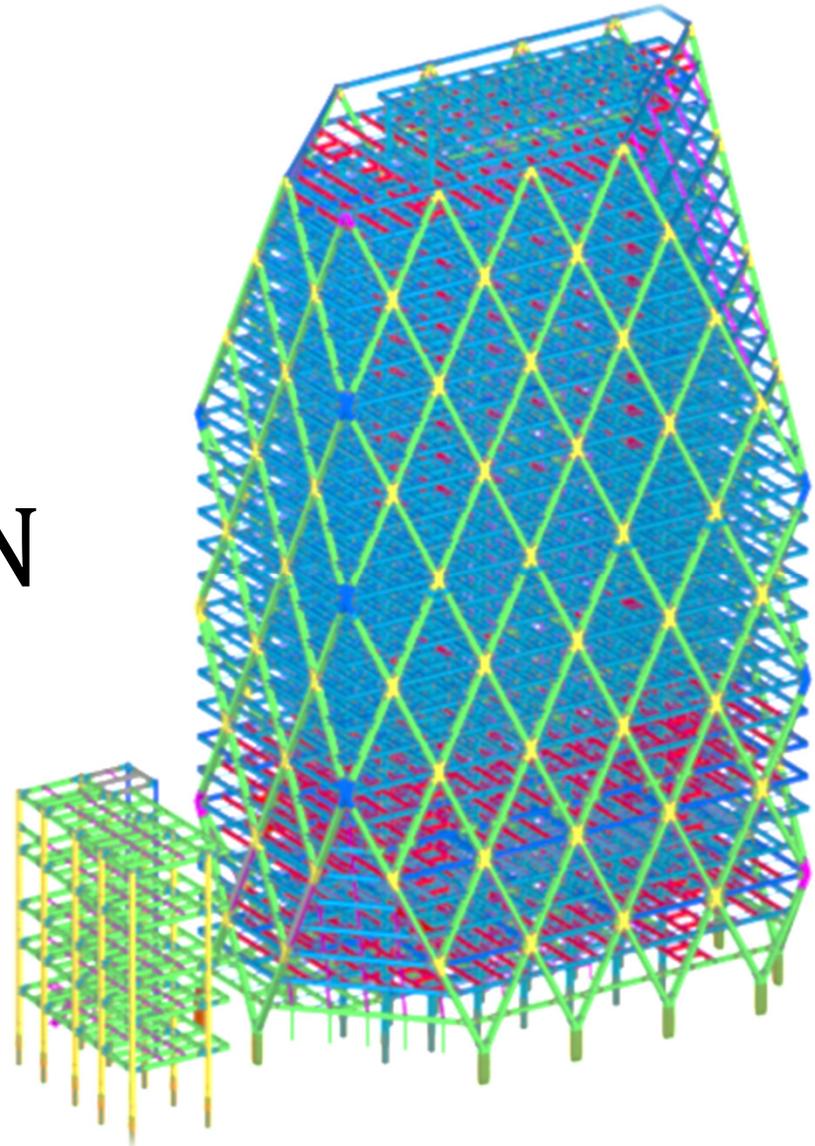




# M TOWER : THE FABRICATION PROCESS



## M TOWER Requirements

- 8,256 tons of fabricated steel
- 9,688 pcs of steel members
- 539 truck loads of delivery
- Max member weight: 14 tons
- Max member length: 14.5 metres
- No of bolts: 179,254 nos
- 7 months of continuous production
- > 700,000 man-hours



# Challenges

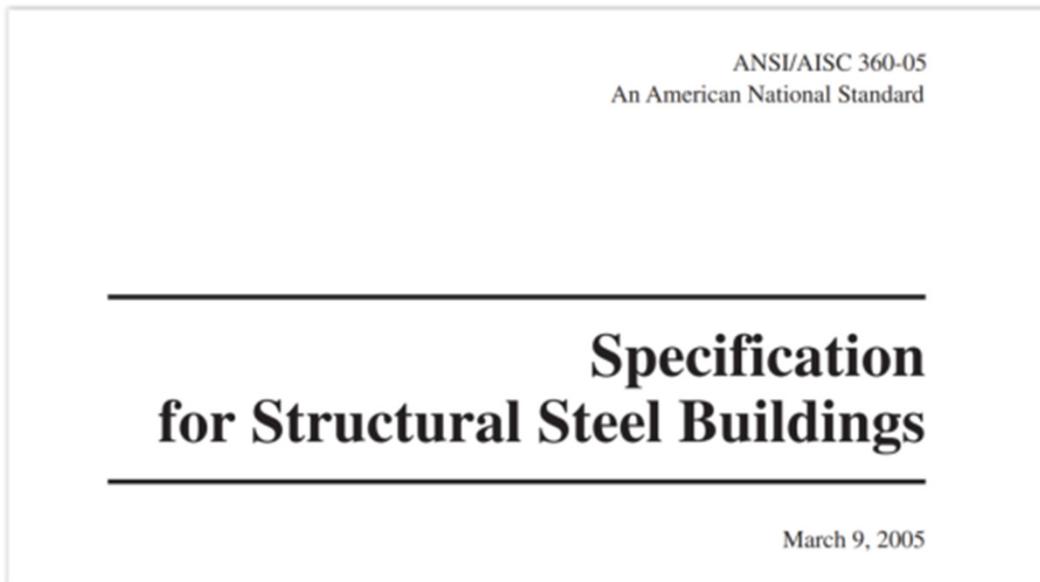
- Complex nodes and connection joints that require detailed preparation, methodology, process and sequencing;
- Getting the correct positions and orientations;
- Controlling weld distortions and weld sequencing of assemblies;
- Traceability of assemblies.

