

EDITORIAL

Our country is moving into another economical revolution and, if we are not prepared to meet the challenge, we will be relegated to a minor role in the global scheme of industry. The economic outlook for the Indian welding fabrication industry is not bleak despite some recent difficulties. Overall economic parameters are favorable with the combination of relatively skilled work force with a favorable cost structure if compared to the highly industrialized country. Traditionally, the welding industry has drawn in work force from high school and ITI. Recently, due to significant development in welding technology such as welding process control, power sources with advanced wave forms and digitally controlled displays, robotic welding etc. skilled and trained workforce has become an important ingredient to an organization's success. IIW-India had made a fantastic effort in planning to improve the performance of welding industry through training and certification. Our new president Mr. P. K. Das has emphasized in the last AGM held at Kolkata on 29.09.12 for implementing the concept of national plan for the industry. Our welding industry must take a stand on obtaining proper use of strong work force to accomplishing their goal.

We have come round an eventful year for IIW-India as well as IWJ. In this issue, we would like to focus on certain idea which was mooted in the Meetings and Publication sub-committee, then discussed in the General Purpose Committee and finally approved by the National council of the IIW-India. The authors can publish their papers in colour pages, if they so desire, with payment of actual cost as per contract with the printer. Secondly, to encourage good quality papers, the best paper published in IWJ from April 2013 issue onwards will be awarded. Readers may also be benefited from the information on newly published books on welding and related areas from IWJ.

In the last issue of 2012 brings forth three technical papers. The paper on "Application of L6 Orthogonal Array for Optimal Selection of Some Process Parameters in GMAW Process" by M. K. Saha, Santanu Das, A. Bandyopadhyay and S. Bandyopadhyay, is an application oriented paper for optimizing the GMAW process using Taguchi optimization method. Dr. Das is a frequent contributor to our journal.

The second paper "Reliable Estimation of Volumetric Heat Source in Numerical Simulation of Fusion Arc Welding Process" by D. V. Kiran and A. De presents a pioneering work on modeling in Arc Welding Process. Professor Dr. A. De is a well known researcher in modeling of welding processes. In fact, I requested him to write a paper on his research subject for our journal. He readily agreed and ultimately got the paper from him.

The last paper in this issue, titled as "Review on Design and Development of Narrow Gap Welding Torches" authored by Vishvesh J. Badheka and S. K. Agrawal is a review paper highlighting design and development of narrow gap welding torches. I personally know about their work which is a real development in improving process performance.

From Bhilai we go to Bangalore. The national welding seminar (NWS 2011) had been organized successfully in Bhilai and we expect the NWS 2013, February 7th-9th will be even more successful.

The Editorial Board joins me in wishing you all a happy festival.



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