# Next Generation Double Electrode GMAW Processes for Precision Fillet Welding

NSRP Project Manager: Ryan Schneider NSRP PTR: Paul Hebert



NSRP All Panel Meeting – March 28, 2023

# Project Team

- EWI (prime)
  - Michael Carney (PI), Dennis Harwig (Senior Technical Leader)
  - Katie Hardin (PM), Mark Schimming (VP Govt Business)
- Government POC
  - Matt Sinfield, NSWCCD
- Participant
  - Cody Whiteley NASSCO
  - Steve Scholler, John Walks INGALLS

# Background

- Double electrode gas metal arc welding (GMAW) processes, such as tandem and twin, typically provide two to three times the productivity of single electrode GMAW and flux cored arc welding (FCAW) processes.
- Need high productivity process for 4-mm precision fillet welds
  - Thin panel stiffener welding
  - Significantly reduce panel distortion and rework
- Assess precision welding processes equipment, apparatus, control technology, and consumables
- Double electrode processes also offer maximum productivity for both small, 4 mm, and large fillets.
  - Tandem GMAW widely used for larger (5-7 mm) fillet welds.
- Modern double electrode GMAW processes can also provide higher deposition rates, better deposit bead shape and quality, and more robustness than existing shipyard processes.

## Objectives

- Evaluate and benchmark advanced double electrode GMAW processes and consumables for high-speed (4-mm) fillet welding.
- Survey industry, screen candidate processes, and select preferred process variants for feasibility testing. Candidate processes for feasibility testing include:
  - Twin (i.e., Lincoln HyperFillTM)
  - Hot wire tandem (Lincoln)
  - Tandem (Cloos)
  - Tandem CMT/Pulse-CMT (Fronius)
  - Adjustable configuration tandem (D&F Specialty Torch)
  - Advanced consumables for tandem (advanced metal core electrodes for high-speed performance)
- Downselect and develop ARCWISE windows & bead shape maps for up to three variants.
  - Target application: 4-mm horizontal fillet welds
- Provide technology transfer and demonstration workshop upon project completion

## **Process Comparison Conditions**

- Material Thickness
  - 4 5 mm
  - Sand blasted/de-scaled
- DH/EH36 Grade
- ER70S-6
- Fit-up
  - 0 to 1.5 mm (1/16 in.) gap
- Shielding Gas
  - Typical FCAW
    - 94Ar/6CO2
  - Panel Lines
    - 100CO2
- Tack Size
  - Leg Size
    - 3-mm target
  - Length
    - 1 in.

### Tandem GMAW Bead Shape Map - 5 mm

CTWD = 19 mm WFS/TS = 9.96 (1.2 mm electrode) WFS<sub>T</sub>/WFS<sub>L</sub> = .5

1.3 mm (.052 in) ER70S-6 Electrode 90% Ar/10% CO<sub>2</sub> Pulse mode



























1 mm Arc Length

0.8 m/min (30 in/min) 1.0 m/min (40 in/min) 1.3 m/min (50 in/min)

1.5 m/min (60 in/min) 1.8 m/min (70 in/min) 2.0 m/min (80 in/min)

Arcwise Bead Shape Map Example

Optimum



### **Tasks**

- Task 1 Project Initiation and Kickoff Meeting Complete
- Task 2 Survey Suppliers for Next Generation Double Electrode GMAW Technology – Complete
- Task 3 Feasibility Testing of Next Generation DE-GMAW Processes In Process
- Task 4 Precision Fillet Weld Operational Windows, Bead Shape Maps, and Productivity Analysis
- Task 5 DE-GMAW Process Benchmarking and Productivity Analysis
- Task 6 Next Generation DE-GMAW Technology Workshop

# Task 2 – Survey Suppliers for Next Generation Double Electrode GMAW Technology

- Survey of welding equipment and consumable suppliers
- Identify the next generation equipment, consumables, and apparatus that can be used to deposit 4 mm and larger fillet welds to support panel line assembly.
  - Equipment suppliers will be consulted on recommended setups and parameters for twin, hot wire tandem, adjustable configuration tandem, and advanced consumables for high-speed precision fillet welding.
  - Supplier "in-kind" benchmarking support welcome to maximize project data