# Fabrication Facility

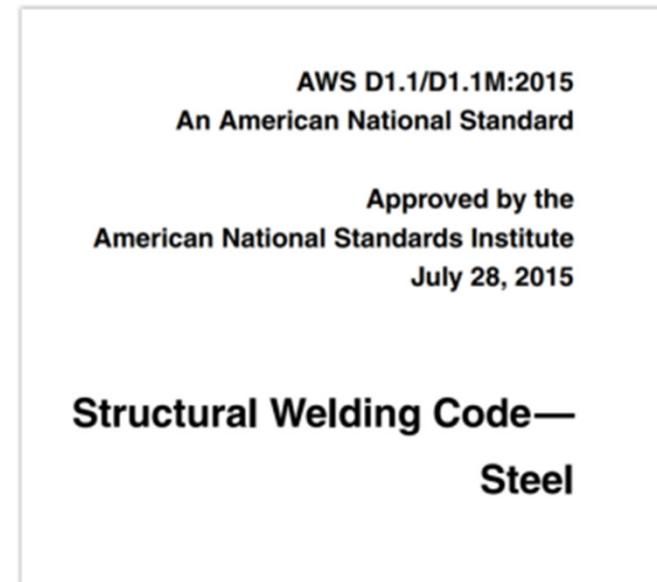
- Fabrication Area: 55,458m<sup>2</sup>
- Production Capacity: 5,000 tons per month
- Machinery: >50 specialized machines
- Logistics: 71 Overhead & Gantry Cranes
- Located @ Shwe Pyi That Industrial Zone (13km away by road)
- 80 Engineers +  
520 Staff & Workers



