

Well, the summer sunshine is here (at least sometimes), but then so too is the rain; it wouldn't be summer in good old Blighty any other way. The economy seems to behave a bit like the weather! Some markets are a real damp squid, while other industries the sun is still shining. It appears the diving industry is pretty much business as usual, as are the more speciality welding industries. However the news that Corus is planning on shutting more steel plants is concerning; where will it end? We can only hope things pick up soon; here's hoping you are keeping busy and happy holidays to you all.

For those keen readers amongst you who can remember newsletter issue 24, back in 2007 you may recall the cable carousel we examined, on behalf of SS Fabrications. Well, here's another photo of it getting installed on the



Volantis, all 88 tonnes of it, and a photo of the vessel. We are pleased to announce our new 'real-colour' auto-darkening welding filter is now available. The success of our initial auto-darkening welding filter has been amazing, with over 500 sold, worldwide. But, here at Speciality Welds, we haven't been asleep; we have taken onboard all the comments, especially filter strength, with most people asking for a lighter lens. Well we've done it, Our new real-colour filter strength is down to that of approximately the equivalent of a glass shade 8; while at the same time bringing the intensity and



clarity of real colour. The first image of the leaf represents the old green filter and the second represents the new real-colour



filter; no contest I'm sure you'll agree! **IMarEST** recognises the WeldCraft-Pro underwater welding course. We are delighted that The **Institute of Marine**

**Engineering, Science and Technology** have formally recognised our welding programme. Senior spokesman Mr. Ben Saunders said. "I can



confirm that the members of the **IMarEST** Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Working Group were most impressed by the course and have recognised it as contributing to an individual member's professional development requirements. The programme follows the International Institute of Welding (IIW) and European Welding Federation (EWF) guidelines for fillet welding. Mr. David Keats, MD of Speciality Welds said, "This programme is the only one available, anywhere in the world, that provides an opportunity for commercial diver training organisations serious about equipping divers with appropriate welding skills, to meet assessed

competency standards that meet industry requirements, under our 'self-teach' system". He added, "interest in this course is gaining more and more ground because it makes sense" If you are in the business of training commercial divers, which usually includes welding, why bother with an in-house none-approved welding course when you can adopt the...

## Weldcraft Pro

Presently, this training is run under license and is available from the **Professional Diving Academy**, in Dunoon Scotland (next course runs in August) and the **Commercial Diving Academy**, in Jacksonville, Florida. We have now received enquiries from schools in South Africa, Australia, Belgium, Sweden, Finland, Italy, Greece and the Middle-East. In fact, we recently visited STS in Spain, at the request of the MD Mr. Juan. M. Toscano to conduct a site audit and course briefings of the materials and QA procedures, etc.

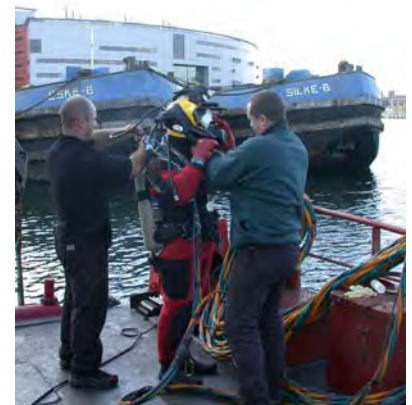


Thus, the courses will be available in Spain in due course. We offer the site visit on a no-charge basis; all we ask is travel/accommodation expenses are met. We will then despatch David to outline the course in more detail and offer whatever help and assistance may be required to deliver the programme. The **Flexitalic Group**, a local company here in our home town Cleckheaton, are market leaders in the manufacture and supply of high



quality industrial static sealing products, widely used offshore and in international markets. As a global supplier of industrial gaskets they requested our services, as acknowledged experts to the welding industry to conduct ability assessments of their welders and draw up a training schedule to ensure all welders meet ISO welding standards. The company conducts plasma arc and TIG welding of stainless steel and is of course an ISO 9002 approved manufacturer. Following training, we are happy to report welders have been formally qualified for butt welding on stainless steel sheet, using TIG. **Hulltec** a longstanding customer based in Northern Ireland have been busy welding and cutting at Harland & Wolf, ship repair quay in Belfast. The work involved weld repairs to the Frodingham piles, in the main, due to ship/fender damage, but also some ALWC damage. The work involved repair to the profiles and welding new plates in position using **Barracuda Gold** electrodes. They have also been using our **Swordfish** arc-cutting electrodes. Hulltec director Mr. Raymond Stafford commented "the Swordfish cutting electrodes were particularly useful for this

application and although they do require a good deal more skill than the traditional oxy-fuel cutting method, the **Swordfish** offers a much more accurate/precise cut with a much lower potential to causing damage of any surrounding



areas". "Also, when you're already set-up for welding as well, it's so much easier, as you don't need any O2 and we can just use the same welding **Stinger** to both cut and weld with, which makes life very simple". Our welding stinger not only provides a fantastic electrode holder, but as Raymond says, it can be used to cut with our **Swordfish** cutting electrodes and remember it's the only fully adjustable stinger in the market place, which allows for wear and