# Market Survey

COMPANY	POCs	TECHNOLOGY	DEPOSITION
		HyperFill	24-Lb/Hr
LINCOLN . ELECTRIC	Steve Peters		
			20.11.01
Miller.	Steve Massey	Hercules	30-Lb/Hr
	Steve Massey		
		tps/i TWIN	35-Lb/Hr
Fronius	Shaun Relyea		
		T 1 0 D	05.11.01
CLOOS	Mike Moore	Tandem Synergy Pro	35-Lb/Hr
	WIIKE WIOOFE		
ESAB *	Nate Lott		
		SyncroFeed	18-Lb/Hr
DAIHEN Inc.	Larry Barley	Buried Arc	Not Applicable
SELECT		Consumables	
	Ben Kahut		
ARC INC.			
LIODART	W 5 .	Consumables	Not Applicable
FILLER METALS	Kim Francis		
ABICOR		SpinArc	Not Applicable
BINZEL®	Tom Graham	•	
		Tandem Torch	Not Applicable
MIG TIG	Steve Moerke		

# Lincoln HyperFill

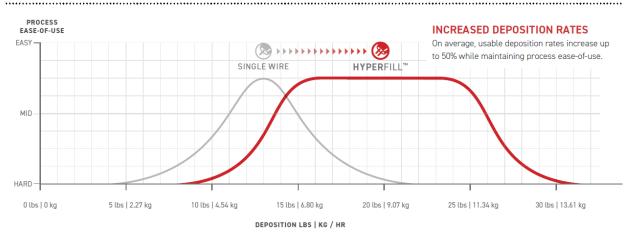
- Twin-wire GMAW solution
- Designed for semiautomatic and automatic applications
- Deposition rates above 18 lbs/hr (24+ lbs/hr robotically
- Ease-of-use (one power supply/feeder)
- Not direction dependent





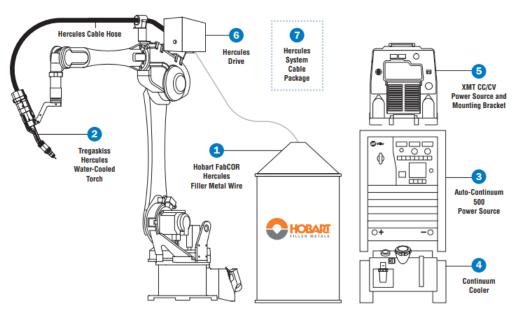
DISTANCE	0.0 FT	0.66	1.31	1.97	2.62	3.28	3.94	4.59	5.25	5.91	6.56
TRAVELED	0.0 M	0.2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0

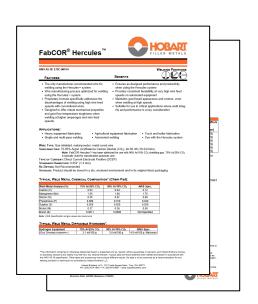
#### PROCESS COMPARISON - DEPOSITION RANGE

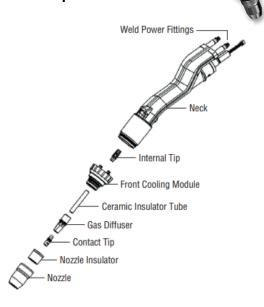


### Miller Hercules

- Single-wire GMAW solution
- Designed for semiautomatic and automatic applications
- Deposition rates above 30.5 lbs/hr robotically
- Ease-of-use (one power supply/feeder)
- Not direction dependent
- Customer wire (FabCOR) tailored to Hercules process







### Fronius TPSi TWIN

- Two-wire GMAW solution
- Designed for semiautomatic and automatic applications
- Deposition rates above 35 lbs/hr (robotically)
- Two separate welding systems
- Direction dependent
- CMT/PMT/GMA combinations





#### High deposition rate

One welding pass is all it takes. Thanks to the high deposition rate of the TWIN system, welds that needed to be welded in multiple passes are a thing of the past.

