

## WELDING OF BISPLATE® QUENCHED AND TEMPERED STEELS

### GENERAL INFORMATION

All grades of BISPLATE® can be readily welded using any of the conventional low hydrogen welding processes.

Their low carbon content and carefully balanced, but relatively small additions of alloying elements (Mn, Cr, Mo, Ni, B) ensures good weldability, in addition to the advantages of high strength, impact toughness and high hardness.

### HYDROGEN CONTROL

To ensure adequate welding of BISPLATE®, it is necessary to be more mindful of the levels of hydrogen, preheat temperatures and arc energy inputs in order to minimise the hardening and maintain the properties of the weld Heat Affected Zone (HAZ).

Particular attention must be paid to the control of hydrogen content to minimise the risk of weld and HAZ cracking.

Weld hydrogen content is minimised by careful attention to the cleanliness and dryness of the joint preparations and the use of hydrogen controlled welding consumables.

Recommendations on the correct storage and handling of consumables may be obtained from welding consumable manufacturers, for instance the use of “Hot Boxes” for storage and reconditioning are required when using manual metal arc welding electrodes. Refer WTIA Tech Note 3 for further guidance.

### HEAT AFFECTED ZONE PROPERTY CONTROL

The HAZ, a region directly adjacent to the weld, experiences a thermal cycle ranging from unaffected parent plate to near melting at the fusion boundary.

The properties of this zone are determined by the steel composition as well as the cooling rate.

## STEEL COMPOSITION

BISPLATE® grades and chemical compositions may be divided into categories based on Carbon Equivalent and CET as follows:

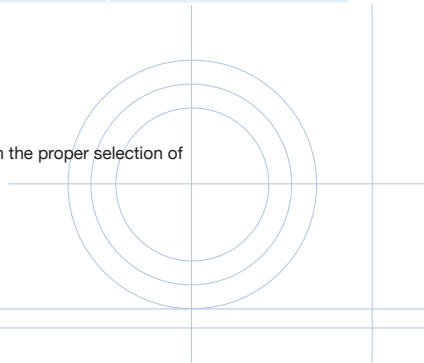
Table 1:

BISPLATE® GRADE	PLATE THICKNESS (mm)	CARBON EQUIVALENT (IIW) TYPICAL AVERAGE	CET TYPICAL AVERAGE
60, 70, 80, 320, 400	5 - 12	0.40	0.29
60, 70, 80, 320, 400	13 - 80	0.50	0.35
60, 70, 80, 320, 400	81 - 100	0.58	0.34
450	6 - 20	0.46	0.30
	25 - 50	0.58	0.36
500	8 - 100	0.62	0.42

Notes:

- $$\text{C.E. (IIW)} = \text{C} + \frac{\text{Mn}}{6} + \frac{\text{Cr} + \text{Mo} + \text{V}}{5} + \frac{\text{Cu} + \text{Ni}}{15}$$
- $$\text{CET} = \text{C} + \frac{\text{Mn} + \text{Mo}}{10} + \frac{\text{Cr} + \text{Cu} + \text{Ni}}{20} + \frac{\text{Ni}}{40}$$

These categories give an indication of the degree of care required in the proper selection of welding preheat/heat inputs.



## COOLING RATE

Limitations on both preheat and heat input are necessary to ensure that the HAZ cools at an appropriate rate and that the correct hardness and microstructure are achieved. Too slow a cooling rate can result in a soft HAZ and thus a loss of tensile and fracture toughness properties. Too rapid a cooling rate produces a hard HAZ which may cause loss of ductility. Cooling is controlled by a balance between preheat and heat input for a particular plate thickness and joint configuration.

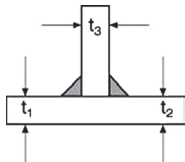
## PREHEAT/HEAT INPUT

The preheat/heat input recommendations outlined in tables 2 and 3 will ensure that the cooling rate of the HAZ is satisfactory.