# Fabrication Works



AISC 360-05 : 2005

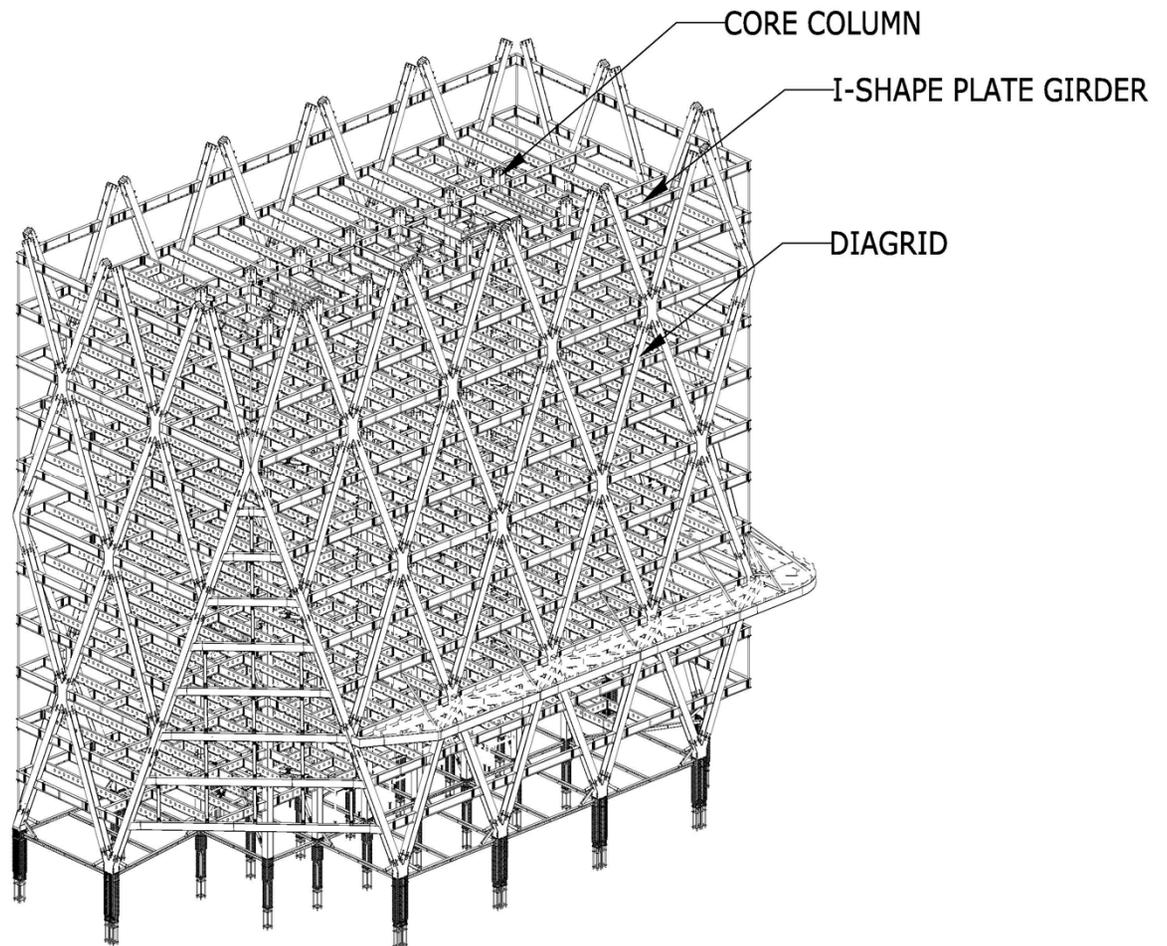


AWS D1.1: 2015



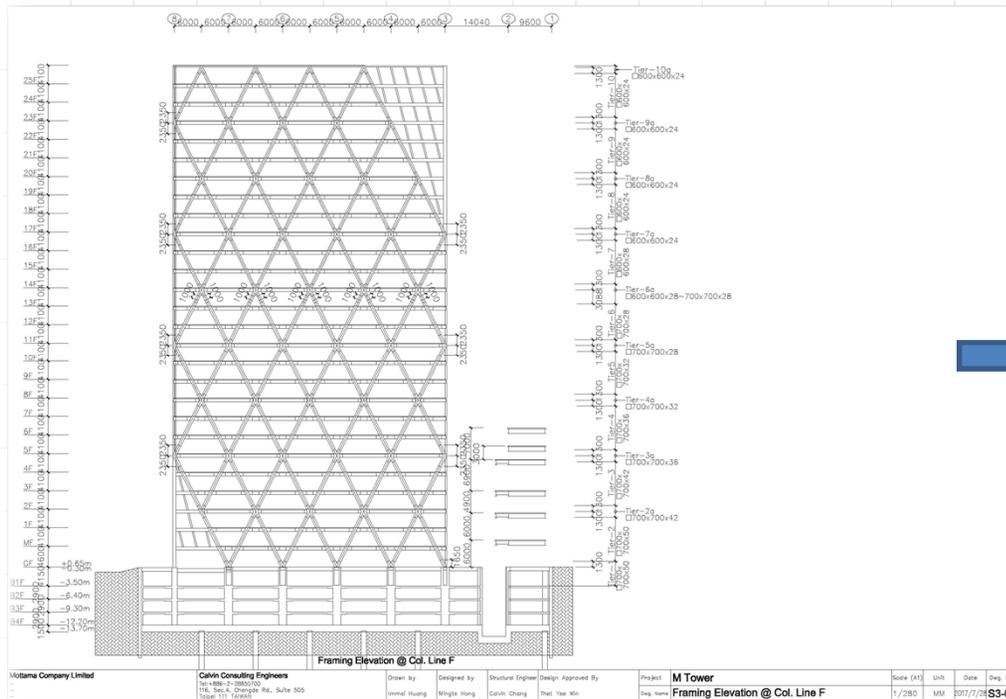
# Structure

- Box Column Core
- Box Diagrid  
Structure and Nodes  
(K, V, X, Y)
- “I”-shaped Plate  
Girder and Beam
- Total Number of  
Members: 9688 Nos.
- No of Bolts: 179,254

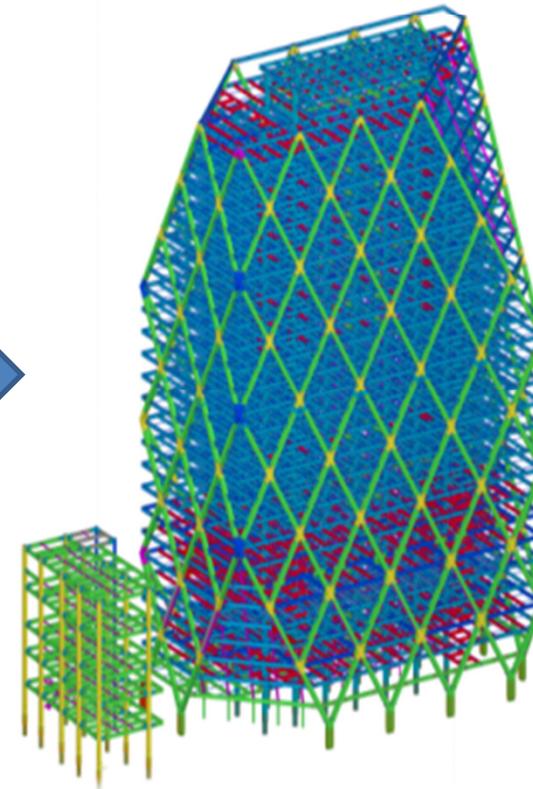


# Drawings

Design Drawing (AutoCAD)

