users, educational institutions and more. Member interests include automatic, semi-automatic and manual welding, as well as brazing, soldering, cutting, ceramics, lamination, robotics, lasers and safety and health.

**More Info: www.aws.org/membership

AWS Foundation

The AWS Foundation was established by AWS in 1989 to support programs that ensure the growth and development of the welding industry by strengthening research and educational opportunities in welding and related fields. The AWS Foundation provides funding through scholarships for entry level welding training, technical school, two-year and four-year colleges and fellowships for welding research. Scholarships are awarded locally by AWS Sections, regionally by AWS District Councils and nationally by the AWS Education Scholarship Committee. In 2006, the AWS Foundation inaugurated the *Welding for the Strength of America* \$10 million dollar national capital campaign to expand its scholarship offerings and add other means of financial support for students. In concert with this program, the AWS Foundation also in 2006 established the *Welder Workforce Development Program*, which was founded by generous contributions from its initial donors, Ron and Joyce Pierce, as well as a \$1 million endowment by Miller Electric and Hobart Brothers Company in North America. The goals of the initiative are to help facilitate programs aimed at relieving the nation-wide critical shortage of welders. The capital campaign success will determine the financial support that AWS has to actively address this crisis in our industry.

**More Info: www.aws.org/foundation

AWS Publications

Keeping its members on the cutting edge of the industry is paramount at AWS. That is why its publications, instructional and reference materials are among the industry's most widely consulted. The *Welding Journal*, a major monthly magazine dedicated to the welding and manufacturing industries, has won over 60 editorial and design awards and features an assortment of authoritative articles, industry news and welding research. *Inspection Trends*, published quarterly by AWS, is tailored to materials inspection and testing professionals and covers new technology, trends and safety. AWS also publishes over 300 books, charts, procedures, software and more than 160 AWS-developed codes, recommended practices, and guides produced under strict American National Standards Institute (ANSI) procedures, including one of the world's most consulted codes, D1.1 Structural Welding Code – Steel.

**More Info: www.aws.org/w/s/publications

AWS Show, Conferences and Seminars

AWS has become a world-renowned organization providing quality educational opportunities through a variety of welding conferences and seminars that present new technology and topical subjects for the welding industry. Every year, AWS joins forces with the industry's other leading associations, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and

the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, to present the FABTECH International & AWS Welding Show, the largest event in North America dedicated to showcasing a full spectrum of metal forming, fabricating, tube and pipe, and welding equipment and technology. Thousands of welding professionals from over 20 countries gather at this event to exchange state-of-the-art products and services, form new business relationships, problem-solve, share best practices, and find new procedures and processes that will improve their operations.

More Info: www.aws.org/conferences

AWS Education Programs

AWS education programs include international, national and local conferences, seminars, individual corporate programs, and home study courses. Subjects range from the basics to the leading edge of technology. AWS offers to all qualified U.S. welding training programs the award-winning program SENSE (Schools Excelling through National Skills Education), which implements national skill standards and associated curriculum guides to train and qualify welders. The program advances students through three different levels, from entry to expert welder, to prepare students for today's workforce and tomorrow's challenges.

More Info: www.aws.org/education

AWS Certification Programs

AWS offers a number of widely recognized certification programs to assist the industry in identifying qualified welding personnel and to provide opportunities for welding professionals. The premier AWS certification is the Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) program, which is distinguished internationally and trusted to ensure the highest level of quality workmanship. Established in 1976, this AWS service has certified over 52,000 welding inspectors and currently, more than 22,400 are certified. This AWS certification has been a major contributor to improved weld quality and reduced inspection costs. AWS offers additional certification programs for welding supervisors, engineers, radiographic interpreters, educators, robotic arc welding operators and technicians, fabricators and more.

More Info: www.aws.org/certification

AWS Executives

Ray Shook, Executive Director

Frank Tarafa, Deputy Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer

Cassie Burrell, Deputy Executive Director

Jeff Weber, Associate Executive Director

AWS Board Officers

Gene E. Lawson, President

Senior Sales Representative, ESAB Welding & Cutting Products

Victor Y. Matthews, Vice President

Global Customer Service Specialist, Lincoln Electric Company

John Bruskotter, Vice President

President, Bruskotter Consulting Services

John Mendoza, Vice President

Technical Trainer, CPS Energy

Earl C. Lipphardt, Treasurer

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