

Well summer is slowly on its way out, but we hope you had a pleasant holiday and are refreshed for the months ahead. Of course, for us here in good old Blighty, as soon as its time to go back to work the sun comes out, better late than never!

It's been a busy time for us with more and more new customers asking for welder training and/or technical advice/services, etc. One such customer; **Substation Engineering**, required us to



provide on-site aluminium MIG training for the substation power distribution work they undertake. Welders are involved with replacing old copper workings and the old concrete pylons with aluminium. The photo above shows the site at Capenhurst under major reconstruction.

Pipework installation specialists **Ellison Energy** have been particularly busy with a number of new projects which have involved



formal training and qualification testing of welders to BSEN ISO 287-1: 2004 (Class I) standards on pipelines. One major project in Glasgow has involved over a dozen welders on site installing

gas distribution pipework for a major supermarket chain.

Offshore contractor **Technip** send ROV technicians to our



training centre for extended aluminium welder training. ROV pilots/technicians must have a wide range of skills, as they are responsible for all the maintenance of the ROV while offshore and this can include hydraulics, electronics and pneumatics and now for Technip pilots, also a good standard of TIG welding. Good work boys.

We have also been busy on behalf of **SS Fabs** for a major fabrication project, building a cable carousel for CTC Marine. Welders underwent training and certification in MIG welding to BSEN ISO 287-1. The photo below shows just a small 88 ton



section (up side down) which has to be built in sections so it can be transported. When completed and fitted onto the vessel the total fabrication weight will weigh over 2000 tons; that's what you call a lot of cable reeling!

Another visit to Aberdeen was called for, as requested by **RBG**. This time to trial the **Swordfish** arc cutting electrodes for an offshore project for their client Transocean. Trials where



conducted at **NHC's** facilities in Aberdeen, utilising their 11M wet tank. Two RBG divers where shown by David Keats how to use the product through a brief practical demonstration which was also witnessed by Shell. The photo shows the various cut lines produced by the divers, while practicing in air, using the **Swordfish** electrode, prior to diving.

We welcome our first Vietnamese customer; **Vietrade** who won a contract to supply an offshore client with the 400 amp Lastek



range of welding transformer-rectifiers. These popular machines are modified for use offshore being fitted with stainless steel panels and specially designed fans/intakes to reduce problems caused by dust. The range available starts from 200 and goes up to 800 amps.

JF. Marine requested training and qualification services for an underwater repair welding contract. The training which covered a six day period looked at



multipass vertical-down welding techniques for their divers, using our **Barracuda** electrodes. Divers being successfully qualified under our **UKAS/SAFed** accreditation to BSEN ISO 15618-1: 2004. All training was conducted at **FJ. Marine** base in Merseyside; which provides excellent facilities for both wet and dry welding and is ideally located for companies on the West coast; cheers Fred.

Unmanned Ariel Vehicles (UAV) contacted us to undertake a review of their personnel's welding skills and abilities and conduct training, as necessary, to ensure they continue to meet the highest possible standards for their range of products. These include Wankel-type rotary engines; 20 to 120 bhp. UEL rotary engines are already flying worldwide in over 30 types of unmanned aircraft, ranging from target drones to one-trip lethal UAVs to high-value surveillance-type unmanned aircraft.



UK machine manufacture, **Newark**, visited us to discuss the **Swordfish** arc cutting electrodes, for a somewhat unusual MoD application. With a site visit to **BAE Systems** necessary in order to demonstrate the product to cut damaged tracks from an armoured vehicle, using only the vehicles power supply. Master welders from the MoD confirmed **Swordfish** performed well and was able to cut the track

considerably quicker and neater than the current method and was also easier to use. The photo shows the cut line in one of the track knuckles.



Planet Platforms a well established customer has asked us again to re-approve their welders. Mr. Toby Pemberton, Director says' "We are always happy to use Speciality Welds; they provide an excellent service and fully accommodate our specific requirements, whilst ensuring production is not affected. David, in particular, is recognised as an industry expert and this builds confidence for both us and our customers alike. We would have no hesitation in recommending Speciality Welds to our industry colleagues". The photo of the WWII Lancaster bomber shows the access platforms, which Planet Platforms manufacture, for the restoration of this aircraft at RAF base, Coningsby.