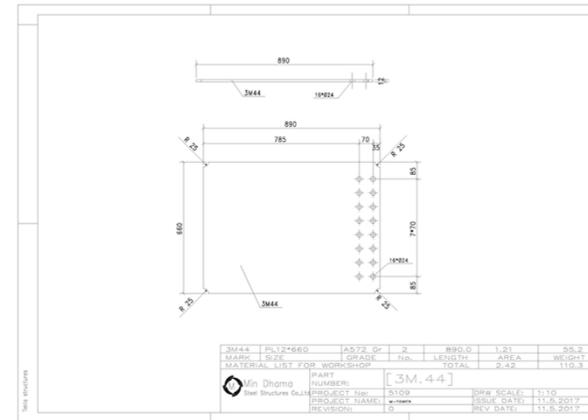


3D Modeling 



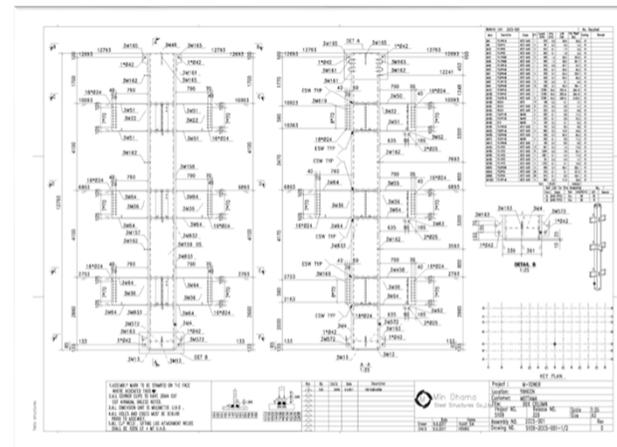
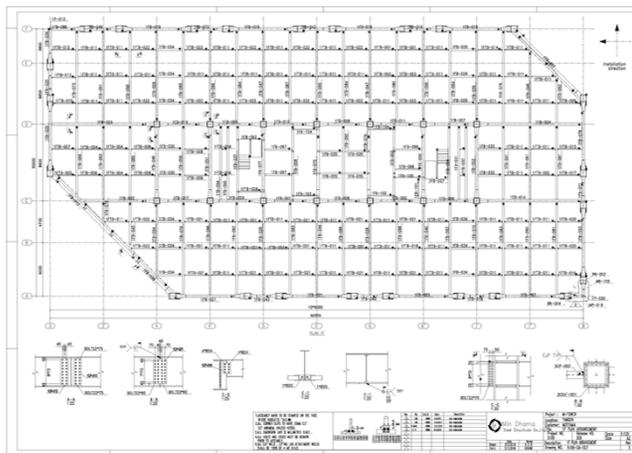
# Shop Drawings

## Single-Part Drawing



- \* General Arrangement
- \* (Erection Drawing)

## Assembly Drawing



## Materials

- Steel : ASTM A572 Grade 50 (High-Strength Low-Alloy Columbium-Vanadium Structural Steel)  
Yield strength  $\geq 450\text{MPa}$
- Manufacturer: Inner Mongolia Baotou Steel Union Co., Ltd, Yinshan Section Steel Coporation of Laiwu Steel Group Ltd, China
- Net Weight: 8,265 tons
- Welding Consumables: AWS A5.1; AWS A5.17; AWS A5.18; AWS A5.20; AWS A5.25
- Manufacturer: Tientai Electrode Co., Ltd., Taiwan

# Incoming Material

## Inspection and Preparations (> 9,000 tons)

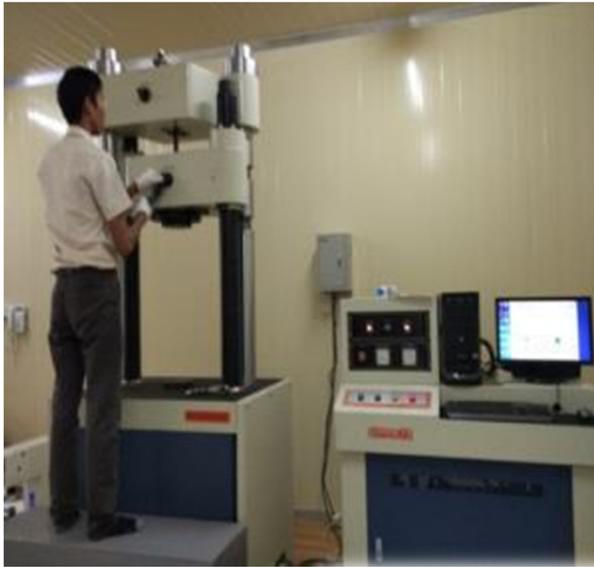


Visual Inspection: General Appearance, Corrosion, Dimension, Thickness  
Document Review: Mill certs, Material Info (Heat Number, etc.)

