

# Drawn-Arc Studwelding

# ARC - Process Training



## Process: Drawn Arc Stud welding (DS)

Short-Cycle  
Welding time  
< 100 ms

Standard Arc  
Shielding Gas  
D ≤ 16 mm

Standard Arc  
Ceramic Ferrule  
D ≤ 25 mm

Studs Type  
PS / US / IS  
(PT / UT / IT)

Studs Type  
RD / PD / ID / UD

Studs Type  
RD / PD / ID / UD

Thin sheet metals

Studs without  
Aluminum ball

Concrete anchors  
Shear connectors  
Type SD

Automotive  
industry

Industrial  
application

Overhead position  
(PE)  
Horizontal Position  
(PC)

Christmas tree  
studs

Jobside  
applications

Steel  
construction

Refractory  
Anchoring  
systems & Pins



# ARC - Process

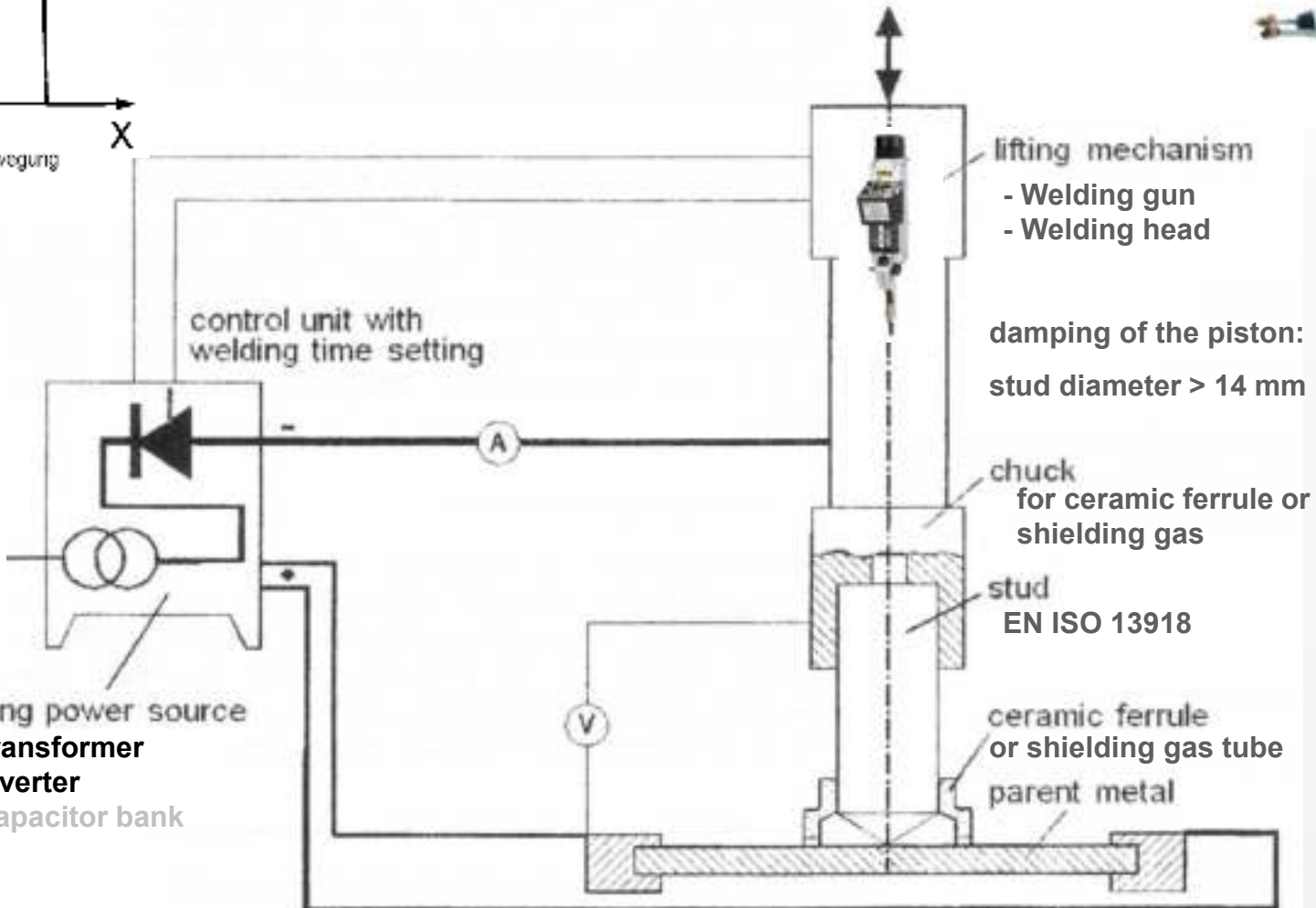
## Circuit diagram



welding power source

- Transformer
- Inverter
- Capacitor bank

control unit with  
welding time setting



# ARC Stud Welding (DS)



## Drawn Arc processes

**Ceramic Ferrule (CF)**  
EN ISO 4063 - 783



**Shielding Gas (SG)**  
EN ISO 4063 - 783



**Short-Cycle (NP)**  
EN ISO 4063 - 784



# ARC Stud Welding



## Drawn Arc processes (ISO 14555)

Drawn arc Processes	ISO 4063	Welding time t [ms]	Stud diameter d [mm]	Current intensity I [A]	Weld pool protection	Minimum sheet
stud welding with ceramic ferrule or shielding gas	783	> 100	3 to 25	300 to 3,000	CF	1/4 d but not less than 1 mm <sup>1)</sup>
		> 100	3 to 16	300 to 3,000	SG	1/8 d but not less than 1mm
Short-Cycle stud welding	784	< 100	3 to 12	up to 1,500	NP, SG, (CF)	1/8 d but not less than 0.6mm
Capacitor discharge drawn arc stud welding	785	< 10	3 to 10	up to 3,000 (peak)	NP (SG)	1/10 d but not less than 0.5mm

1) The minimum sheet thickness avoids burn through. Other application requirements can call for bigger thickness.

