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**Underwater Welding Takes Combination Of Skills**

**By Peter Vermeeren**

Underwater welding is a high paying, much in demand, lucrative and rewarding profession.

Underwater welding also takes a combination of skills. If you are wondering how to get started in this great career, the American Welding Society makes recommendations at their web site to encourage young people to enter the career field of underwater welding.

To get a basic idea of just what it takes, here are a few skills you should have. First you must be both a certified welder and a commercial diver. It is essential to have good diving skills and equally essential to place a premium on safety. Most of the tasks involved in the job of an underwater welder are not the welding itself, but the things that need to be done to get ready for the job.

Those interested in becoming underwater welders can attend one of the many fine commercial diving schools. Most of them offer a certificate of completion and acceptance as a commercial diver upon completion. You will also need to pass a diving physical exam, and often times a written exam as well. The Association of Commercial Diving Education provides a list of certified diving schools by writing the Association of Diving Contractors -ADC-, 2611 FM 1960 W., Suite F204, and Houston, Texas 77068. Call them at (713) 893-8388 or fax them (713) 893-5118. After completing the course a person should have a good idea as to whether or not they are comfortable under the water and want to continue in the field of underwater welding. If you are comfortable and want to continue, then many professional diving companies offer the service of under water welding. Get your resume together and apply.

Upon getting that first underwater welding job, most companies will require you to enhance your skills by passing certain qualification tests. Consult your company as to the requirements they have. Generally the better your wet and dry welding skills, the more valuable you are and the higher rating and pay grade you will have.

Some people are already commercial divers when they become interested, which then requires welding training. It is also wise to be in peak physical condition since underwater welding can be physically demanding. The better shape you are in, the better you'll do.

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What the chances are of finding work in underwater welding is a question that also comes to mind for most people. The need for skilled workers in underwater welding is usually very good, though it is subject to the laws of supply and demand as most professions are. As you gain experience the more job opportunities will become available to you, and as your reputation in underwater welding grows, the more sought after you will be. Salaries in excess of \$100,000 per year are commanded by skilled and experienced technicians in underwater welding, making it a career field worth looking into for anyone with an interest in combining the two sought after skills of professional welding, and diving.

Peter Vermeeren is the owner and webmaster of:

<http://www.machine-and-tool.com>

and

<http://www.airsoft-got.es>

### **Welding: A Handy Skill For Many Situations.**

**By Josephine Stungger**

Welding is the well known skill of taking two pieces of metal and fastening them together in very strong fashion. Most people have heard about it and understand at least the above concept but don't really understand how useful it is.

Welding is used in more than just the steel construction industry. Anything metal that is formed from more than one part has most likely been welded. Things ranging from car bodies, to farm equipment, to underwater oil rigs, to custom mufflers, to sculptures...and on and on. There are separate welding techniques for each application whether it be the type of joint you are forming or the type of metal you are working with. There is spot welding, arc welding, stick welding, underwater welding, steel welding, aluminum welding, brass welding, copper welding, etc. You can weld big rugged things like axle assemblies, or tiny fine parts which require an flair. Basically in any industry and for every set of desires gifts, and abilities—there are applications for this wonderful skill.

Welders are in demand and paid well too. There just aren't enough welders for all of the welding that needs to be done. And this is a universal need in every area geographically and in every area of business, in this country and throughout the world. So whether you are a handyman, or hobbyist, or need a great job here is a great skill to master and use. Welding classes are available at most local community colleges and career centers and once you are certified you will never regret it. You will be on your way to making your life, job, hobby—whatever—better!

You shouldn't get the wrong idea though, one class isn't going to teach you every technique and just like everything else with experience comes perfection and ease of welding technique. A good idea is to get a mentor that you can observe, learn tricks from, bounce questions off, and get constructive feedback from. This can be done on a personal level or more easily probably by reading information written by master welders and then contacting them.

## Underwater Welding Takes Combination Of Skills

So if you want to learn more about the many ways welding can jumpstart your career or make your job/hobby better than go take a class, then start practicing welding and read all you can from well known authors.

Josephine Stungger has taught beginning and advanced welding classes for years at her local community college. A sculptor on the side, she has perfected many highly specialized welding techniques. To learn more visit

<http://www.learnwelding.info>



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