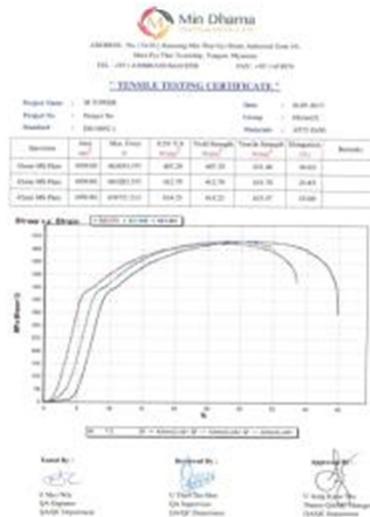


Sorting & Colour Coding according to Material Grades

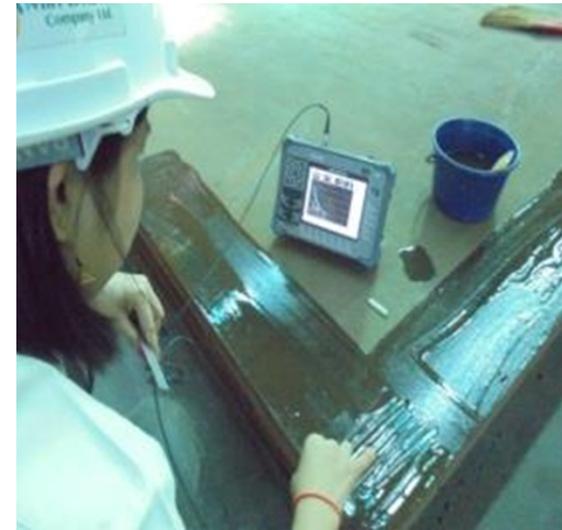
# Incoming Material



Testing to verify mechanical properties (Tensile, bend, hardness tests)



Ultrasonic Test (UT) to check for flaws on plates



Control (FIFO) and check for welding materials



# Quality Requirements

- Welders & Welding Operators: Qualified as per approved WPS + 3<sup>rd</sup> party endorsements



- NDT (UT/MT/PT) Inspectors: Qualified as per ASNT NDT Level II



The American  
Society for  
Nondestructive  
Testing

- Welding Inspectors: Qualified as per AWS and JWES



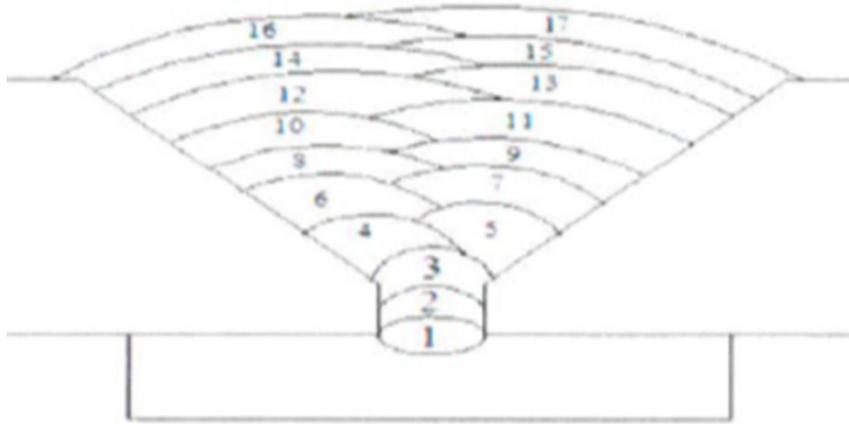
American Welding Society



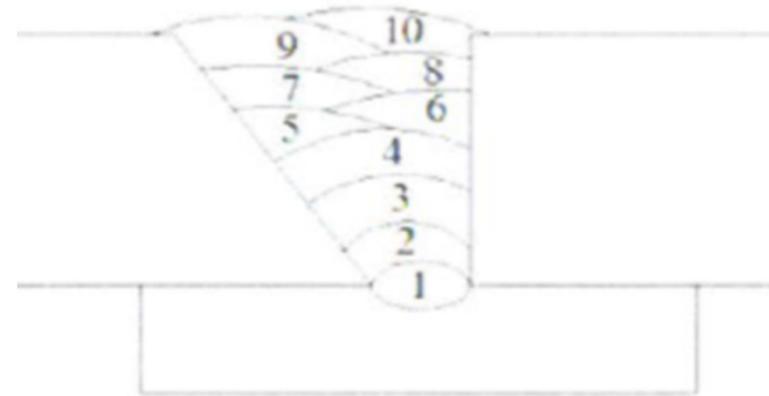
**JWES**  
The Japan Welding Engineering Society



