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7XE EXTRACTOR addressing the source of welding fumes









WHY?

Welding fumes are a health hazard and welders who inhale too much fumes run a higher risk of developing asthma, bronchitis, COPD, and cardiovascular disorders. The Dutch government has, as a result, instituted a new and more stringent threshold for the amount of welding fumes in the workplace.

The legal threshold in the Netherlands for welding fumes in the workplace is 1 milligram of welding fumes per cubic metre of air (1 mg/m³), over the span of an 8-hour work day.

This norm is, in practice, exceeded by many companies that often adopt many measures: room ventilation, mobile extraction hoods, or personal protective equipment such as dust masks or ventilated helmets. The effect of these is often insufficient:

- extraction hoods are not placed close enough to the source
- the objects to be welded are too large
- the welder himself is very mobile
- welding may take place in enclosed areas (e.g. the hold in a ship)
- personal protective gear is not used correctly

In these cases, an integrated welding fume extraction provision in the welding torch is a more effective measure that is easier for the welder himself to apply in comparison to other means.



WHAT?

The EXTRACTOR consists of a welding torch with a built-in extraction module. The torch can be connected to a central extraction system or to a stand-alone version without any problems. The advantage of this mobile extraction unit with integrated filtration systems is that it can be used in different workplaces, such as in ships' holds.

WHAT IS TRULY NEW?

- The welding torch has a conical suction head, welding tip, and gas outlet for the shielding gas thereby promoting good visibility and reachability of the object.
- The newly developed suction module is located at the end of the welding torch, close to the source.
- The shielding gas can be emitted with an increased flow velocity without raising shielding gas consumption.
- A ball and socket joint between the torch and hoses improves manoeuvrability.
- A conical suction hose, running from thin to wide.

The EXTRACTOR reduces the welder's exposure to welding fumes by 90-95% as measured by TNO in a 'Worst Case Room'.

This applies to (pulling) underhand welding. The reduction in (pushing) overhand welding and very swift horizontal movements may be slightly less.



WHERE AND HOW?

The EXTRACTOR is intended for use in MIG and MAG welding processes that employ shielding gases. The torch will in all cases deliver an improved performance in comparison to current torches with source suction.

However, proper use is crucial. Because the suction unit causes the welding tip to become dirty more quickly, the tip has to be cleaned more frequently. Proper maintenance of the filtration systems is also important, as well as regular checks of the exhaust flow.







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