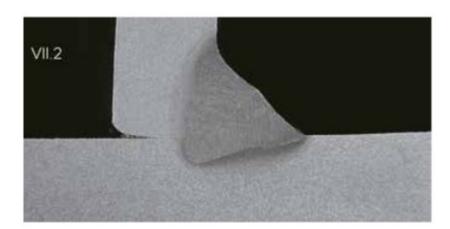


Parameters	
vs [cm/min]:	4.72 in/min
Dep. rate =	55.33 lb/h
Contact tip angle =	0°
Lead Vd =	PMC 106.29 in/min
Trail Vd =	PMC 78.74 in/min
a-dimension =	0.21
Penetration =	0.15 in

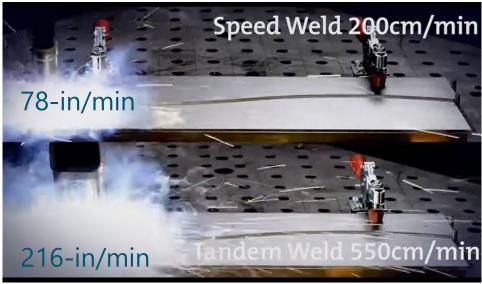
### **CLOOS Tandem**

- Two-wire GMAW solution
- Designed for semiautomatic and automatic applications
- Deposition rates above 35 lbs/hr (robotically)
- Two separate welding systems
- Direction dependent





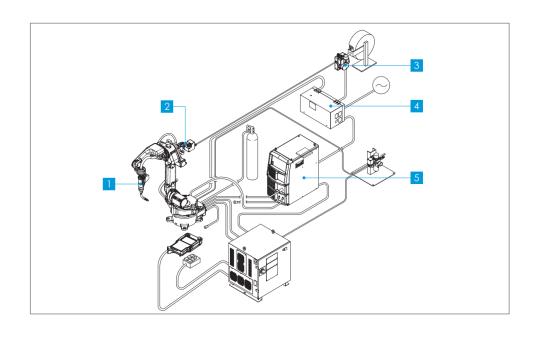




### OTC

- OTC discontinued all double electrode processes in 2008
- Using their Syncrofeed system the max deposition rate is 18 lbs/hr
- Single-wire GMAW solution
- Designed for semiautomatic and automatic applications







### Hobart

Only off the shelf options



#### Certificate of Conformance to Requirements for Welding Electrode

FabCOR 100 Classification: E100C-K3

AWS A5,28/A5,28M; ASME SFA 5,28 Specifications: Diameter Tested .045"

Date Tested: 10/25/2021 Date Generated: 11/16/2021

This is to careful that the product named above and supplied on the referenced order member is of the same chamiltonian, manufacturing process, and material requirements as the This is a validy that the planted related wave and single-sized or the effective of south models of an Parish State Matter-State, assuminating process, and institute trajectiveness in the effective of the state Matter-State, assuminating process, and institute trajectiveness in the effectiveness of the state of the security condition and in agreements. It is not another trajectiveness of the Matter State and Theory and Theory State State and Theory and Theory State State and Theory State State and Theory State State State and Theory State S

#### THE STEEL USED IN THIS LOT OF MATERIAL WAS MELTED AND MANUFACTURED IN THE U.S.A.

#### **Test Settings**

Ш	Shielding Medium	Amps / Policity	Vide	iniminimizati	ESO in(mn)	Preheat F(C)	Britispass F(C)	iniminjon/minj
	M214/045	240 / DCEP	25	306 (8.8)	28 (19)	300(149)	300(140)	15-(38,1)
ш	MINACO	290 / DOEP	27	300 (9)	,75 (19)	0	0	
		Maria and the second	Med	chanical Pro-	perties - Tensile			· ·
-	Streeting Medium	Bet No.	Textire: 1	Combitons.	UR. Torock Strength out I	SERVE TOWARD STORY	WITH THE DEPTH	Obes 5 m Z

Shelding Medium	FlatCNs.	Testing Conditions	UR, Tensile Strength ps: (60Ps)	Yield Strength pis (Mhs)	Glong, % on 2
MENAGES	PE3132	Aged 48 Hrs 200F	102,000 ( 700 )	95,000 ( 654 )	211
MITHAGES	PE3136	Aged 48 Yes 200F	106,000 (745)	104,000 (717)	21