## Weld Pool Protection (CF)

### Ceramic ferrule (CF) (for studs with Al-ball)

- It forms a combustion chamber around the weld location
- Shielding the welder from both arc and spatter
- Concentrates the arc in a small region
- Reduces heat loss and cooling rate
- The atmosphere is only slightly held off
- When the stud is plunged into the weld pool, it forces molten metal out sideways to form an annular weld collar around the stud
- Welding in any position can thus be carried out
- used only for one weld and is removed once the molten metal has solidified



## Weld Pool Protection (SG)

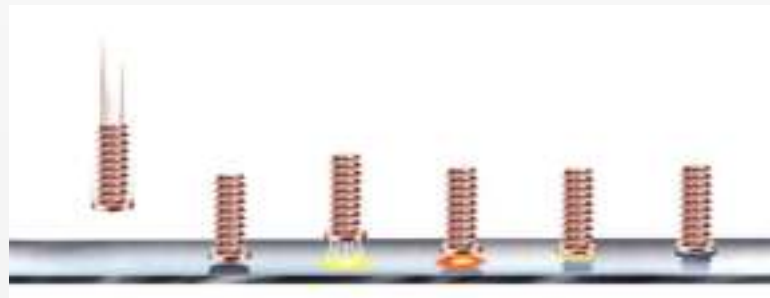
### Shielding gas (SG) – ISO 14175 (studs without Al-ball)

- The atmosphere is displaced from the arc region
- Greatly reduces the formation of pores
- Influences the arc and affects the fusion of the stud and work piece
- Influences as well the shaping of the weld collar and the penetration shape
- Welding position: Downhand welding position (PA)
- **Steels** (mild steel, stainless steel):
  - widely used: 82% Ar / 18% CO<sub>2</sub>      ISO 14175 – M21 – ArC – 18
  - HBS preferred: 92%Ar / 8% CO<sub>2</sub>      ISO 14175 – M20 – ArC – 8
- **Aluminium** and its alloys:
  - Ar-He mixtures: 85% Ar / 15% He      ISO 14175 – I3 – ArHe – 15
  - Argon (99.9)      ISO 14175 – I1

## Weld Pool Protection (NP)

### No protection (NP)

- Only for small stud diameter ( $< 8$  mm) and with short welding times ( $< 100$  ms)
- Disadvantages:
  - severe oxidation of the weld zone
  - increased pore formation
  - and irregular weld bead





# ARC Welding elements



## Studs (EN ISO 13918)



Type DD



Type PD



Type RD



Type UD



Type ID



Type SD

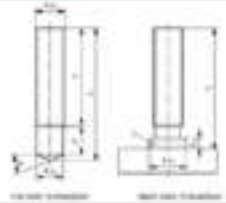
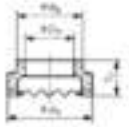
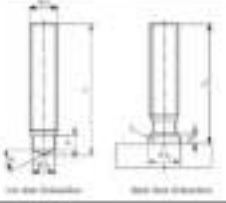
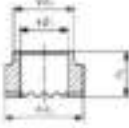
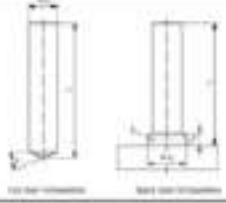
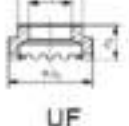

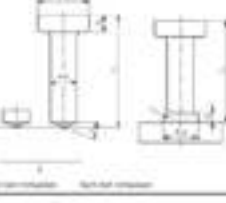


Ceramic ferrule

# ARC Welding elements



## Studs (EN ISO 13918)

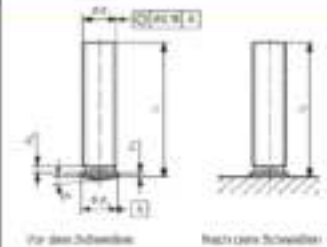
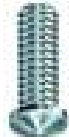
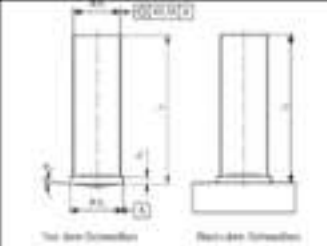
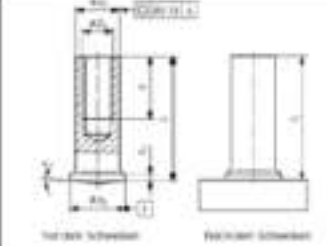
Type of Studs		Symbol for Studs	Symbol for Ceramic Ferrules
drawn arc stud welding with ceramic ferrule or shielding gas	threaded stud (pitch)		 P F
	threaded stud with reduced shaft		 R F
	unthreaded stud		 U F
	stud with internal thread		
	shear connector		

features: ignition cone angle (~23 °) / CF: ignition cone with aluminum ball

# SC Welding Elements



## Studs (EN ISO 13918)

Type of studs		Symbol for studs
short-cycle drawn arc stud welding	threaded stud (pitch) with flange	  PS
	unthreaded stud	 US
	stud with internal thread	 IS

features:

