**Press Release**

**For immediate release**

**Weld Backing Tape™ for Weld Purging**

It is important when welding metals such as stainless steel, titanium and zirconium that the welding zone is purged of oxygen even as low as 10 parts per million (ppm) before, during and immediately after welding, in order to achieve a clean, oxide free, zero colour weld.

During a recent trip to South America, Weld Purging Experts Huntingdon Fusion Techniques HFT® were supporting their Exclusive Distributor and local customers when an exciting discovery was made concerning the use of their Argweld® Backing Tape™.

One customer showed how the use of his former ceramic backing tiles and the tiny space available for the weld root formation, prevented adequate argon flow and caused the welding arc to blow back at the welder.

Luke Keane, Distributor Support for HFT® said: "Ceramic backing tiles are designed for Submerged Arc Welding where oxidation is prevented by powder as opposed to argon, so the customers were using the wrong product for GTAW / TIG welding. A demonstration of Argweld® Backing Tape™ followed, which allowed the argon to flow freely, eliminating the blow back of the arc that was happening previously and enabling the welders to produce a perfect root weld.”

Huntingdon Fusion Techniques HFT®’s Weld Backing Tape™ comprises a 3" (75mm) wide aluminium adhesive tape backing strip, in the centre of which is a 1" (25mm) wide band of woven glass fibre matting.

Once the tape is positioned with the glass fibre matting under the centre of the weld joint, the welders can start their arc. The welding torch argon flow has plenty of space to move between the pores of the matting, which allows the welding arc to stabilise and start forming the weld root.

Measured by a Weld Purge Monitor®, all contaminating oxygen below 100 parts per million (ppm) is removed and the stainless steel weld root is completed successfully, with the molten metal being cast onto the fibre glass with excellent side wall fusion and underbead profile.

The customer was so enthusiastic with the clean, metallurgically sound, non-oxidised weld that they placed a large order for HFT®’s Weld Backing Tape™ for immediate delivery. Fortunately, the local Distributor had sufficient stock levels, were able to accommodate their wishes within hours and have them welding the same day.

Weld Backing Tape™ demonstration video can be viewed at: https://youtu.be/F6amA6rX2og

Huntingdon Fusion Techniques HFT® have a Worldwide Exclusive Distributor network, which can be found at [www.huntingdonfusion.com](http://www.huntingdonfusion.com).

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Notes to Editors:

Huntingdon Fusion Techniques HFT® are Weld Purging Innovators, Designers and Manufacturers with offices located globally.

Huntingdon Fusion Techniques HFT® invented the ‘Weld Purge Monitor®’ in 1975 and own all international intellectual property rights and registered trademarks.

Weld purging is the act of removing, from the vicinity of the joint, oxygen, water vapour and any other gases or vapours that might be harmful to a welding joint. Such gases may combine with the metal to form undesirable compounds that may reduce corrosion resistance or may be instrumental in creating cracks or other structural defects in metals.