



## AWS At-A-Glance

### **AWS Overview**

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, AWS is supported by a staff of more than 100 professionals and serves nearly 66,000 members worldwide, including more than 7,000 international members. AWS is led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, and is composed of 22 Districts with more than 160 local Sections throughout the US and the world. AWS continues to lead the way in supporting welding education and technology development to ensure a strong, competitive and exciting way of life.

\*\*More Info: [www.aws.org](http://www.aws.org)

### **AWS Membership**

AWS' membership is made up of Student Members, Individual Members and Corporate Members. Individual Membership consists of engineers, educators, researchers, welders, inspectors, welding foremen, company executives and business owners. Corporate Members include welding manufacturers, independent welding shops, job shops, distributorships, end users, educational institutions and more. Member interests include automatic, semi-automatic and manual welding, as well as brazing, soldering, cutting, ceramics, lamination, robotics, lasers and safety and health.

\*\*More Info: [www.aws.org/membership](http://www.aws.org/membership)

### **AWS Foundation**

The AWS Foundation was established by AWS in 1989 to support programs that ensure the growth and development of the welding industry by strengthening research and educational opportunities in welding and related fields. The AWS Foundation provides funding through scholarships for entry level welding training, technical school, two-year and four-year colleges and fellowships for welding research. Scholarships are awarded locally by AWS Sections, regionally by AWS District Councils and nationally by the AWS Education Scholarship Committee. In 2006, the AWS Foundation inaugurated the *Welding for the Strength of America* \$10 million dollar national capital campaign to expand its scholarship offerings and add other means of financial support for students. In concert with this program, the AWS Foundation also in 2006 established the *Welder Workforce Development Program*, which was founded by generous contributions from its initial donors, Ron and Joyce Pierce, as well as a \$1 million endowment by Miller Electric and Hobart Brothers Company in North America. The goals of the initiative are to help facilitate programs aimed at relieving the nationwide critical shortage of welders. The capital campaign success will determine the financial support that AWS has to actively address this crisis in our industry.

\*\*More Info: [www.aws.org/foundation](http://www.aws.org/foundation)

## **AWS Publications**

Keeping its members on the cutting edge of the industry is paramount at AWS. That is why its publications, instructional and reference materials are among the industry's most widely consulted. The *Welding Journal*, a major monthly magazine dedicated to the welding and manufacturing industries, has won more than 60 editorial and design awards and features an assortment of authoritative articles, industry news and welding research. The *Welding Journal EN ESPAÑOL*, published three times a year by the AWS is the leading magazine in welding in Latin America. It has the best features, departments, and news from previous welding journals translated into Spanish. *Inspection Trends*, published quarterly by AWS, is tailored to materials inspection and testing professionals and covers new technology, trends and safety. AWS also publishes more than 300 books, charts, procedures, software and more than 160 AWS-developed codes, recommended practices, and guides produced under strict American National Standards Institute (ANSI) procedures, including one of the world's most consulted codes, D1.1 Structural Welding Code – Steel.

*\*\*More Info:* [www.aws.org/publications](http://www.aws.org/publications)

## **AWS Show, Conferences and Seminars**

AWS has become a world-renowned organization providing quality educational opportunities through a variety of welding conferences and seminars that present new technology and topical subjects for the welding industry. Every year, AWS joins forces with the industry's other leading associations, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, Precision Metalworking Association and the Fabricators and Manufacturers Association, to present the FABTECH Expo, the largest event in North America dedicated to showcasing a full spectrum of metal forming, fabricating, tube and pipe, and welding equipment and technology. Thousands of welding professionals from more than 20 countries gather at this event to exchange state-of-the-art products and services, form new business relationships, problem-solve, share best practices, and find new procedures and processes that will improve their operations.

*More Info:* [www.aws.org/conferences](http://www.aws.org/conferences)

## **AWS Education Programs**

AWS education programs include international, national and local conferences, seminars, individual corporate programs, and home study courses. Subjects range from the basics to the leading edge of technology. AWS offers to all qualified U.S. welding training programs the award-winning SENSE program (Schools Excelling through National Skills Education), which implements national skill standards and associated curriculum guides to train and qualify welders. The program advances students through three different levels, from entry to expert welder, to prepare students for today's workforce and tomorrow's challenges.

*More Info:* [www.aws.org/education](http://www.aws.org/education)

## **AWS Certification Programs**

AWS offers a number of widely recognized certification programs to assist the industry in identifying qualified welding personnel and to provide opportunities for welding professionals. The premier AWS certification is the Certified Welding Inspector (CWI) program, which is distinguished internationally and trusted to ensure the highest level of quality workmanship. Established in 1976, this AWS service has certified more than 60,000 welding inspectors and currently about 25,000 are certified. This AWS certification has been a major contributor to improved weld quality and reduced inspection costs. AWS offers additional certification programs for welding supervisors, engineers, radiographic interpreters, educators, sales representatives, robotic arc welding operators and technicians, fabricators and more.

*More Info:* [www.aws.org/certification](http://www.aws.org/certification)

**AWS Executives**

Ray Shook, Executive Director  
Cassie Burrell, Deputy Executive Director  
Jeff Weber, Senior Associate Executive Director  
Gesana Villegas, Associate Executive Director, Finance

**AWS Board Officers**

John L. Mendoza, President  
Lone Star Welding

William (Bill) A. Rice, Vice President  
CEO, OKI Bering Supply

Nancy Cole, Vice President  
CEO, NCC Engineering

Dean R. Wilson, Vice President  
Wilson Industries Inc.

Robert G. Pali, Treasurer  
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