American Welding Society
1919 – 1971
New York City, NY
1971 – Present
Miami, FL

145 Employees
250 ANSI Standards
40,000 CWI
7,000 CW
500 CWS
112 ATF (domestic)
27 ATF (int’l)
560 exam sites/year
40 countries

DEPARTMENTS--PRODUCTS & SERVICES

MEMBERSHIP
• BENEFITS

TECHNICAL
• STANDARDS

CERTIFICATION
• PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

FOUNDATION
• SCHOLARSHIPS

CONVENTION
• TRADE SHOWS

EDUCATION
• SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

PUBLICATIONS
• WELDING JOURNAL

BOOKSTORE
• HANDBOOKS

ACCREDITATION
• FACILITIES
AWS CERTIFICATION TIMELINE

- 1976 – Certified Welding Inspector
- 1990 – Accredited Testing Facility
- 1990 – Certified Welder
- 1991 – Certified Welding Educator
- 2001 – Certified Welding Fabricator
- 2001 – Certified Welding Engineer
- 2002 – Certified Robotic Arc Welding Operator
- 2004 – Certified Radiographic Interpreter
- 2006 – Certified Welding Supervisor
- 2009 – Certified Welding Sales Representative

AWS Global Reach

45,000 Certified Individuals in 40 Countries
196 Accredited Facilities in 20 Countries
AWS Accredited Test Facilities (ATFs) offer a solution to effectively qualify and test welders.
What is an AWS Accredited Test Facility?

An AWS Accredited Test Facility is an organization that has the necessary resources to test welders to an internationally recognized program and plays a vital role in the operational success of the AWS Certified Welder program.

What is the AWS Certified Welder Program?

- Provides portable welding credentials to welders for demonstrated skills.
- Performance-based with no prerequisite courses or certifications required.
- Welders can test to several code-specific processes patterned after the qualification requirements of those specific codes.
- There is also a provision to test welders to a company-supplied or non-code welding specification.
- Supplements are also available for the sheet metal, petroleum piping, and chemical plant and refinery piping industries.
Individuals that are prepared to test for AWS Certified Welder certification will arrange for welding performance qualification tests with the ATF.

If allowed, welders outside of a facility’s training programs (walk-ins) can also be tested by paying a fee that you set, and taking a test.

Welder is tested for qualification to deposit a sound weld(s) according to a WPS, including fit-up, assembly, and positioning.

Upon successful completion of the test, the application and qualification test record is forwarded with a fee to AWS and a certification card is issued.

The welder’s name will be entered in the National Registry of Certified Welders, available to all who require to verify the certification status.

AWS Certified Welders will maintain their certification by sending in a form to AWS bi-annually that attests to their continued use of the welding process to which they were originally certified.

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**STEPS TO BECOME AN AWS CERTIFIED WELDER**

1. Welder or Employer contacts ATF
2. Discuss/agree upon pricing and scheduling
3. Establish WPSs for the test(s)
   a) Welder or Employer’s responsibility
   b) ATF can help
4. Establish standard/code to qualify to
   a) Limited only to ATF’s comfort in performing test
   b) AWS, ASME, ISO, EN, API, etc.
STEPS TO BECOME AN AWS CERTIFIED WELDER
5. Conduct test
   a) Usually at ATF location
   b) Some ATFs allowed to do remote testing
6. Mechanical tests conducted at ATF
7. Some NDT can be contracted out
8. ATF submits registry form to AWS
9. Listing in National Registry – AWS Website

STEPS TO BECOME AN AWS ATF
1. Implement a quality system program
3. Submit ATF application to AWS
   • QC Manual & Checklists
4. Document review by AWS auditor
5. On-site audit
6. Resolve nonconformities
7. Accreditation
ON-SITE AUDIT
1. Demonstrate quality system
2. Witness welder qualification test
3. Interview staff
4. Review documentation
   a) Past welder qualification testing
   b) Equipment calibration records
5. Policy on independence - administration support
6. Facility Representative
7. Protect confidential information
8. Auditors

QC Manual
1. Organizational chart
2. Facility personnel responsibilities
3. Procedures/processes
   a) Material traceability
   b) Employee training
4. Equipment calibration
5. Customer feedback/improvement
6. Subcontractors (NDE, machining)
7. Record retention
Facility Representative
Person given authority to make legally binding commitments & statements on behalf of the Test Facility
May also be the Technical Manager

Technical Manager
Person charged with technical managerial responsibility
Full time employee
5 years technical experience in testing/inspection of welds
May also be the Facility Representative

Test Supervisor
Responsible for administering welder qualification tests
Current AWS Certified Welding Inspector (CWI)
Shall not be the same person that has trained the welder to be tested for Certified Welder certification
Can be contracted.

Non Destructive Examination (NDE)
Person who performs NDE (if used)
Qualified NDE Level II to ASNT Recommended Practice SNT-TC-1A

ATF STRUCTURE

1. ATF Program
   a) First year – self audit
   b) Second year – self audit
   c) Third year – on-site audit by AWS
2. CW Program
   a) Every 6 months
   b) Continuity form signed by supervisor

RENEWALS
UPCOMING CHANGES

1. QC47 Standard
2. Independent qualifiers
   a) Must past AWS exam on welder qualification
   b) Must be a CWI
3. Passport with log
4. Transition to full online system
5. More control on WPS (SWPS and alternate WPS)

This certification is helpful to individuals and organizations interested in finding ways to increase welding productivity while improving and maintaining acceptable weld quality.

Welding Supervisors can make a valuable contribution to the four most important metrics in welding operations: quality, cost, productivity and safety.

• 2-Part Exam (welding fundamentals of supervision and welding practices and economics)
• Passing score is 70% on each part
• Qualification:
  • education requirements (high school or equivalent diploma)
  • work experience requirements (as defined in AWS B5.9)
Welding Supervisor (CWS) Exam

5.1 Knowledge of Welding Supervision.
5.2 Understanding of Drawings and Specifications.
5.3 Knowledge of Base Material and Welding Materials.
5.4 Familiarity with Welding, Brazing, Cutting Equipment, Theory, and Application.
5.5 Knowledge of Safety Requirements.
5.6 Welding Instructions.

5.7 Knowledge of Welding Practices and Production Controls.
5.8 Welding Inspection.
5.9 Work Reports and Records.
5.10 Understanding the General Applications of Welding Standards.
5.11 Welding Economics and Productivity.
Welding Supervisor (CWS)

Can be taken at any location where a CWI exam is taking place
- 560 sites in 40 countries

Sponsored exams
Custom exams

Near Future – Online training/testing of CWS

- CWS Seminar
- Fabrication Math II
- Welding Economics
- Plus:
  - Fundamentals
  - Safety
  - Symbols
  - NDT
AWS LEARNING
Anyone
Anywhere
Any Time

AWS Learning provides the tools and resources to help you succeed.

EDUCATION
• AWS Learning
• Online Training and Testing

AWS STANDARDS HIERARCHY

Accredited Test Facility

QC4 – AWS Certification Standard (administrative)
B5.9 – qualification requirements (ANSI)
ATF Quality Control Manual (approved by AWS)

Certified Welder

QC7 – AWS Certification Standard (admin)
QC7 Supplements (admin)
National or International Standard
AWS STANDARDS HIERARCHY

Certified Welding Supervisor

QC13 – AWS Certification Standard (admin)

B5.9 – qualification requirements (ANSI)

AWS Presentation to ASME Section IX, SG Qualification

Thank You

Questions?