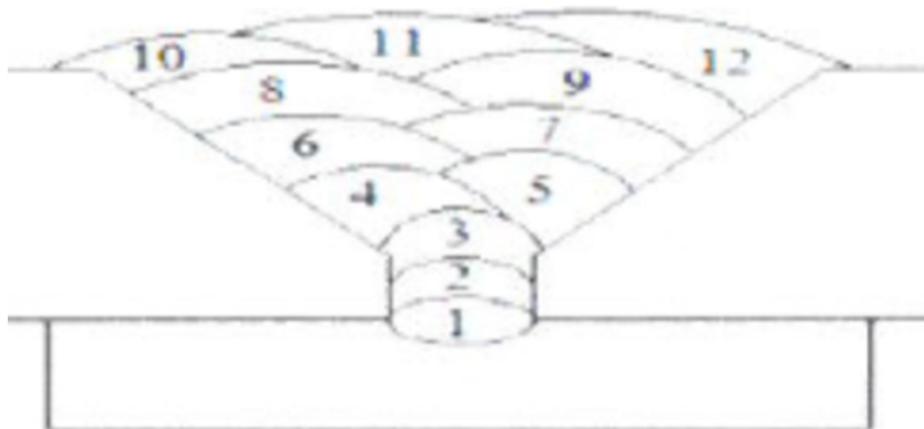
# WPS for Different Welds



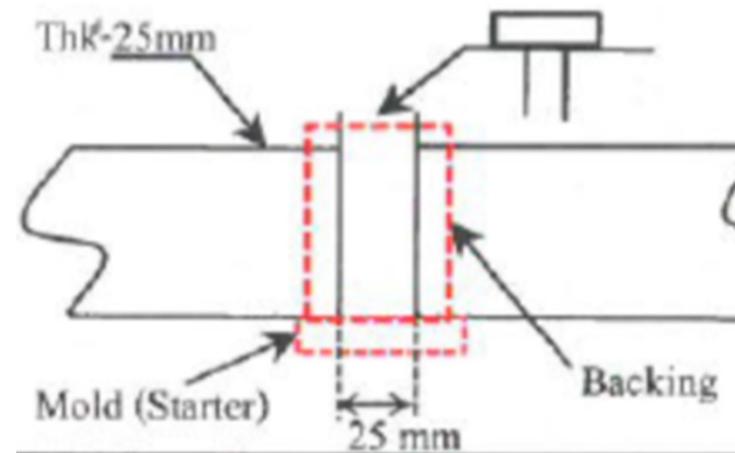
FCAW (1.4mm dia)



SAW (4.8mm dia)

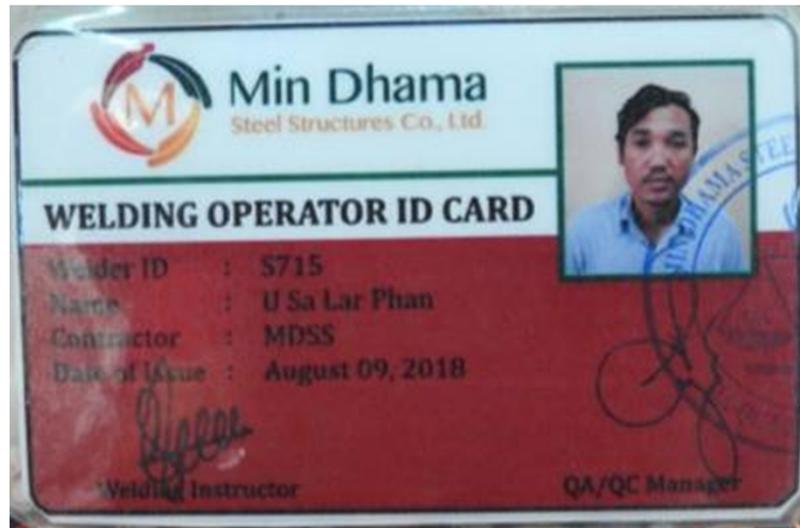


SMAW (3.2 / 4.0mm dia)



ESW (1.6mm dia)

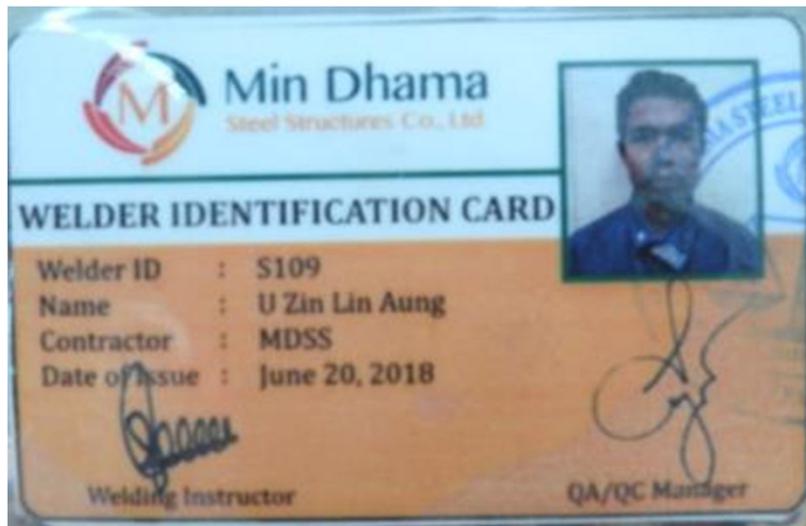
# Qualified Personnel



Qualified Ranges				
Process	Position	PWPS/WPS No.	Thick(mm)	Dia(mm)
SAW	1G	MDS-WPS-SAW-001/002	8 to Ult;	4.8

This is to certify that the person has been tested in accordance with the requirements of welding Code AWS-D1.1, 2015 Edition.

