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Air Liquide Welding Belgium will present its most recent innovations at the 8th Welding Week in Antwerpen 16 to 19 October 2007

press info



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Air Liquide Welding

The Air Liquide Welding group (sales in 2006 of 580 M euros) with 3000 employees all around the world is a leader in the development of welding-cutting technologies, offering a complete range of related equipment, consumables and services to the market, through several brands: Oerlikon, SAF FRO, Cemont and Weldline. With its Technical Centre for Welding Applications (CTAS), acknowledged as the largest private welding research centre in the world, Air Liquide Welding pursues continuous innovation, constantly striving to improve the performance and productivity of its clients, and the safety and comfort of operators.

Air Liquide Welding in Belgium

Is a major actor on the market and offers:

- The expertise of an experienced team of product managers, technicians and demonstrators at the disposal of its customers
- A regional presence through a large professional distributors network.

For the 8th Welding Week trade show, to be held in Antwerpen from 16 to 19 October 2007, Air Liquide Welding will present and demonstrate on its booth (n° 1250) the group's main innovations likely to satisfy customers in the metal welding and cutting sectors:

1- TOPTIG: an essential development in the field of robotic welding featuring a new TIG welding process with wire feed providing MIG welding speed combined with TIG quality (excellent penetration with no spatter). see photo.

2- ALPHATOME-HPC: this plasma cutting machine is perfectly adapted to the flexibility needs of companies using cutting machines. Managed by the HPC Digital Process allowing both control of machine paths and management of cutting parameters (pressure, flow rates, current, etc.), this machine combines high cutting accuracy with extremely easy handling assisted by a user-friendly interface for intuitive and interactive use.

3- Plasma welding in vertical position + HPW process controller: This configuration combines the advantages of the plasma process with those of vertical position welding. **Advantages of the plasma process:** very low deformation of welded pieces, corrosion problems eliminated by adapting to the chemical composition of the base material, excellent appearance, preparation times reduced by eliminating bevelling (for thicknesses up to 8 mm), shorter welding times (divided by 4 or 5 compared with manual welding), complete and regular penetration guaranteed by using the "keyhole" effect and very high quality welds (100% X-rays) **Advantages of vertical position welding:** avoids the use of stiffening systems for shell welding on rotators, allows downward vertical welding to close the shells, allows butt welding of shells in horizontal-vertical position, reduces unproductive operations.

4- Manual welding sets. The following sets will be presented:

- **DIGIWAVE- DIGIPULS:** a range of MIG/MAG digital welding sets with multiple process possibilities, especially specific Spray Modal for high-quality aluminium applications and Speed Short Arc allowing a considerably **faster welding speed** without loss of quality especially for thin plate.
- **PRESTOTIG:** a fully renewed range of TIG welding sets using inverter technology. High-quality applications for stainless steels and aluminium.

5- CRISTAL welding consumables: two ranges of high quality welding consumables, with low fume emission. **CRISTAL E** are coated electrodes (308L, 316L and 309L) for welding stainless steels that help to improve considerably the working conditions and environment through: a reduction by 50% of fumes emission and by reducing Cr VI content in fumes (four times compared to standard products). **CRISTAL F** two cored wires (metal cored and rutile) for welding structural steels. These cored wires improve your welders' performance through: a better visibility of the weldpool,, a good feedability and operational performance, even with long harnesses, less

cleaning of welded pieces and lower consumption of wear parts through low spatter level and low fume emission, CRISTAL F cored wires also improve the welders' working conditions and environment through : a significant reduction of welding fume emission (up to 40%) compared to standard wires making welding safer and more comfortable.

6- **SUBARC and DRYBAG** that are very innovative solutions in Submerged Arc Welding. **SUBARC** is a range of equipment and **DRYBAG** is a new, completely moisture proof packaging for submerged arc welding fluxes that will **save costs** for fabricators. Whatever the climatic conditions, this packaging system ensures safe and long-term storage of agglomerated welding fluxes, without moisture pick-up. The flux is in the very dry condition straight from the DRYBAG and any flux re-conditioning treatment is unnecessary, even for critical applications in aggressive climates.

*With nearly **37,000 employees** in **72 countries**, Air Liquide is a **world leader** in industrial and medical gases and related services. The Group offers **innovative solutions** based on constantly enhanced technologies and produces **air gases (oxygen, nitrogen, argon, rare gases...)** and **many other gases including hydrogen**. The Group contributes to the manufacturing of **many everyday products**: bubbles in sparkling beverages, protective atmosphere for packed foods, oxygen for hospitals and homecare patients, ultra-pure gases for the semiconductor industry, hydrogen to desulfurize fuels...*

*Air Liquide is committed to **sustainable development** and helps to **protect life**. Founded in 1902, Air Liquide has successfully developed a long-term relationship with its shareholders built on **trust** and **transparency** and guided by the principles of **corporate governance**. Since the publication of its first consolidated financial statements in 1971, Air Liquide has posted **strong and steady earnings growth**. Sales in 2006 totaled **10,949 million euros**, with sales outside France accounting for almost 80%. Air Liquide is listed on the Paris stock exchange and is a component of the CAC 40 and Eurostoxx 50 indices (ISIN code FR 0000120073).*