- small ignition cone angle ( $\sim 7^\circ$ )
- flange

# Welding Parameters



## Welding parameters ISO 14555

Parameters	Effect
Welding Current I [A]	Size of the melt pool Fluidity of the melt
Welding Time t [ms]	Penetration Size of the melt pool
Lift L [mm]	Geometry of the melt pool Porosity
Protrusion P [mm]	Formation of the melt seam
Plunging speed / Damping	Shape of melt seam

## Welding parameters - Power unit

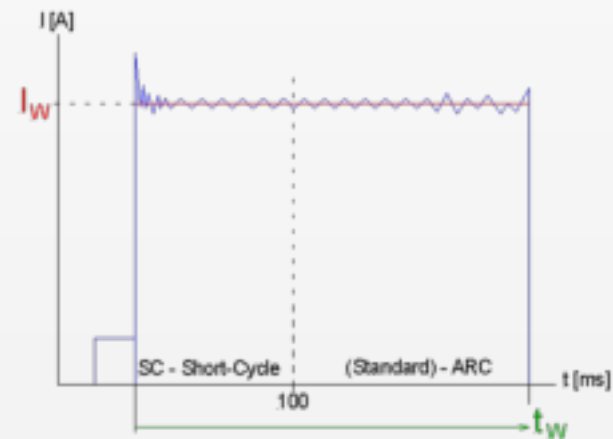
### Welding current [I]

- depending on the stud dimensions, the welding current is between 300 and 3,000 A
  - for **normal stud welding** of unalloyed steel, Position PA:
    - $I [A] = 80 \times D [mm]$  ..... for studs up to 16 mm diameter
    - $I [A] = 90 \times D [mm]$  ..... for studs over 16 mm diameter
- for **stainless steel**: current ~10% less
- for **Short-Cycle drawn arc stud welding**:  
current as high as possible is set  
 $I [A] = \text{min. } 100 \times D [mm]$

## Welding parameters - Power unit

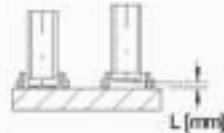
### Welding time [t]

- for **normal stud welding** (mild steel, Position PA):
  - $t_w$  [ms] = 20 x D [mm] ..... for studs up to 12 mm diameter
  - $t_w$  [ms] = 40 x D [mm] ..... for studs over 12 mm diameter
- for **Short-Cycle drawn arc stud welding**:
  - $t_w$  [ms] < 100

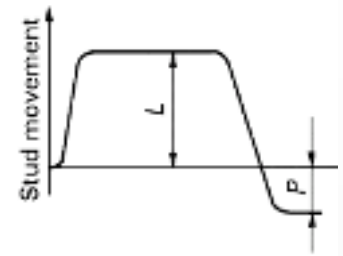


## Welding parameters – Weld gun

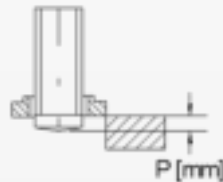
### Lift [L]



- Is between (0.8) 1.5 and 8 mm
- is proportional to the stud diameter
- Coated surfaces: the lift must be greater than it is normally
- greater lift increases the arc length and therefore the arc voltage; the magnetic deflection of the arc also increases (arc blow effect)



### Protrusion [P]



- Is approximately 1 to 8 mm and proportional to the stud diameter
- Depends on: - the desired shape of the weld collar  
- the shape of the stud base and  
- the collar area of the ring (when welding with CF)

## Welding parameters – Weld gun

### Plunging speed

- for studs with a diameter up to 14 mm: approximately 200 mm/s  
for larger studs: approximately 100 mm/s so as to prevent the weld pool splashing

### Polarity

- Steel: the **stud** is connected to the **negative pole** and the parent metal is the positive pole
- Aluminum: opposite polarity has proven successful for special metals