## RECOMMENDED PREHEAT/INTERPASS TEMPERATURES (°C) FOR BISPLATE®

Table 2:

BISPLATE® GRADE	JOINT COMBINED THICKNESS ( $t_1 + t_2 + t_3$ ) MM				
	<30	≥30≤40	>40<50	≥50<100	≥100
Minimum Preheat Temp°C					
High Strength Structural Grades					
60 (AS 3597 Grade 500)	Nil*	50	50	75	140
70 (AS 3597 Grade 600)	Nil*	50	50	75	140
80 (AS 3597 Grade 700)	Nil*	50	50	75	140
Minimum Preheat Temp°C					
Abrasion Resistant Grades					
320	Nil*	75	75	125	150
400	Nil*	75	75	125	150
450	Nil*	Nil*	100	125***	**
500	100	150	150	150	**
Maximum Interpass Temp°C					
80 - 450 Grades	150	150	175	200	220
500 Grade	150	175	175	200	220



\* Chill must be removed from plates prior to welding.

\*\* Refer to Bisalloy Steels® for availability, preheat/interpass requirements.

\*\*\* A reduced 100°C min preheat can be used for product ≥50 – 60 JCT.

Note that under rigid weld joint restraint or high ambient humidity conditions preheating temperature should be increased by 25°C.

## PERMISSIBLE HEAT INPUT (KJ/MM) FOR BISPLATE®

Table 3:

WELDING PROCESS	JOINT COMBINED THICKNESS ( $t_1 + t_2 + t_3$ ) mm			
	≤40	>40 ≤60	>60 ≤100	>100
MMAW	1.25 - 2.5	1.25 - 3.5	1.5 - 4.5	1.5 - 5.0
GMAW	1.0 - 2.5	1.0 - 3.5	1.5 - 4.5	1.5 - 5.0
FCAW	0.8 - 2.5	0.8 - 3.5	1.5 - 4.5	1.5 - 5.0
SAW	1.0 - 2.5	1.0 - 3.5	1.5 - 4.5	1.5 - 5.0

$$\text{Heat input (kJ/mm)} = \frac{\text{Volts} \times \text{Amps} \times 0.06}{\text{Travel Speed (mm/minute)}}$$

Note: For thicknesses up to 12mm in structural grades, the maximum arc energy may need to be limited to 1.5 KJ/ mm maximum in specific applications.

## WELDING BISPLATE®

### WELDING CONSUMABLE SELECTION GUIDE FOR BISPLATE® (AS CLASSIFICATIONS)

Table 4a:

		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
MMAW Consumables <sup>1</sup> Warning: Only use Hydrogen Controlled consumables					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	E55XX/E62XX* E48XX E48XX	E69XX* E55XX E48XX	E76XX E55XX/E62XX E48XX	N.R. E55XX E48XX
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1430-AX, 1855-AX**
GMAW Consumables <sup>2</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	W55XX/W62XX* W50XX W50XX	W69XX* W55XX W50XX	W76XX W62XX/W69XX W55XX.X	N.R. W55XX W50XX
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1855-BX**
FCAW Consumables <sup>3</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	W55XX.X/W62XX.X* W50XX.X W50XX.X	W69XX.X* W62XX.X W55XX.X	W76XX.X W62XX.X W55XX.X	N.R. W55XX.X W50XX.X
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1430-BX, 1855-BX, 1860-BX**
SAW Consumables <sup>4</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	W55XX/W62XX* W50XX W40XX	W69XX* W50XX W40XX	W76XX W50XX W40XX	N.R. W50XX W40XX
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1855-BX**

Table 4a courtesy of WTIA (Tech Note 15)

Notes:

1. MMAW - AS/NZS 4855 consumable classification.
2. GMAW - AS2717.1 consumable classification.
3. FCAW - AS/NZS 17632 and AS/NZS 18276 consumable classification.
4. SAW - AS1858.1 and AS1858.2 consumable classification.

X = A Variable - any value allowed by the relevant standard may be acceptable provided that the consumable is hydrogen controlled (ie low hydrogen).

+ E62XX and W62XX type consumables overmatch the strength requirements but may be used.

\* These Consumables may be difficult to obtain. In some cases E62XX or W62XX type consumables may be substituted, otherwise use E76XX or W76XX types.

\*\* AS2576 and WTIA TN 4 Classifications.

N.R. – Not Recommended.