Identification Card Expiration Date : February 08, 2019



Qualified Ranges				
Process	Position	PWPS/WPS No.	Thick(mm)	Dia(mm)
FCAW	3G	MDS-WPS-FCAW-001/002	3 to Ult;	1.4

This is to certify that the person has been tested in accordance with the requirements of welding Code AWS-D1.1, 2015 Edition.

Identification Card Expiration Date : December 19, 2018

# Machine Operations

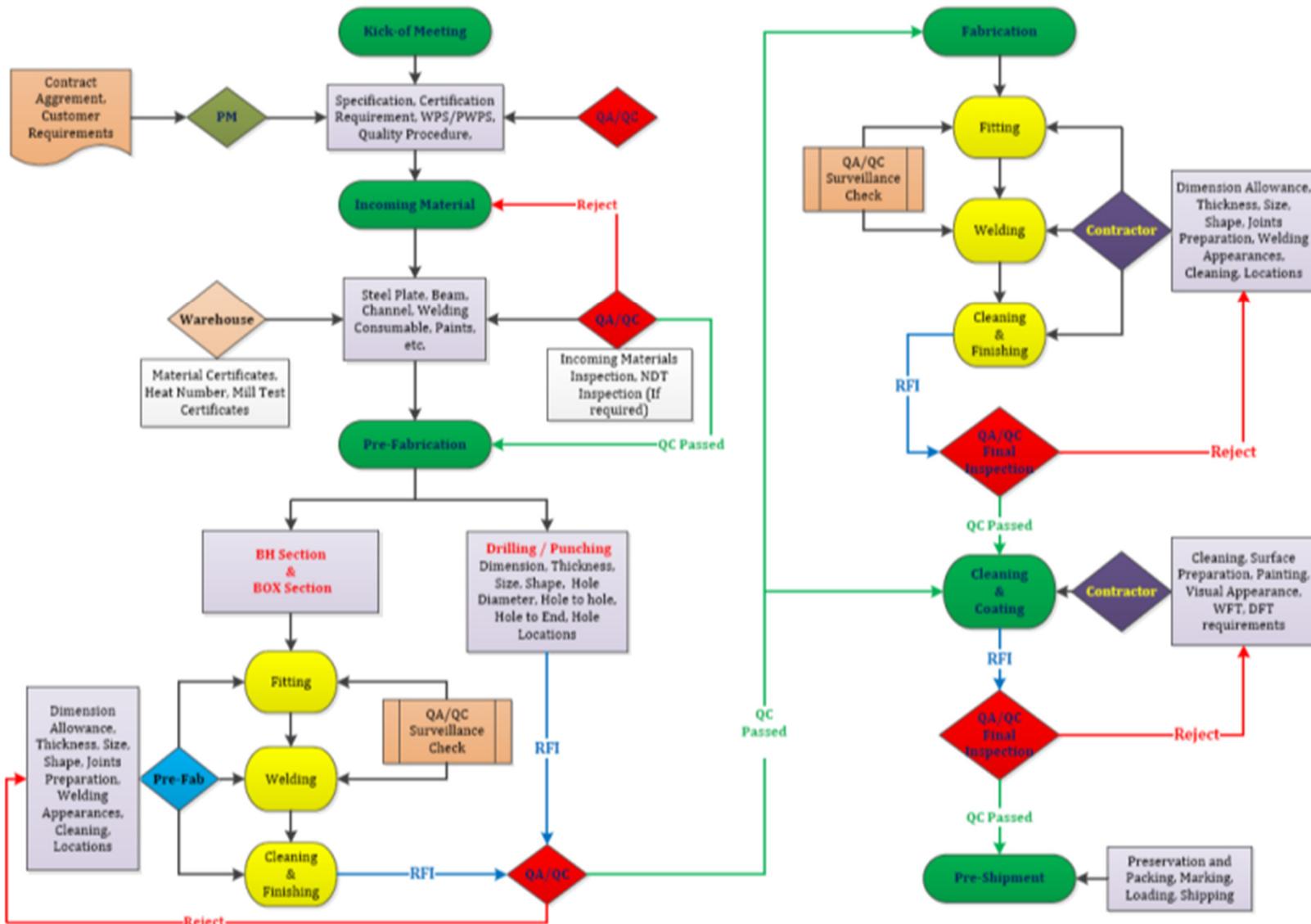
Min Dharma PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT	
<b>Gantry Type Box Column Assembly Machine (BB 01)</b>	
<b>Main Operator</b>	
<b>Second Operator</b>	
<b>Helper</b>	

