

Arc Welding - Process Overview

(Data based on standard Industrial practices)

| S.N. | Key Features | MMAW (Manual Metal Arc Welding) | GMAW (Gas Metal Arc Welding) | FCAW (Flux-Cored Arc Welding) | GTAW (Gas Tungsten Arc Welding) | SAW (Submerged Arc Welding) |
|------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | Common dia/ ϕ of consumable, mm | 2.5, 3.15, 4.0 , 5.0 | 1.2 , 1.6 | 1.2 , 1.6 | 2.4 , 3.2 | 1.6, 3.15, 4.0 |
| 1 | Cost of welding equipment | Low | Medium | Medium | Medium | High |
| 2 | Cost of welding consumable | Medium | Medium | Medium to High | High | Medium |
| 3 | Availability of welding consumable | Easy | Medium | Medium | Medium | Medium |
| 4 | Requirement of skill for welder | Less | Medium | High | V. High | Medium |
| 5 | Ease of using the welding process | Easy | Medium | Medium | Difficult | Medium |
| 6 | Suitability in welding positions | All | F, H, VU | All | All | F, H |
| 7 | On-sight welding | Easy | Medium | Medium | Medium | Difficult |
| 8 | Continuity in welding | Less | High | High | Less | Higher |
| 9 | Welding speed, mm/ minute (The speed at which welding is done.) | 140 | 200 | 200 | Slowest | 500 |
| 10 | Deposition efficiency, % (Weight ratio of weld metal & consumable) | 65 | 90 | 85 | 100 | 100 |
| 11 | Effective arcing time, % (% of time spent on actual welding.) | 35 | 45 | 45 | Not Applicable | 50 |
| 12 | Arcing time/ 8 hrs shift, hour (Actual welding time in 8 hrs shift.) | 2.8 | 3.6 | 3.6 | Not Applicable | 4.0 |
| 13 | Deposition rate, kg/ hr (Weight of weld metal deposited/hr.) | 1.5 | 3.4 | 3.5 | Not Applicable | 7.0 |
| 14 | Deposition/ 8 hrs shift, kg (Actual weld metal deposited in 8 hrs shift) | 4.2 | 12.24 | 12.6 | Not Applicable | 28.0 |
| 15 | Ease to increase deposition rate | Only increasing dia/ ϕ | Using Ar-CO ₂ gas | Using Ar-CO ₂ gas | Not Applicable | Using multi-wire |

Notes: (All position welding means suitable to weld F: Flat, H: Horizontal, OH: Overhead, VD: Vertical down, VU: Vertical up – in all these positions)