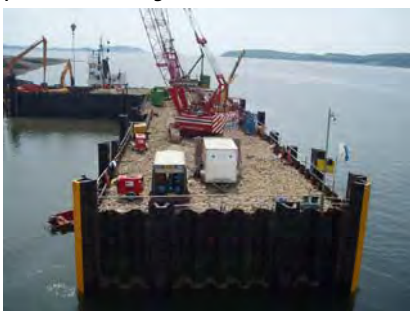
tear; with all wearable parts available separately. Once tried,



you'll never go back to cheap and nasty electrode holders. While we excel the virtues of our welding we would like to thank Mr. David Moore of **Lonsbridge Engineering** for his comments. David said "we have been using this stinger on a welding project

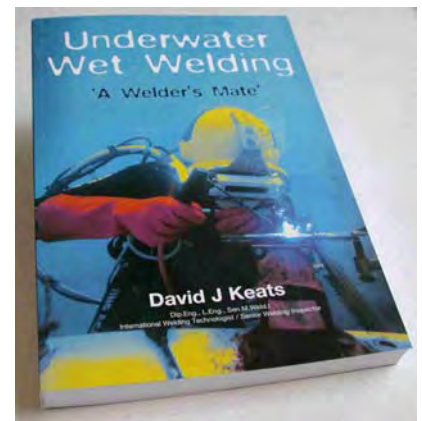


in Cyprus for the repair of hundreds of piles and thousands of anodes and the divers report it's the best Stinger ever, with no shock reports of any kind, which can't be said for the original stingers we were using". "Also, the design allows for easy removal and replacement of electrodes, while providing a really comfortable grip; a great product". **Clyde Commercial** is



also busy welding, using **Barracuda Gold** on a project welding fenders, stairways and anodes, etc. for a new pier/jetty at **Largs**, on behalf of **George**

**Leslie**, up on the west coast of Scotland. They have also been using our **Piranha** safety switch, which makes life safe and simple, while at the same time provides a practical means to record all the welding parameters; a must for all welding operations. We thank our distributors in Singapore and Holland, for purchasing our full range of Piranha units. These consist of the utility case, steel wall mounted model and the junior. **REDS** choose **Scorpion Blue** cutting lances; although here's a funny story. After supplying our rods we received a complaint about the quality; this set us all in a bit of a spin I can tell you. Funny thing was, after we examined them we discovered they weren't ours! Just goes to show you can't judge a book by its cover. The supply of cutting rods is very competitive, but remember you only get what you pay for, even if at first glance the product looks the same. The **Scorpion blue** cutting lance is manufactured from high quality alloyed tube and although we had to stop using the continuous sleeves, we know you all liked, for tape, the product still out performs the competition. We are pleased to report that sales of the underwater welding publication, 'A Welder's Mate', are still going strong. A second print run was produced in 2007, due to demand. So, if you have an interest in learning more about the subject of welding, not just underwater, it's an absolute must for your bookshelf. Available



online at only £19.99 + P&P. **We would also like to thank the following customers for their valued business, including; Tecnosoud, SZTR Diving, Serbia. Soudecoup, in France. Dutch Diving and Pommecc in Holland. Divewise in Belgium. The National Hypobaric centre, Corrocell, Moorpark Engineering, Holstan, Ellison Energy, Concrete Tech, Teignmouth Maritime and Specialised Technologies, in the UK. ESPSCO, in Norway. Abco Divers, Tuskar Rock and Norfolk Marine in Ireland. Dyke-Ou, in Estonia. Lastek in Italy and Advanced Marine in Singapore.** Remember we would be delighted to include a story about a project you have been involved with, so do pls send us a few words and a photo and we will be happy to include the details in the next newsletter. We hope no customers were inconvenience due to our fire incident! Fortunately the fire brigade were here in 5 minutes; close call.