### Arc voltage

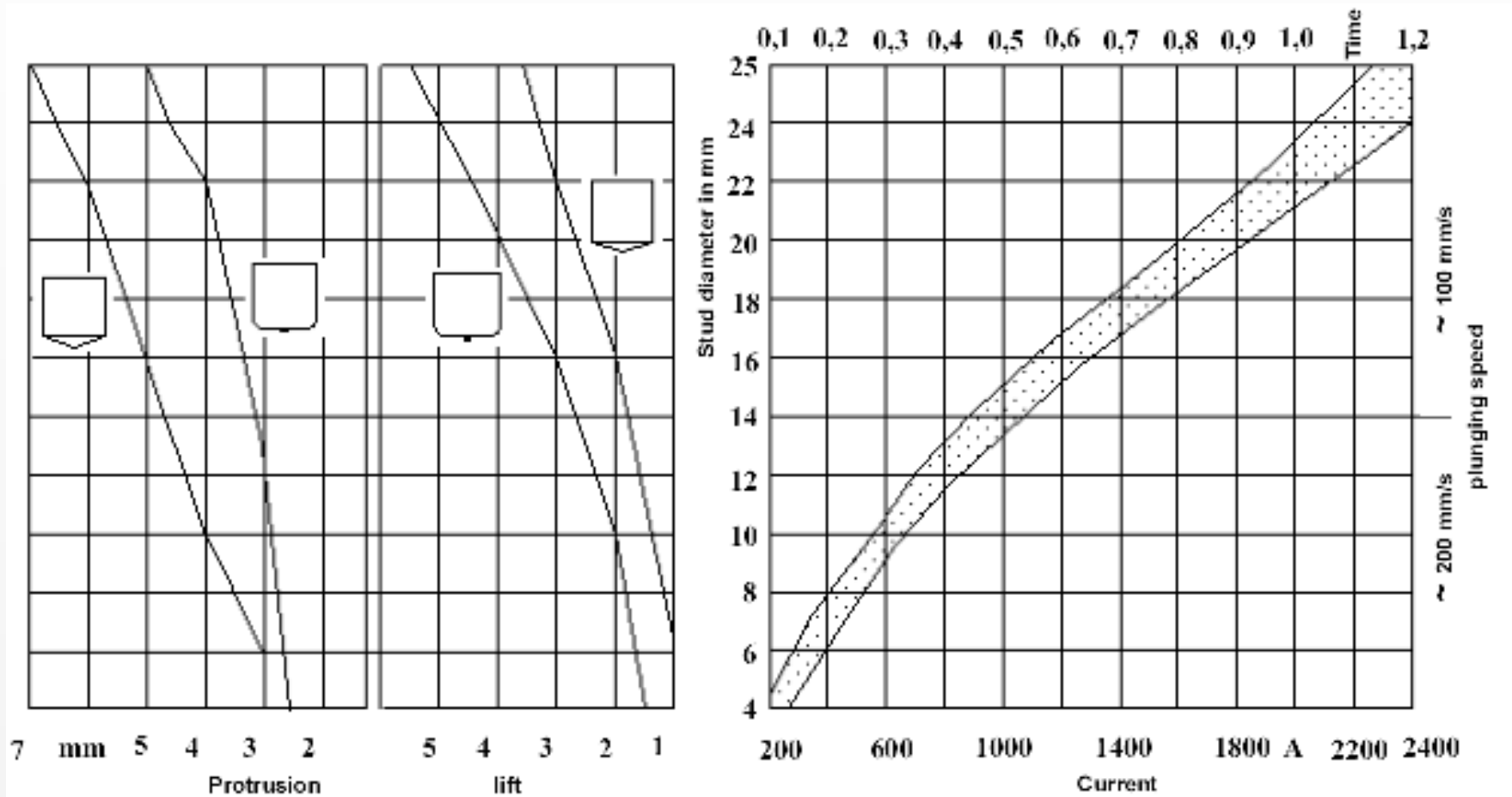
- values of between 20 V and 40 V
- surface impurities such as oil or grease increase the arc voltage  
shielding gases reduce the arc voltage



