



Specification for Automotive Weld Quality—Arc Welding of Steel



American Welding Society®



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An American National Standard

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Specification for Automotive Weld Quality— Arc Welding of Steel

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Prepared by the
American Welding Society (AWS) D8 Committee on Automotive Welding

Under the Direction of the
AWS Technical Activities Committee

Approved by the
AWS Board of Directors

Abstract

This specification provides the minimum quality requirements for arc welding of various types of automotive and light truck components. This specification covers the arc and hybrid arc welding of coated and uncoated steels.



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Foreword

This foreword is not part of AWS D8.8M:2014, *Specification for Automotive Weld Quality—Arc Welding of Steel*, but is included for informational purposes only.

This specification was developed by the AWS D8C Subcommittee on Automotive Arc Welding of Steel of the AWS D8 Committee on Automotive Welding.

Arc welding of truck and car frame structures with relatively thick metal parts and using the gas metal arc welding (GMAW) process is covered in AWS D8.8-97/SAE HS J1196, *Specification for Automotive and Light Truck Components Weld Quality—Arc Welding* and D8.8M: 2007 *Specification for Automotive Weld Quality-Arc Welding of Steel*. Recent changes in automotive design, caused by the desire to reduce fuel consumption and improve crash performance, have resulted in automotive structures being made of thinner and higher strength metal parts. This fact combined with the increased use of Zinc Coated Steels to reduce corrosion has made successful arc welding more difficult. This specification addresses joint geometry and workmanship requirements essential to automotive component arc welding quality. As the automotive industry is continually adopting new designs and materials, this standard is not intended to limit the user or prevent adoption of technology advancements. One objective was to prepare a specification that would be useful for the original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and Tier suppliers of automotive components who may not have quality standards of their own. Another objective is to have the OEMs and Tier suppliers use and specify this document in order to establish common industry standards.

This fifth edition, D8.8M:2014, *Specification for Automotive Weld Quality—Arc Welding of Steel*, includes the following changes, notated with a vertical line along the side of the page:

1. Improvement of several figures and related text to depict discontinuities more realistically, make them easier to read and where possible, utilize ones already spelled out in A2.4 *Standard Symbols for Welding, Brazing, and Nondestructive Examination*.
2. Harmonize requirements for fusion and penetration across all joint types.

Comments and suggestions for the improvement of this standard are welcome. They should be sent to the Secretary, AWS D8 Committee on Automotive Welding, American Welding Society, 8669 NW 36 St, #130, Miami, FL 33166.

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