## WELDING CONSUMABLE SELECTION GUIDE FOR BISPLATE® (AWS CLASSIFICATIONS)

Table 4b:

		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
MMAW Consumables <sup>1</sup> Warning: Only use Hydrogen Controlled consumables					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	E80XX/E90XX* E70XX E70XX	E100XX* E80XX E70XX	E110XX E80XX/E90XX E70XX N.R.	N.R. E80XX E70XX
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1430-AX, 1855-AX**
GMAW Consumables <sup>2</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	ER80S-X/ER90S-X* ER70S-X ER70S-X	ER100S-X* ER80S-X ER70S-X	ER110S-X ER90S-X/ER100S-X ER80S-X N.R.	N.R. ER80S-X ER70S-X 1855-BX**
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1855-BX**
FCAW Consumables <sup>3</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	E8XTX-X/E9XTX-X* E7XTX-X E7XTX-X	E10XTX-X* E9XTX-X E8XTX-X	E11XTX-X E9XTX-X E8XTX-X N.R.	N.R. E8XTX-X E7XTX-X
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1430-BX, 1855-BX, 1860-BX**
SAW Consumables <sup>4</sup>					
Strength Level	Matching Lower Lower	F8XX/F9XX* F7XX F6XX	F10XX* F7XX F6XX	F11XX F7XX F6XX N.R.	N.R. F7XX F6XX
Hardness	Matching	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	1855-BX**

Table 4b courtesy of WTIA (Tech Note 15)

Notes:

1. MMAW – AWS A5.1-91 and AWS A5.5-81 consumable classification.
2. GMAW – AWS A5.18-93 and AWS A5.28-79 consumable classification.
3. FCAW – AWS A5.20-79 and AWS A5.29-80 consumable classification.
4. SAW – AWS A5.17-89 and AWS A5.23-90 consumable classification.

X = A Variable - any value allowed by the relevant standard may be acceptable provided that the consumable is hydrogen controlled (ie low hydrogen).

+ E90XX, ER90S, E9XTX and F9XX type consumables overmatch the strength requirements but may be used.

\*These Consumables may be difficult to obtain. In some cases E90XX, ER90S, E9XTX or F9XX type consumables may be substituted, otherwise use E110XX, ER110S, E11XTX or F11XX types.

\*\*AS2576 WTIA TN 4 Classifications.

N.R. – Not Recommended.

## **MANUFACTURERS' WELDING CONSUMABLES**

Welding Consumables suitable for matching strength, lower strength and matching hardness are readily available from a range of consumable manufacturers as per following tables 5 to 8.

## WELDING CONSUMABLES FOR MANUAL METAL ARC WELDING (MMAW)

Table 5:

BRANDS		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
CIGWELD	M.S.	Alloycraft 90	Alloycraft 90 (under) Alloycraft 110 (over)	Alloycraft 110	N.R.
	L.S.	Ferrocrafter 61 Ferrocrafter 16 Twincoat	Ferrocrafter 61 Ferrocrafter 16 Twincoat	Ferrocrafter 61 Ferrocrafter 16 Twincoat	Ferrocrafter 61 Ferrocrafter 16 Twincoat
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Cobalarc 350, 650, 750
Lincoln Electric	M.S.	SL 20G	Conarc 80*	Conarc 80	N.R.
	L.S.	Conarc 49C Jetweld LH70	Conarc 49C Jetweld LH70	Conarc 49C Jetweld LH70	Conarc 49C Jetweld LH70
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
W.I.A	M.S.	N.R.	Weldwell PH118	Weldwell PH118	N.R.
	L.S.	Austarc 16TC, 18TC or Austarc 77	Austarc 16TC, 18TC Austarc 77	N.R.	Austarc 16TC, 18TC Austarc 77
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Abraso Cord 350, 700
SWP/Metrode Products	M.S.	E9018-D1	E10018-D2	E11018-M	N.R.
	L.S.	MP51	MP51	MP51	MP51
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Methard 350, Methard 650
Eutectic Castolin	M.S.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.R.
	L.S.	Eutectrode 66*66	Eutectrode 66*66	Eutectrode 66*66	Eutectrode 66*66
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
ESAB	M.S.	OK 74.70	OK 74.86	OK 75.75	
	L.S.	OK 48.08, OK 48.04	OK 48.04, OK 48.08	OK 48.08, OK 48.04	
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	OK 83.28 (30 HRC) OK 83.50 (50-60 HRC)

M.S. – Matching Strength

L.S. – Lower Strength

M.H. – Matching hardness

N.R. – Not Recommended

N.A. – Not available

N.B. – Consumables in brackets will match mechanical property requirements in the majority of instances as per manufacturer's recommendations and where the appropriate weld procedure is applied. Weld Qualification procedures should be carried out to establish actual Weld metal properties.

\*Consumable recommendations overmatch mechanical property requirements.