# Welding Parameters

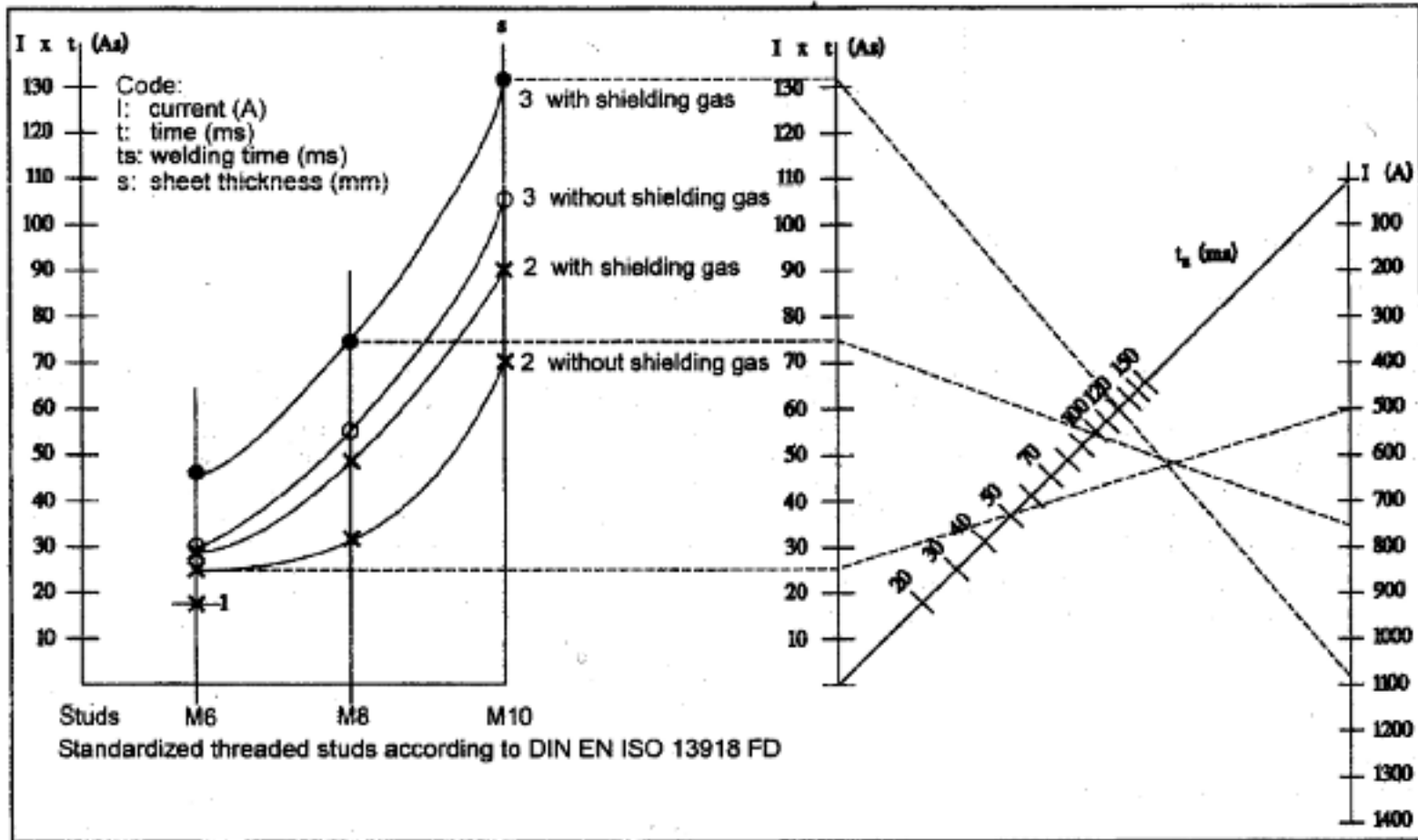


## ARC Welding parameters (DVS)



# Welding Parameters

## SC Welding parameters (DVS)

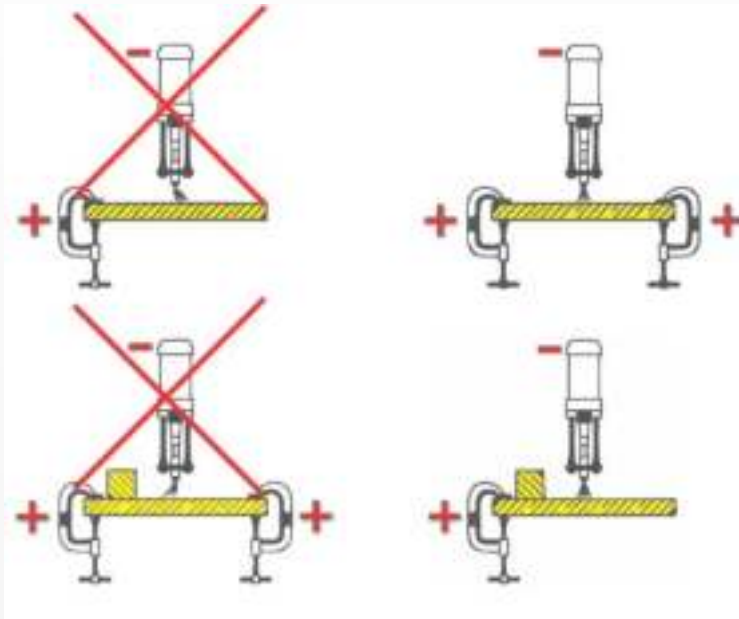


- Example 1: Stud M10, metal sheet thickness 3 mm, with shielding gas, 132 As: 1100 A / 120 ms  
 Example 2: Stud M8, metal sheet thickness 3 mm, with shielding gas, 75 As: 750 A / 100 ms  
 Example 3: Stud M6, metal sheet thickness 2 mm, without shielding gas, 25 As: 500 A / 50 ms

# Welding Parameters



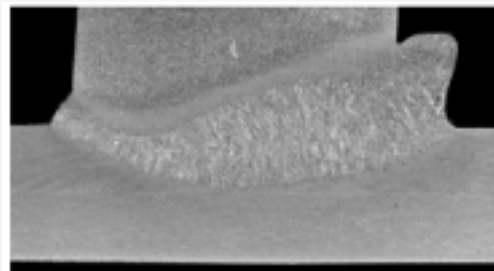
## Welding parameters – Arc blow



Ceramic Ferrule



Shielding Gas



Macro-Cut

# Material Combinations



## Material and Weldability

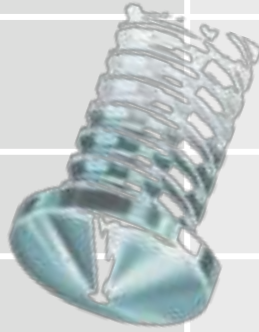
Stud material	Work piece / Parent metal			
	Mild steel ( $R_{eH} \leq 460 \text{ N/mm}^2$ ) Fine-grain structural steel ( $R_{eH} > 360 \text{ N/mm}^2$ ) $C \leq 0,2\%$	Fine grain steel ( $R_e > 360 \text{ N/mm}^2$ ) Vanadium alloy Cr-Mo-(Ni) steel $Mo \leq 0,7\%$ , $V \leq 0,1\%$	Austenitic (stainless) steel AISI 300 series 405, 410, 430	Aluminium & Al-Mg-Alloys ( $Mg \leq 3.5\%$ ) 5000-series
4.8 (weldable) AISI 1006 to 1020	a	b	$b^2$	-
AISI 300 series	$b/a^1$	b	a	-
EN AW - AlMg 3 (EN AW - 5754) EN AW - AlMg 5 (EN AW - 5019)	-	-	-	b
1) Up to $\varnothing 10 \text{ mm}$ in position PA and shielding gas 2) Only short-cycle	a) Highly weldable for any application (e.g: force transfer) b) Weldable with limits for force transfer c) Weldable with limits only for heat transfer - not weldable			

