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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**AWS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RAY SHOOK ELECTED VP,
U.S. DELEGATES HONORED AT IIW ANNUAL ASSEMBLY**

MIAMI, FLA., July 28, 2010 — The American Welding Society (AWS) announced today that its Executive Director and Senior Associate Executive Director were among those honored at the 63rd Annual Assembly & International Conference of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) in Istanbul, Turkey, in early July.

AWS Executive Director Ray Shook was elected Vice President of the International Institute of Welding. For the past three years Shook has served as a board member. Newly named President of IIW is Dr. Baldev Raj from the Indira Gandhi Center for Atomic Research in India. AWS Past-President Dr. Damian Kotecki serves as treasurer of IIW.

Also honored during the conference was AWS Senior Associate Executive Director Jeff Weber, who was one of four American delegates awarded a prize. Weber accepted the Andre Leroy Prize for a video on resistance welding produced by the Resistance Welding Manufacturers Alliance (RWMA), a standing committee of AWS. The Andre Leroy Prize was established in 1980 and is awarded every even year to a multimedia piece intended for use in education and training in any aspect of welding and allied process. Awarded by the French delegation, it was presented at the opening ceremony of the IIW Annual Assembly on Sunday, July 11th. This is the first time an American delegate has received the Andre Leroy award.

Three other members of the American delegation were also honored during the ceremony, including Dr. John W. Elmer, of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, who received the Yoshiaki Arata Award, presented annually to a person who has made extraordinary achievements in fundamental research in welding science and technology and its allied areas. David A. Fink, of the Lincoln Electric Company, received the Thomas Medal, this award sponsored by the American Welding Society, is presented annually to an individual involved in IIW/ISO international standards activities. Professor Carl D. Lundin, of the University of

Tennessee, received the Evgeny Paton Prize, awarded every year to an individual who has made significant contributions to science and technology through his/her lifetime dedication to “Applied Research and Development in the Field of Advanced Technologies, Materials and Equipment for Welding and Allied Processes.”

The IIW was conceived in 1947 and founded in 1948 by 13 countries. Today, the IIW is the largest worldwide network for welding and joining technologies, with 54 member countries representing experts in the various fields of welding and joining.

About AWS

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves more than 63,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 Sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the society’s website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on “Pressroom.”