## WELDING CONSUMABLES FOR GAS METAL ARC WELDING (GMAW)

Table 6:

BRANDS		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
CIGWELD/STOODY  Contact Bisalloy or Thermadyne for shielding gas information	M.S.	Autocraft MnMo	Autocraft MnMo (Under) or Autocraft NiCrMo (Over)	Autocraft NiCrMo	N.R.
	L.S.	Autocraft LW1 or Autocraft LW1-6	Autocraft LW1 or Autocraft LW1-6	Autocraft LW1 or Autocraft LW1-6	Autocraft LW1 or Autocraft LW1-6
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Autocraft HF650
Lincoln	M.S.	N.R.	SuperArc LA100*	SuperAcr LA100	N.R.
	L.S.	UltraMag S4 UltraMag S6**	UltraMag S4 UltraMag S6**	UltraMag S4 UltraMag S6**	UltraMag S4 UltraMag S6**
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
W.I.A	M.S.	Austmig ESD2/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	Austmig NiCrMo	Austmig NiCrMo	N.R.
	L.S.	Austmig ES6/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	Austmig ES6/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	Austmig ES6/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	Austmig ES6/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas
	M.H.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	TD600/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed gas
Eutectic Castolin	M.S.	AN45252/ CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	AN45252/ CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	AN45252/ CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	N.R.
	L.S.	DO*65/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	DO*65/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	DO*65/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	DO*65/CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas
ESAB	M.S.	OK AristoRod 13.09 Mixed Gas	OK AristoRod 55 Mixed Gas	OK AristoRod 69 Mixed Gas	
	L.S.	OK AristoRod 12.50 CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	OK AristoRod 12.50 CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	OK AristoRod 12.50 CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas	
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	OK AutoRod 13.89 (30-40HRC) OK AutoRod 13.90 (50-60HRC)

M.S. – Matching Strength

L.S. – Lower Strength

M.H. – Matching hardness

N.R. – Not Recommended

N.A. – Not available

N.B. – Consumables in brackets will match mechanical property requirements in the majority of instances as per manufacturer's recommendations and where the appropriate weld procedure is applied. Weld Qualification procedures should be carried out to establish actual Weld metal properties.

\*Consumable recommendations overmatch mechanical property requirements.



## WELDING CONSUMABLES FOR FLUX CORED ARC WELDING (FCAW)

Table 7:

BRANDS		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
CIGWELD/ STOODY	M.S. Seamless	Verticor 91K2 H4	Verticor 91K2 H4 (Under) or *Verticor 111K3 H4 (Over) or Tensicor 110TXP H4 (Over)	*Verticor 111K3 H4 (Over) or Tensicor 110TXP H4 (Over)	N.R.
	L.S. Seamless (E6XT-X)	Verticor XP LT H4	Verticor XP LT H4	Verticor XP LT H4	Verticor XP LT H4
	L.S. Seamless	Verticor 3XPH4 or Verticor 5XP or Metalcor 5 H4 or Verticor 81Ni1 H4	Verticor 3XPH4 or Verticor 5XP or Metalcor 5 H4 or Verticor 81Ni1 H4	Verticor 3XPH4 or Verticor 5XP or Metalcor 5 H4 or Verticor 81Ni1 H4	Verticor 3XPH4 or Verticor 5XP or Metalcor 5 H4 or Verticor 81Ni1 H4
	L.S. Seamed	Verticor 3XP or Suprecor 5 or Metalcor XP or Verticor 81Ni1 or 81Ni2	Verticor 3XP or Suprecor 5 or Metalcor XP or Verticor 81Ni1 or 81Ni2	Verticor 3XP or Suprecor 5 or Metalcor XP or Verticor 81Ni1 or 81Ni2	Verticor 3XP or Suprecor 5 or Metalcor XP or Verticor 81Ni1 or 81Ni2
	L.S. Self Shielded	Shieldcor 8XP or Shieldcor 8Ni	Shieldcor 8XP or Shieldcor 8Ni	Shieldcor 8XP or Shieldcor 8Ni	Shieldcor 8XP or Shieldcor 8Ni
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Stoody Super Build-Up or Stoody 965-G or Stoody 965 AP-G
Lincoln	M.S.	Outershield 91Ni1-HSR/20-H	Outershield 20-H	Outershield 690-H	N.R.
	L.S.	Outershield 81Ni, 71MX, 71CX Innershield NR232, NR233, NS3M	Outershield 81Ni, 71MX, 71CX Innershield NR232, NR233, NS3M	Outershield 81Ni, 71MX, 71CX Innershield NR232, NR233, NS3M	Outershield 81Ni, 71MX, 71CX Innershield NR232, NR233, NS3M Lincore 36LS, Lincore 33, Lincore 55-G
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	
W.I.A./Hobart Brothers	M.S.	Austfil 81N1M/mixed gas TM-71 HYD/CO <sub>2</sub> TM-811N1/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas	FabCO 110K3M/mixed gas	FabCO 110K3M/mixed gas	N.R.
	L.S.	Austfil 71T-1/CO <sub>2</sub> Austfil 70C-6M, 71T-1M/mixed gas Formula XL-525/mixed gas FabCO 85/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Fabshield 4, XLR-8	TM-991K2/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Austfil 81N1M/mixed gas TM-71 HYD/CO <sub>2</sub> TM-811N1/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Metalloy 80N1/mixed gas	TM-991K2/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Austfil 81N1M/mixed gas TM-71 HYD/CO <sub>2</sub> TM-811N1/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Metalloy 80N1/mixed gas	Austfil 70C-6M, 71T-1M, 81N1M/ mixed gas Austfil 71T-1, TM-71 HYD/CO <sub>2</sub> TM-811N1/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Metalloy 80N1/mixed gas Formula XL-525/mixed gas FabCO 85/CO <sub>2</sub> or mixed gas Fabshield 4, XLR-8
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Vertiwear 600/mixed gas