# ARC / SC Process



## Process characteristics

<b>Welding method</b>	Drawn Arc
<b>Power source</b>	Inverter / Transformer (Capacitor)
<b>Power supply</b>	400/460/480V / 50-60Hz (115/230V, single phase)
<b>Welding time</b>	5 ms – 1.5 s
<b>Welding current</b>	max. 3,000 A
<b>Welding diameter</b>	Ø 2 – 25 mm M3 - M24
<b>Stud design</b>	Cone angle
<b>Material</b>	Mild steel, stainless steel Aluminium
<b>Sheet metal thickness</b>	> 1 mm



# ARC / SC Process



## Process characteristics

<b>Process reliability</b>	Average - High
<b>Visual criteria:</b>	Weld seam
<b>Automation</b>	Possible (up to 12 mm)
<b>Centering for assembling</b>	Difficult
<b>Application</b> Industrial - Jobside Application Automotive Industry Insulation	Yes Yes HVAC Heat, Ventilation, Clima, Aircondition



# ARC Process



## ARC – Advantages

- **Simple adjustment** of the welding parameters (Welding current, welding time, Lift, Protrusion)
- **Wide working range: stud diameter 2 – 25 mm**
- Tolerates surface curvature and imperfections (e.g. light rust, scale, grease and some coatings) burns through parent material laminations
- Gives neat and controlled weld seam
- The only method of stud welding large diameters



## SC - Advantages

- **Simple adjustment** of the welding parameters (Welding current, welding time, Lift, Protrusion)
- **Working range: stud diameter 2 – 12 mm**
- **Automation is easily possible up to 12 mm stud diameter**
- Can utilise low cost "CD" studs
- This process is more tolerant than CD of uneven or dirty surfaces
- Ferrules are not required - however shielding gas improves weld quality
- This process also lends itself to multi-gun applications





## Applications / Quality check



<b>No defect</b> (with flat bead)	<b>No defect</b> (preferably composite, compliant with the requirements by Eurocode 4)	<b>Pores</b>	<b>Shrinkage cracks</b> (insufficient immersion of the stud)
Welding parameter setting correct	Welding parameter setting correct	Welding current (Energy) to low	Wrong setting at the weld gun / weld gun defect

The shear connectors used in composite construction require specific inspections and quality control

- Testing procedures are specified in the contract documents or by a local building authority
- ISO 14555 / AWS D1.1 specifies the tests and inspections for shear studs

## Process parameters (ARC/SC)

### Welding Process and Method

Drawn arc, short cycle

### Design / Geometry

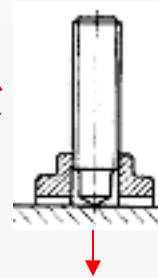
Angle  
Aluminium-ball  
Ceramic ferrule

### Welding Equipment

Power unit  
(Transformer, Inverter, Capacitor\*)  
Ground cable (length, cross section)  
Welding Gun / Welding head

### Welding parameters

Welding Current  
Welding time  
(\*Charging Voltage)  
Plunging Speed  
Lift (Arc Voltage)  
Protrusion  
Damping  
Gas (flow rate)



### Material

Parent metal  
Studs ISO 13918  
Material combination ISO 14555  
Thickness, Surface  
**Shielding Gas:** ISO 14175

### Physics

Energy  
Current  
Resistance  
Inductivance  
Magnetism (Arc Blow)

## Extent of Examination and Testing

### ARC

Visual examination: all studs

Check:

- the **uniformity of shape** and
- the **size of the collar**



No.	Appearance	Assessment	Recommended corrective actions
Visual examination			
1	Collar regular, bright and complete. Length after weld within tolerance.	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
2	Reduced diameter weld. Length too long.	Insufficient protrusion (plunge) or lift. Insufficient centering. Welding power too high.  Damping activity too strong.	Increase protrusion (plunge) or lift. Check centering of ceramic ferrule. Reduce current and/or welding time.  Reduce damping activity.
3	Reduced, irregular and greyish collar. Length too long.	Weld energy too low. Ceramic ferrule is moist. Lift too short.	Increase current and/or welding time. Dry out ferrule in oven. Increase lift.

## Extent of Examination and Testing




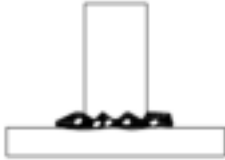

### Short-Cycle

### Visual examination: all studs

Check:

- the **uniformity of shape** and
- the **size of the collar**



No.	Appearance	Assessment	Recommended corrective actions
Visual examination			
1	Regular collar, no visual defects. 	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
2	Partial weld. 	Weld energy too low. Polarity incorrect.	Increase current and/or welding time. Correct polarity.
3	Large irregular collar. 	Welding time too long.	Reduce welding time.
4	Pores in collar. 	Welding time too long. Current too low. Oxidation of weld pool. Surface contaminated.	Reduce welding time. Increase current. Provide suitable shielding gas. Clean the surface.
5	Collar off centre with undercut. 	Effect of arc blow.	See Table A.8.

