

## BOOK REVIEW

Health and Safety in welding and allied processes – Jane Blunt and Nigel.C.Balchin. Fifth Edition – 2002 Wood head publishing Ltd., England, 261 pages. The first edition of this book was published in the year 1956 and subsequently the book has been revised and up dated constantly. The present edition is the fifth edition and has been updated with latest inputs.

The book is divided into two major sections. The first one covers the hazards that are specific to welding and cutting environment like, dangers due to compressed gases, liquefied gases, fire, fume, dust, vapor, radiation, noise, vibration, mechanical hazards and general accidents. In this part elaborate details are given about each of the hazards, like their sources, their exposure limits (wherever applicable), their harmful effects and methods to control them within the acceptable levels.

The second part of the book details the hazards associated with a specific welding / cutting process. Each chapter in this part deals with all the possible hazards associated with a specific welding process like Gas welding / cutting, Arc welding / cutting, Plasma arc, Electro Slag, Resistance welding, Thermit welding, EBW, LBW, Friction welding Brazing, Soldering, Thermal spraying, flame spraying. The chapters list the key hazards and detail the precautions, safety measures to be adopted while using that process. There are number of tables with detailed information on various safety aspects like shade of filter glasses, radiation distances, fume levels etc. It can be observed that in a few processes like ESW, Friction welding, the key hazards are limited. Each chapter has been planned to give sufficient insight, which should be highly useful for everyone using that process.

A separate chapter has been allocated to deal with the hazards associated with inspection and testing of welds. Tests like Radiography, MPT, DPT, etc. use isotopes, solvents which can be hazardous. Safe practices to be adopted in these testing methods are detailed in this chapter.

Another separate chapter deals with more hazardous welding environments like welding of contaminated vessels, welding in confined spaces, working near asbestos, work on batteries, work on coated materials. Each environment has been handled elaborately with clear procedures, diagrams to make the reader understand the seriousness of the problem and the methods to work safely.

The book concludes with a chapter on the legislation which are more relevant to US & UK but the Indian users can get an idea of the elaborate acts, regulations, standards available in those countries. A separate appendix has also been provided to guide the users on risk assessment.

The authors' long association with various welding processes at the Welding Institute and their rich experience in the field of health and safety can be felt when one goes through the rich data given in the form of various tables throughout this book.

Health and Safety in welding has always been a topic of importance in our country, though there are relatively a few papers, articles and books by Indian authors on this subject. In India, the awareness on this topic is fast growing and in the light of this, this book should form an interesting reading for all those associated with welding and cutting.

(Contribution by **Mr. R. RAVI**)

### IIW 2005 ANNUAL ASSEMBLY AND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

10-15 July 2005, Prague, Czech Republic

The Annual Assembly of the International Institute of Welding (IIW\*) is scheduled to take place at Prague, Czech Republic, during 10-15 July 2005.

#### International Conference

Theme of the Conference is **Benefits of new methods and trends in welding to economy, productivity and quality**. Authors are invited to submit abstracts in English. The Abstract condenses a proposed paper by summarising and highlighting its major points in 100-200 words (one page of A4 format).

#### Important Deadlines

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| Distribution of 2nd Circular               | January 2005      |
| Abstracts Submission (for the Conference)  | 15 February 2005  |
| Registration at standard fee               | 3 May 2005        |
| Full texts submission (for the Conference) | 30 April 2005     |
| IIW 2005 Annual Assembly                   | 10 - 13 July 2005 |
| IIW 2005 International Conference          | 14 - 15 July 2005 |

please visit the website [www.iiw2005.cz](http://www.iiw2005.cz) for details

\*IIW was founded in 1948 by the welding institutes or societies in 13 countries, who felt the need to create it to make possible more rapid scientific and technical progress. Now experts from around the world are working in over 25 Working Units to stimulate, co-ordinate research and disseminate information on welding in terms of materials, design, inspection.