



Wire Feeder Awareness Reminder

Potential Hazards

- ▶ A wire feeder can be hazardous when improperly used. Incidents could include electric shock, fire, or personal injury.

Solutions

- ▶ The following general precautions should be observed by wire feeder users:

▶ PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS

- Always wear safety glasses with side shields in any work area, even if welding helmets, face shields, and goggles are also required.
- Use a face shield fitted with the correct filter and cover plates to protect your eyes, face, neck, and ears from sparks and rays of the arc when operating or observing operations.
- Wear flameproof gauntlet type gloves, heavy long-sleeve shirt, cuffless trousers, high-topped shoes, and a welding helmet or cap for hair protection, to protect against arc rays and hot sparks or hot metal. A flameproof apron may also be desirable as protection against radiated heat and sparks.

▶ FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS

- Remove all combustible materials well away from the work area or cover the materials with a protective nonflammable covering
- Do not weld, cut or perform other hot work until the workpiece has been completely cleaned so that there are no substances on the workpiece which might produce flammable or toxic vapors.
- Have fire extinguishing equipment handy for instant use, such as a garden hose, water pail, sand bucket, or portable fire extinguisher.

▶ ELECTRICAL SHOCK

- Be sure the power source frame (chassis) is connected to the ground system of the input power.
- Connect the workpiece to a good electrical ground.
- Connect the work cable to the workpiece. A poor or missing connection can expose you or others to a fatal shock.
- Use well-maintained equipment. Replace worn or damaged cables.
- Keep everything dry, including clothing, work area, cables, torch/electrode holder, and power source.
- Do not stand directly on metal or the earth while working in tight quarters or a damp area; stand on dry boards or an insulating platform and wear rubber-soled shoes.

▶ ELECTRIC AND MAGNETIC FIELDS

- Welders having pacemakers should consult their physician before welding. EMF may interfere with some pacemakers.
 - Route the electrode and work cables together. Secure them with tape when possible.
 - Never coil the torch or work cable around your body.
 - Do not place your body between the torch and work cables. Route cables on the same side of your body.
 - Keep welding power source and cables as far away from your body as possible.

▶ FUMES AND GASES

- Always provide adequate ventilation in the work area by natural or mechanical means.
- Do not operate near degreasing and spraying operations.

▶ CYLINDER HANDLING

- Use the proper gas for the process and use the proper pressure reducing regulator designed to operate from the compressed gas cylinder.
- Always secure cylinders in an upright position by chain or strap to suitable hand trucks, undercarriages, benches, walls, post, or racks.

Proper Training on Safety Awareness for each piece of equipment should be documented in the Training Log