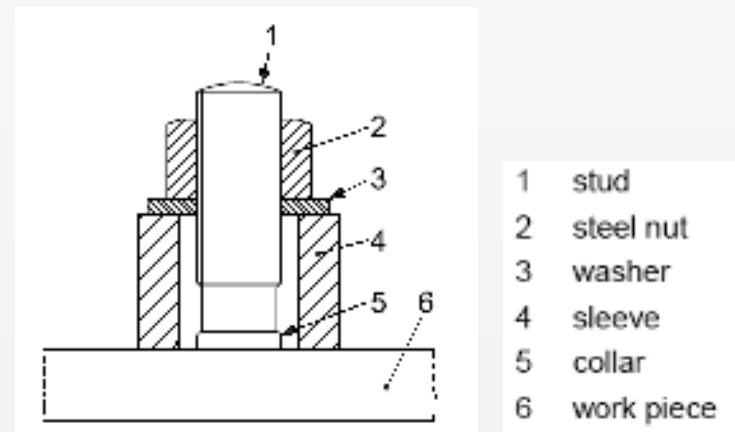
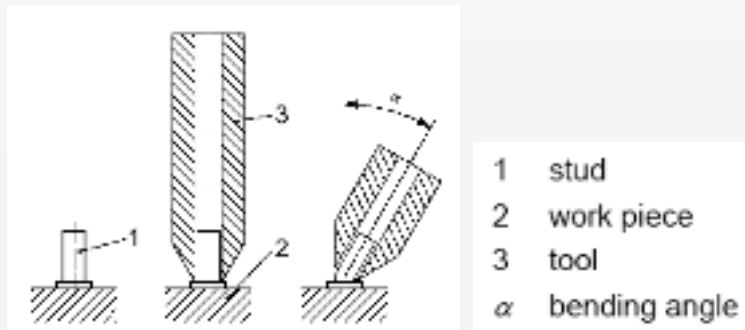
## Extent of Examination and Testing

### Bend testing

- Bending angle:  $60^\circ$
- Serves as a simple bench test for approximate checking of the chosen data
- The weld is subjected to bending in a undefined manner
- Passed the test: **No cracks** are found in the weld after bending

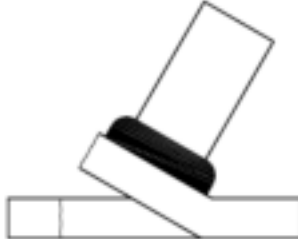


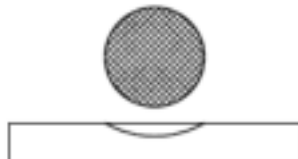
### Tensile testing

- By using a suitable tension device the welded studs were pulled axially until fracture



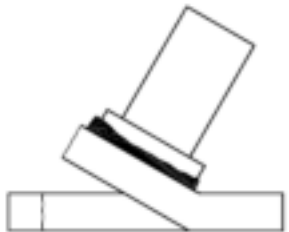



## Bend Testing (Fracture examination)

ARC

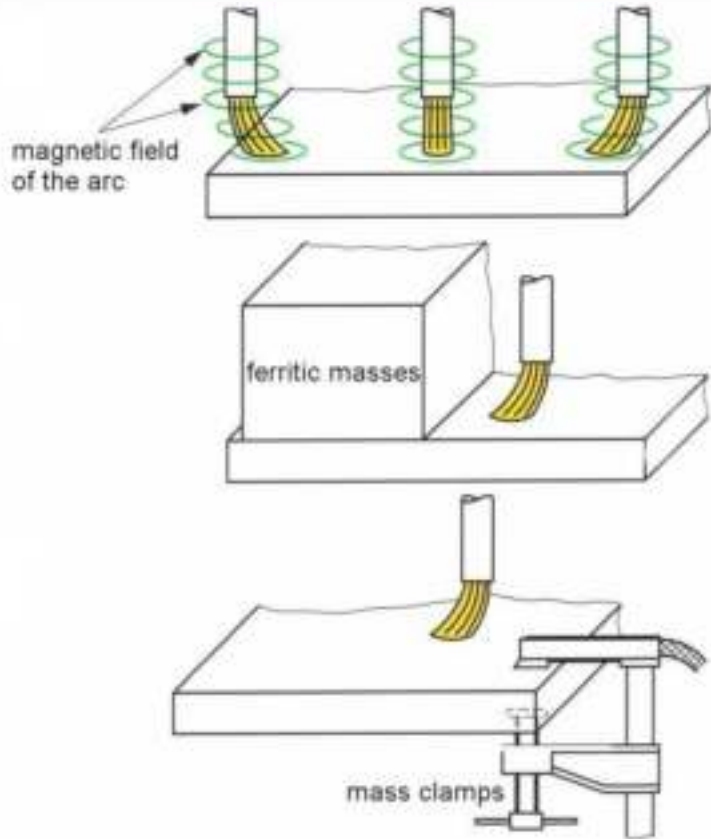
Fracture examination			
6	<p>Tearing of parent material.</p> 	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
7	<p>Fracture above collar after sufficient deformation.</p> 	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
8	<p>Fracture within the weld. High porosity.</p> 	<p>Weld energy too low. Unclean surface. Material not suitable for stud welding.</p>	<p>Increase current and/or welding time. Clean the surface. Select suitable material.</p>
9	<p>Fracture in HAZ. Greyish fracture surface without sufficient deformation.</p> 	<p>Carbon content of parent material too high. Cooling rate too high.</p>	<p>Select suitable material. Increase welding time. Preheating may be necessary.</p>

## Bend Testing (Fracture examination)

### Short-Cycle

No.	Appearance	Assessment	Recommended corrective actions
<b>Fracture examination</b>			
6	<p>Tearing of parent material.</p> 	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
7	<p>Fracture above collar after sufficient deformation.</p> 	Acceptable (parameters are correct).	None.
8	<p>Fracture in HAZ.</p> 	Carbon content of parent material too high. Parent material not suitable.	Select suitable material.
9	<p>Lack of penetration.</p> 	Heat input too low. Incorrect weld polarity.	Increase heat input. Correct weld polarity.

