

Meeting The Welding Industry's Challenges

In today's global economy, the welding industry faces many challenges that compel metal fabricators to seek creative, cost-effective ways to improve their competitiveness. Meeting these challenges means fabricators must reduce production costs, increase product quality and respond to ever-tightening environmental regulations.

To assist you in controlling and reducing manufacturing costs, we developed Praxair's *StarSolver*[®] Productivity Enhancement Program. Praxair's productivity specialists use this advanced software package to accurately and systematically analyze your welding costs and, where appropriate, recommend process changes to improve your production performance. This is especially important for assessing the impact of labor and overhead, which account for 85 percent of overall welding costs.

A Cost-Effective Program

Using Praxair's *StarSolver* Productivity Enhancement Program, we collect current operating data and analyze it to determine if, and where, improvements can be made. Generally, cost-savings or productivity enhancements can be made with little or no capital investment. So, instead of requiring a broad range of costly and nonessential changes, the Praxair *StarSolver* program targets areas that are critical to your operation, while working to improve performance.

Maintaining A Safe Balance

Praxair's *StarSolver* program can also be effective in identifying process changes that can reduce fume and limit welder exposure. Combining a process change with a change in operating conditions, can increase productivity by up to 30 percent.

How It Works

Using Praxair's *StarSolver* Productivity Enhancement Program, a comprehensive review of your fabrication processes

is conducted. Plant-wide data is collected to determine current costs and productivity levels. Praxair's *StarSolver* program can also be used to document welding parameters at each individual weld station. Welding variables such as wire feed speed, current level, gas flow rates and travel speed are used to calculate bottom-line welding costs. Praxair's *StarSolver* program then quantifies the total cost-saving potential which can result from recommendations made to improve your welding operation.



Using the tightest blending tolerances, we lead the industry with the highest standards of quality, helping you achieve:

- Increased productivity
- Lower fume levels
- Improved product quality
- Increased gas utilization
- Reduced rework

With Praxair technology and assistance, your metal fabrication will benefit from:

- Lower bottom-line cost
- Better working environment
- Improved market competitiveness

Contact Praxair Today

Let our technical expertise and Praxair's *StarSolver* Productivity Enhancement Program recommend cost-saving improvements to your operation. Call 1-800-PRAXAIR or visit www.praxair.com today and explore the many opportunities we can bring to you.

Shielding Gases For Today And Tomorrow

Praxair's *Star*® gases and blends are the most advanced shielding gases available, ideally suited to the most challenging Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW or MIG/MAG), Gas Tungsten Arc Welding (GTAW or TIG), Flux-Cored Arc Welding (FCAW), Plasma (PAC, PAG, PAW) and Laser applications.

- Praxair's *StarGold*™ Gases — Argon-based blends for general fabrication of mild steel.
- Praxair's *Stargon*® Blend — The standard for versatile high-speed welding of mild steel.
- Praxair's *Mig Mix Gold*™ Blend — High-productivity mild steel welding.
- Praxair's *HeliStar*® Gases — Helium-enhanced blends for increased productivity on stainless steel, aluminum, copper and some carbon steel welding applications.
- Praxair's *HydroStar*® Gases — Hydrogen-enhanced blends for increased productivity during GTAW, plasma welding, gouging and cutting of stainless steel.
- Praxair's *LaserStar*® Gases — Enhanced quality and purity to meet demanding laser needs.
- Praxair's *RoboStar*™ CS, AL and SS Blends — Shielding gas blends for robotic welding of carbon steel (CS), aluminum (AL) and stainless steel (SS).



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