Table 7 continued:

BRANDS		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
Eutectic Castolin	M.S.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	L.S.	Teromatec OA2020	Teromatec OA2020	Teromatec OA2020	Teromatec OA2020
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.
SWP/ Metrode ESAB	M.S.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
	L.S.	Dualshield II 80-Ni1H4 Mixed Gas	Dualshield T-100 CO <sub>2</sub> Shielding Gas or Dualshield 7100 Ultra Mixed Gas	Dualshield T-115 CO <sub>2</sub> or Mixed Gas or Dualshield 7100 Ultra Mixed Gas	
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	OK Tubrodur 15.40 (30-40HRC) CO <sub>2</sub> OK Tubrodur 15.52 (55-60 HRC) CO <sub>2</sub> or Self Shielded

M.S. – Matching Strength

L.S. – Lower Strength

M.H. – Matching Hardness

N.R. – Not Recommended

N.A. – Not Available

N.B. – Consumables in brackets will match mechanical property requirements in the majority of instances as per manufacturer's recommendations and where the appropriate weld procedure is applied. Weld Qualification procedures should be carried out to establish actual Weld metal properties.

\*Consumable recommendations overmatch mechanical property requirements.

## WELDING CONSUMABLES FOR SUBMERGED ARC WELDING (SAW)

Table 8:

BRANDS		BISPLATE® 60	BISPLATE® 70	BISPLATE® 80	BISPLATE® 320, 400, 450, 500
CIGWELD	M.S.	N.A.	Autocraft NiCrMo (Over)/ Satinarc 4	Autocraft NiCrMo (Over)/ Satinarc 4	N.R.
	L.S.	Autocraft SA1or SA2/ Satinarc 4 or 15	Autocraft SA1or SA2/ Satinarc 4 or 15	Autocraft SA1or SA2/ Satinarc 4 or 15	Autocraft SA1or SA2/ Satinarc 4 or 15
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Stoody 107/Stoody S Flux
Lincoln	M.S.	Lincolnweld LA-90/880M or 8500	Lincolnweld LAC-M2/880M*	Lincolnweld LAC-M2/880M	N.R.
	L.S.	L-60/L-61/761, 860, 960	L-60/L-61/761, 860, 960	L-60/L-61/761, 860, 960	L-60/L-61/761, 860, 960
	M.H.	N.R.	N.R.	N.R.	Lincore 30-S, Lincore 40-S Lincore 50 & 55/880
ESAB	M.S.	OK Tubrod 15.24S+OK 10.62	OK Tubrod 13.43+OK 10.62	OK Tubrod 15.27S+OK 10.62	N.A.
	L.S.	OK 12.22/OK 10.71	OK 12.22/OK 10.71	OK 12.22/OK 10.71	N.A.
	M.H.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

M.S. – Matching Strength

L.S. – Lower Strength

M.H. – Matching Hardness

N.R. – Not Recommended

N.A. Not available

N.B. – Consumables in brackets will match mechanical property requirements in the majority of instances as per manufacturer's recommendations and where the appropriate weld procedure is applied. Weld Qualification procedures should be carried out to establish actual Weld metal properties.