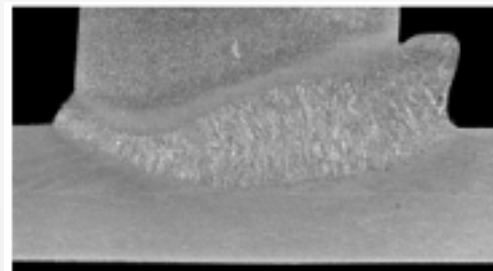
## Welding Practice - Magnetic Arc Blow



Ceramic ferrule



Shielding gas



Macro-etched slice



# ARC Stud Welding




## Application and handling



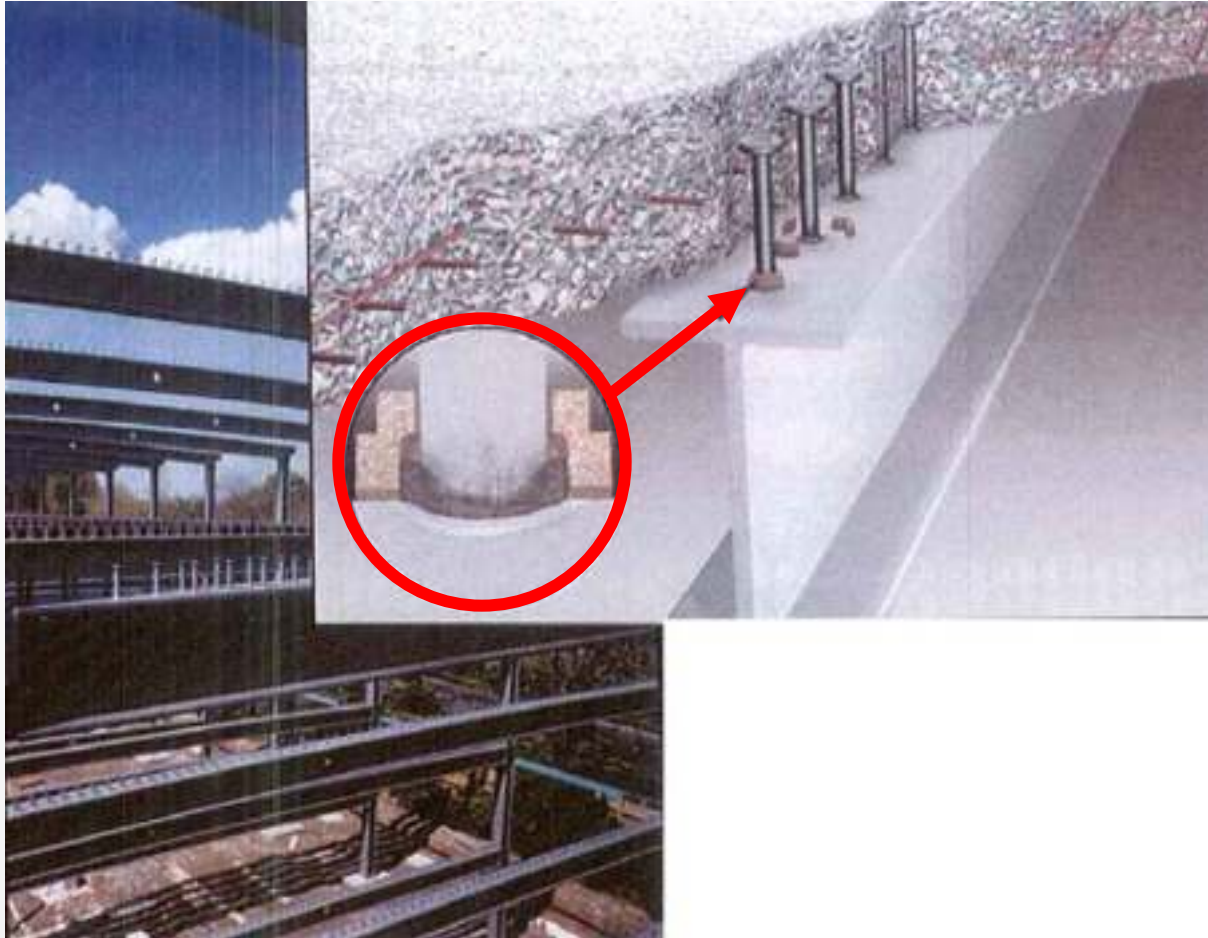
# ARC Stud Welding



## Application and handling

Weld gun	Market	Application	Recommended Power Unit	Accessories	
A 12	Industry		IT 1002, IT 2002 IT 50, IT 90, IT 130		
					
A 16	Industry Heavy Duty		IT 1002, IT 2002, IT 3002 IT 50, IT 90, IT 130		
A 22	Industry Heavy Duty		IT 2002, IT 3002 IT 90, IT 130		
A 25					

## Applikationen



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