

EDITORIAL


This volume of the journal has two technical papers. The first technical paper from A Murugan et al. discusses the predominant diffusion bonding parameters involved in joining bimetallic powder metallurgy product, and empirical relationship has been developed to predict the bond strength.

The effect of heat input on the Intergranular corrosion resistance of duplex stainless steel as clad material evaluated by double-loop electrochemical has been described in the second technical paper.

I would now like to address a topic that is very dear to me. Education in welding technology is a key component of the development of manpower that is necessary for the future of fabrication industries in India. In meeting this need, though some of our academic institutes have been offering master/undergraduate programme in welding /joining technology to a limited number of students, IIW-India has been offering equivalent to bachelor's degree in welding for the decades to the unlimited students. It is of concern that students are now reluctant to take this opportunity as revealed recently from the decreasing trend towards enrollment of AM-IIW Examination. It is needless to mention here that big company like L&T has established master programme in Welding Technology to fulfill their requirement. In fact, most of the large companies have their own training facilities and they train their people related to the needs of the respective company as per job specification on their production line. If one is taking about demand, it means that one is to look into future requirement of welding personal. National development plans in different projects and others are becoming potential job opportunities for welding personnel. However, companies are being required more and more competent welding personal.

The students enrolled in AM-IIW examination usually possess a Bachelor's degree in welding, but do not have any formal exposure to welding science or technology. The imparting of the basics and the practical experiences, that are necessary for understanding fabrication jobs, has been left to the concerned industries in which the individuals are employed. However, there is a significant gap that must be filled, since the industries have other pressures and do not have the luxury to focus on basic training of their employees. It is of concern that the "employable" are not formally trained and formally trained ones are not "employable". As a society, I hope we get an opportunity to debate on this important issue in the near future.

Our next big event is NWS 2015 which is to be held in Mumbai, during 9-11th December, 2015 and we expect to be a very grand success. It is hoped that all interested authors will submit their technical abstracts to the seminar well in advance.



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