An Workford 69 62 64 56 84 871 661 861 MINACA PE3136 75.70.68 (102.95.90)

Si Cu Cr V Ne Min All 5 No Cu 0 W Sn Fe So N Mg Zn Se So A

M05-A/G-25 / PR03102 0.08 1.65 0.004 0.007 0.30 0.03 0.04 + .01 1.06 0.35 M15-A/G-5 / PR0306 0.06 1.06 0.006 0.007 0.03 0.03 0.04 + .01 1.06 0.36 Diffusible Hydrogen Collected per AWS A4.3

3.9 mF100g of well metal for -045 in clameter 29% relative human 3.2 mg 100g of wellt metal for JMS in clameter 20% relative from

Confidence and Limited Warmers - Date for the above supplied product are those obtained when weblied and tented in accordance with the above specification. All tents for the above

Product Type: FabCOR 1100

#### Certificate of Conformance to Requirements for Welding Electrode

Classification: E110C-K4 H4 Specifications:

AWS A5.28/A5.28M; ASME SFA 5.28

Diameter Tested 1/16" Date Tested: 9/8/2022 Date Generated: 9/16/2022

This is cortify that the product smoot above and supplied on the referenced order number is of the same classification, numeritariating process, and material requirements as the material which was used for the text that was concluded on the date above, the requirements of which are above, below. All texts required by the specification were performed at that time and the material tested met all requirements. It was manufactured and supplied by the Quality System Program of Hobort Reoders, which meets the requirements of 1500 0001. ARSIA WAS AS JOI, and other specification and Middlary requirements, as applicable. This document supplies each task to results of non-time impection in conformance with the requirements of EN 10204, type 2.2 certification.

#### THE STEEL USED IN THIS LOT OF MATERIAL WAS MELTED AND MANUFACTURED IN THE U.S.A.

Shielding Medium	Amps / Polarity	Volts	WFS in/min(m/min)	ESO in(mm)	Preheat F(C)	Interpass F(C)	Travel Speed in/min(cm/min)
M20ArC-10	350 / DCEP	26	280 (7.1)	.75 (19)	300(149)	300(149)	13 (33)
M21-ArC-25	350 / DCEP	29	280 (7.1)	3/4 (19)	300(149)	300(149)	13 (33)
Mechanical Properties - Tensile							

Testing Conditions Ult. Tensile Strength psi (MPa) Yield Strength psi (MPa) Elong.% in 2" PE4218 Aged 48 Hrs 220F 114,000 ( 786 ) PE4690 Aged 48 Hrs 220F M21-ArC-25 120.000 (827) 110.000 ( 758 ) Mechanical Properties - Impact

Testing Conditions Temp. F (C) Individuals ft.lb.(J) Shielding Medium M20ArC-10 PE4218 As Welded -60 (-51) 30.30.32 (41.41.43) 31 (42) Charpy-V-Notch PE4690 -60 (-51) 34,40,36 (46,54,49) 37 (50)

**Chemical Analysis** 

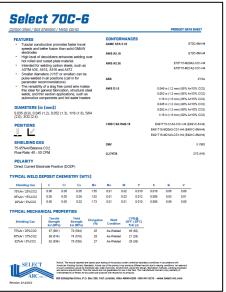
Diffusible Hydrogen Collected per AWS A4.3

M21-ArC-25 2.5 ml/100g of weld metal for 1/16 in diameter 13% relative humidity M20-ArC-10 3.0 ml/100g of weld metal for 1/16 in diameter 48% relative humidity

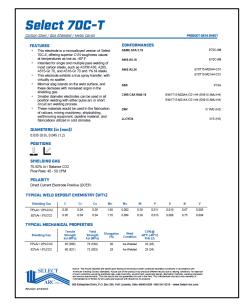
Certification and Limited Warranty - Data for the above supplied product are those obtained when welded and tested in accordance with the above specification. All tests for the above lassification were satisfied. Other tests and procedures may produce different results.