\*Consumable recommendations overmatch mechanical property requirements.

At the time of printing all consumables listed were current/accurate but consult consumable manufacturer for up to date information.

## WELDING PROCEDURES

The specific effects of welding on weld joint properties in any practical situation will depend on many factors including the choice of consumables, total weld heat input, level of restraint, weld geometry and proximity of adjacent welds.

Guidance on weld procedures for specific applications may be sought from Bisalloy technical staff or consumable suppliers.

## ARC STRIKES

Arc strikes outside the welded zone can result in cracks, particularly on dynamically loaded structures. All strikes should be made within the joint preparation.

## TACK WELDING

Tack welds require special care due to the abnormal stresses and high cooling rates experienced by the adjacent material. The same preheat, heat input requirements should be employed and lower strength welding consumables considered.

## FILLET WELDING

Good fillet welding techniques are important in welding Q and T steels because often very high stresses are applied in service. It is essential that welds have good root penetration, be smooth, correctly contoured and well flared into the legs of the joined pieces. Lower strength consumables are suggested when design permits.

WTIA Tech. Note 15 provides guidance on correct procedures for fillet welding.

## REPAIR WORK

It is good practice to weld repair with lower strength consumables (low hydrogen type), since plate materials which have been highly stressed in service may tend to warp or distort slightly during welding and improved ductility may be required. In some situations, such as joints under restraint, joints subjected to impact/fatigue stresses, etc, special welding consumables may be necessary.

## WELDING STRESSES

It should be emphasised that the recommended values of preheat and heat input are based on low to moderate levels of restraint. For conditions of high restraint it is important to minimise the degree to which free contraction is hampered and it may be necessary to use higher preheats. Proper welding sequence and small joint configurations would be considered important in high restraint situations and it is advisable to establish welding parameters with simulated full scale weld tests.

Care should also be exercised at the assembly stage to avoid offset and angular distortion at the plate edge, undercutting and bad appearance.

## STRESS RELIEF

Stress relief may be conducted on BISPLATE® 60, 70, 80 and 80PV grades but is advisable only if absolutely necessary (eg. to comply with AS1210 in the case of road tankers). Stress relief is recommended within a 540 - 570°C temperature range for one hour per 25mm of thickness. Thermal cycling is generally performed in accordance with AS 1210 Code requirements for Q and T steels. The toes of weld beads should be dressed by grinding prior to any stress relief treatment in order to prevent stress relief cracking.

When stress relieving BISPLATE® ≤12mm (typically 0.40 CE(IIW)) and matching strength across the weld is a requirement, it is recommended to weld with minimum permissible preheat/ interpass temperatures (Table 2) and heat input (Table 3) conditions to minimise the degree of softening or any loss of strength which may occur in the HAZ.

Consult Bisalloy Steels® for further information if required.

## POST-WELD HEATING

Post-weld heating at 200-250°C may be conducted as an effective hydrogen dissolution treatment particularly when consumables other than H5 or H10 are used.

## HELPFUL HINTS

General rules for good quality welding of BISPLATE®:

- Use a low hydrogen process, eg GMAW (MIG), FCAW (gas shielded)
- Adhere to the correct rules for storage and handling of low hydrogen consumables per the manufacturers' recommendations, or WTIA Tech. Note 3
- Clean joint area of all contaminants prior to welding
- Remove 1 - 2mm from flame cut or gouged surfaces by grinding
- Select the recommended preheat, interpass and heat input parameters
- Position for downhand welding where possible
- Always use stringer beads, never wide weaves
- Use lower strength consumables on root runs and fillet welds (when the design permits)
- Use temper beads when necessary
- Arc strikes to be made in the joint preparation
- Particular attention should be given to tack welds re preheat, heat input and joint cleanliness requirements
- Grinding toes of fillet welds is particularly important in fatigue applications

## REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

- AS1554 Part 4 Welding of Q & T Steels
- AS1554 Part 5 Welding of Steel Structures Subject to High Levels of Fatigue Loading
- WTIA Technical Note 15
- WTIA Technical Note 3
- WTIA Technical Note 1