

The instructions recommended within this document apply to normal risk conditions. If the Mig Welder is to be operated in a dangerous or hostile environment, the user/client is responsible for conducting an appropriate risk analysis and applying suitable controls to mitigate those additional risks.

This instruction should be read in conjunction with the Risk Assessment.

## GENERAL SAFETY

- Safety glasses must be worn at all times in work area.
- Appropriate footwear with substantial uppers must be worn.
- Long and loose hair must be contained
- Close fitting/protective clothing must be worn.
- A welding mask with correct grade lens for GMAW must be worn
- A welding apron with correct grade protection must be worn

## POTENTIAL RISKS

- Burns & flying sparks
- Fumes and explosion from gas leak
- Radiation damage to eyes and body

## TRANSPORT OF MIG WELDER

- Ensure unit is firmly tied down on transport vehicle without damaging unit, gas fittings & hoses

## BEFORE STARTING

- Ensure no slip/trip hazards are present in work spaces and walkways
- Keep work area clean and free from grease, oil and other flammable material
- Gas hoses and work leads must be in good condition and not create a tripping hazard
- **FAULTY EQUIPMENT MUST NOT BE USED. IMEEDIATELY REPORT SUSPECT EQUIPMENT**
- Keep the welding equipment, work area and gloves dry to avoid electric shocks
- Ensure gloves and welding gun are in good condition
- Close UV curtains or erect safety screens

## OPERATIONAL SAFETY CHECKS

- Ensure unit is correctly set up for current, voltage, wire feed and gas flow
- Ensure work return cable make firm contact to provide good electrical connection
- **NEVER LEAVE WELDER RUNNING UNATTENDED**
- Take care to avoid welding flashes
- Switch off unit when finished
- **CLOSE GAS CYLINDER VALVE**
- Hang up welding gun and welding cables
- Leave work area in a safe, clean and tidy state

## INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Inspect fuel lines, tank, and area around carburetor for fuel leaks. Do not operate unit if leaks are found
- Ensure safety guards and other safety devices are fitted, secure and functioning.
- Check condition of the anti-vibration mountings of the handles.
- Ensure chain is sharp and correctly tensioned.

**The above instructions must be followed at all times If any of the instructions are not possible, contact the site supervisor for an assessment of any safety requirements**

# MIG Welder Risk Assessment

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Likely Risk Issue	Who/ What may be harmed? (Specific Persons)	What is the Rate Level? (Rate risk as Low, Medium or High)	What Risk Control Actions Needs to Be Taken? (What needs to be considered so that the risks are identified and effectively controlled)	Time Frame
Damage to eyes from welding flash	Operators Participants Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S)- 3 Likelihood of Risk (L)- 3 Overall Risk (S x L)= 9 <b>HIGH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welding mask with correct grade lens must be worn</li> <li>UV Protection curtains or partitions to be placed around work area</li> <li>Safety glasses to be worn</li> <li>Other persons inside work area must wear similar eye protection</li> </ul>	Every hire
Electric Shock	Operators Participants Spectators Staff	Severity of Risk (S)- 3 Likelihood of Risk (L)- 2 Overall Risk (S x L)= 6 <b>MEDIUM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure MIG Equipment is correctly earthed before starting welding</li> <li>Ensure welder settings are checked</li> <li>Ensure cables and hoses are not damaged or entangled</li> <li>Safety footwear to be worn</li> <li>No other persons to be allowed in work area without protection</li> <li>Only qualified operator allowed to use welder</li> </ul>	Every hire
Slipping Hazard	Operators Participants	Severity of Risk (S)- 3 Likelihood of Risk (L)- 1 Overall Risk (S x L)= 3 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ground in work area to be free of obstructions</li> <li>Ground to be checked for any grease or liquid spills</li> <li>Safety footwear to be worn and care taken to prevent slips and trips</li> <li>Work area to be clear of any obstructions which will might cause interruptions to welding operation</li> <li>Any other work participants to follow same requirements</li> </ul>	Every hire
Burns injuries	Operators Participants	Severity of Risk (S)- 3 Likelihood of Risk (L)- 2 Overall Risk (S x L)= 6 <b>MEDIUM</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gloves to be worn to prevent burns to hands and lower arm</li> <li>Long sleeve clothing to be worn</li> <li>Welding apron with correct grade protection to be worn</li> <li>Welded material to be allowed to cool down before handling</li> <li>Any other work participants to follow same requirements</li> </ul>	Every hire
Noxious fumes or flames	Operator Participants	Severity of Risk (S)- 3 Likelihood of Risk (L)- 1 Overall Risk (S x L)= 3 <b>LOW</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operator to ensure that work pieces are to be free of any oils or other flammable materials before welding occurs.</li> <li>No flammable materials or liquids to be near the welding area</li> </ul>	Every hire

## Calculation of Risk Evaluation

**Severity of Risk (S)** is judged by evaluating the effects of the hazard if the risk occurs. This is evaluated as Minor = 1, Major = 2, Serious = 3

**Risk Likelihood (L)** - The likelihood of the harm occurring is evaluated on the basis of: Unlikely =1, Possible = 2, Likely = 3

**Overall Risk** is calculated by multiplying the figure for Severity (S) and Likelihood (L).

The overall risk figure calculated is related to the Risk Level of either Low: 1 to 3; Medium: 4 to 6 or High: 7 to 9

**NB** This is a generic risk assessment only. It is advisable to carry out a site-specific assessment prior to using this equipment.