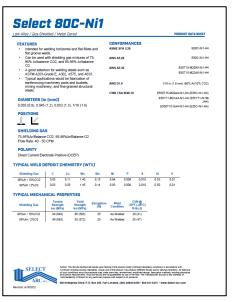
### Select-Arc

- A few options that are off the shelf tailored to high-speed welding (automotive)
- If project needs willing to tailor custom electrodes









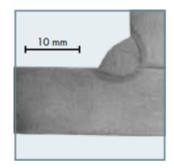
### **Abicor Binzel**

### SpinArc® Automatic MIG Gun



Pos.	Setting scale	Rotation diameter			
0	_	no spin			
1	1	1.0 mm			
1 2 3	2	2.0 mm			
3	3	3.0 mm			
4 5	4	4.0 mm			
5	5	5.0 mm			
6	6	6.0 mm			
7	7	7.0 mm			
8	8	8.0 mm			
0	2	4 6 8			
1	3	5 7			
		X.			

- Tool free spin diameter adjustability
- Digital motor control circuit for precise spin speed control
- Contact tip extensions for deep, narrow, grooved welds
- Automated and robotic applications



Fillet weld: increase travel speeds by 25 to 50% with ideal penetration profile

### D/F Specialties

- 850 Amps @ 100% Duty
- Max 1700 Amps
- The distance between the tandem contact tips (the wires) can vary by removing the body screws of one or both inner bodies. This allows rotation of each inner body increasing or decreasing the distance between the two welding wires.
- The D/F Tandem Barrel inner bodies can be either straight or bent to desired degrees to help achieve different center-point distances between the two tandem contact tips and are easily changeable.







# Wenglor

- Regarding reflective surfaces, given the history of using profile sensors in many different industries Wenglor has tools/filters and algorithms built into the sensors to handle reflection. Wenglor also offers red and blue lasers from 2M to 3B power of lasers.
- Using the fastest travel of 2 meters per minute (2000 mm per minute/33mm/second) there would be a look ahead distance of at least 0.44 mm.



# Task 3 – Feasibility Testing of Next Generation DE-GMAW Processes

- Candidate double electrode process variants will be evaluated with feasibility tests.
  - For each process combination, a series of constant deposit area (constant wire feed speed/travel speed ratio) tests will be performed at two arc lengths using the ARCWISE method. This method uses systematic tests to develop operational windows, assess bead shape, and determine productivity for weld joint applications.
  - For feasibility tests, all assessments will be made using only visual, dimensional, and weld surface quality data.
  - Up to three preferred processes will be selected for detailed ARCWISE testing in Task 4.

# Task 3 – Feasibility Testing of Next Generation DE-GMAW Processes

COMPANY	POCs	TECHNOLOGY	DEPOSITION
LINCOLN	Steve Peters	HyperFill	24-Lb/Hr
Miller.	Steve Massey	Hercules	30-Lb/Hr
Fronius	Shaun Relyea	tps/i TWIN	35-Lb/Hr
CLOOS	Mike Moore	Tandem Synergy Pro	35-Lb/Hr
SELECT ARC INC.	Ben Kahut	Consumables	
BINZEL 3	Tom Graham	SpinArc	Not Applicable
MIG TIG	Steve Moerke	Tandem Torch	Not Applicable

## **Next Steps**

- Task 4 Precision Fillet Weld Operational Windows, Bead Shape Maps, and Productivity Analysis
  - Systematic ARCWISE tests will be performed on up to three process combinations from Task 3.
- Task 5 DE-GMAW Process Benchmarking and Productivity Analysis
  - Analyze test data from Task 4
    - Operational windows will be used to determine process tolerance.
    - The ARCWISE data set will include the operational windows and plots that characterize the relationship between voltage, current and wire feed speed; heat input vs deposition rate; and the bead shape relationships.
  - Recommended welding procedures will be determined from operational windows making precision 4-mm fillets.
- Task 6 Next Generation DE-GMAW Technology Workshop
  - One-day workshop at the end of the project to demonstrate the preferred process processes and review performance data with U.S. shipyards.

# Questions?