Min Dharma PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT	
<b>Gantry Type Box Column Assembly Machine (BB 01)</b>	
<p>Սառնակները պահպանելու համար:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Կառավարման սարքերը չպահանջելու</li> <li>• Կառավարման սարքերը չհանելու</li> </ul>	
<p>Սահմանափակումները պահպանելու համար:</p> 	
<p>Իրականացնելու համար պահանջվող պայմանները:</p> <p><b>Իրականացնելու համար:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Իրականացնելու համար պահանջվող պայմանները</li> </ul> <p><b>Իրականացնելու համար:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Իրականացնելու համար պահանջվող պայմանները</li> </ul> <p><b>Իրականացնելու համար:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Իրականացնելու համար պահանջվող պայմանները</li> </ul>	



# Fabrication & Inspection Process Flow



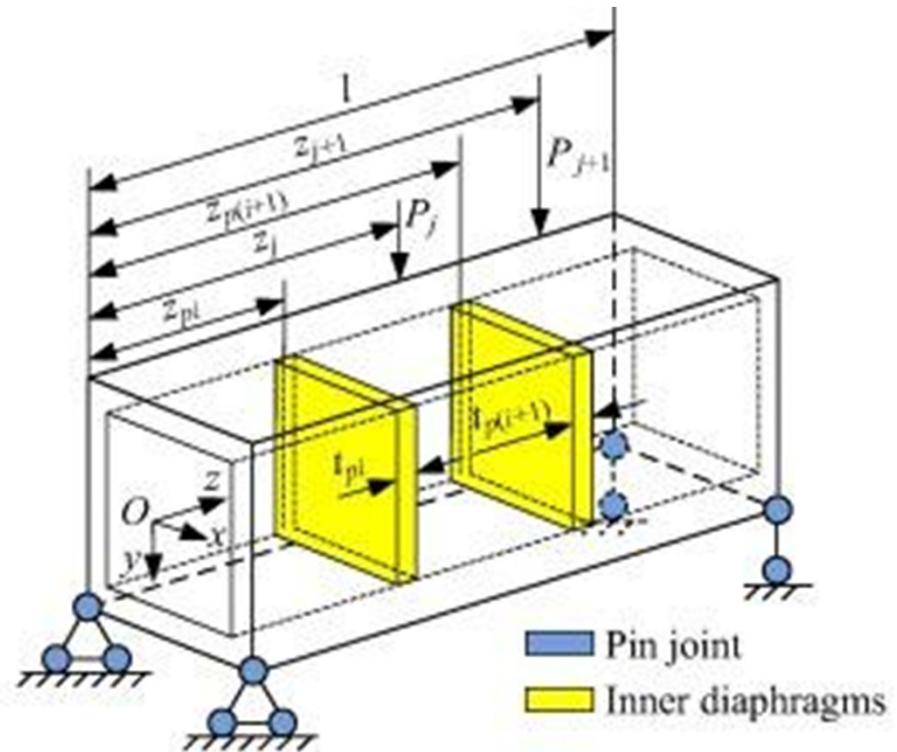
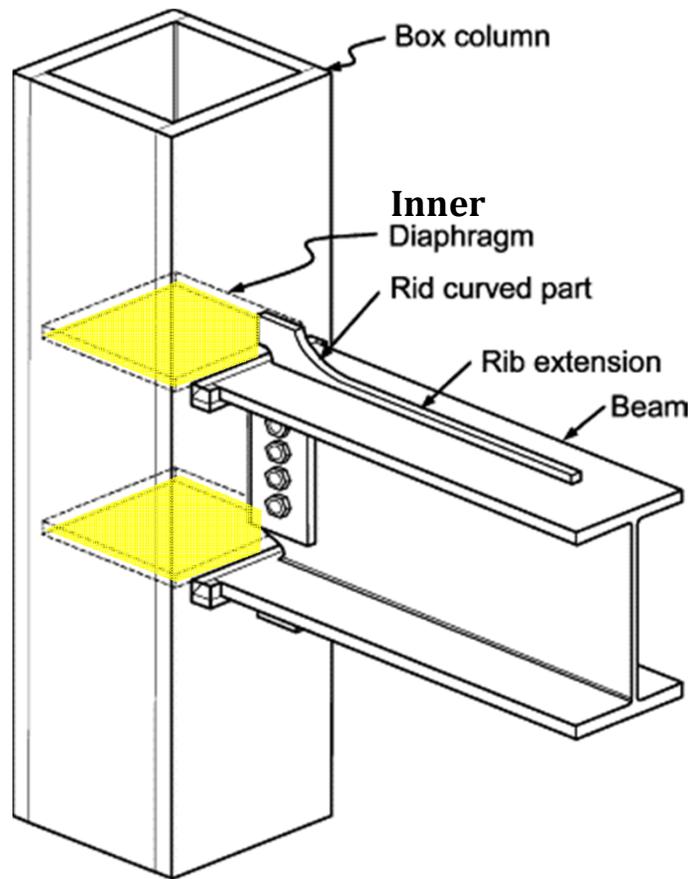
# **BOX COLUMN PRODUCTION**

Capability: 300mm ~ 1,500mm Box Column

M Tower: 600 X 600 X 24mm thick

~ 700 X 700 X 50mm thick

# Built-Up Box Column



Welding 4 plates to form a box column is relatively easy but the challenge is to weld the inner diaphragm plates

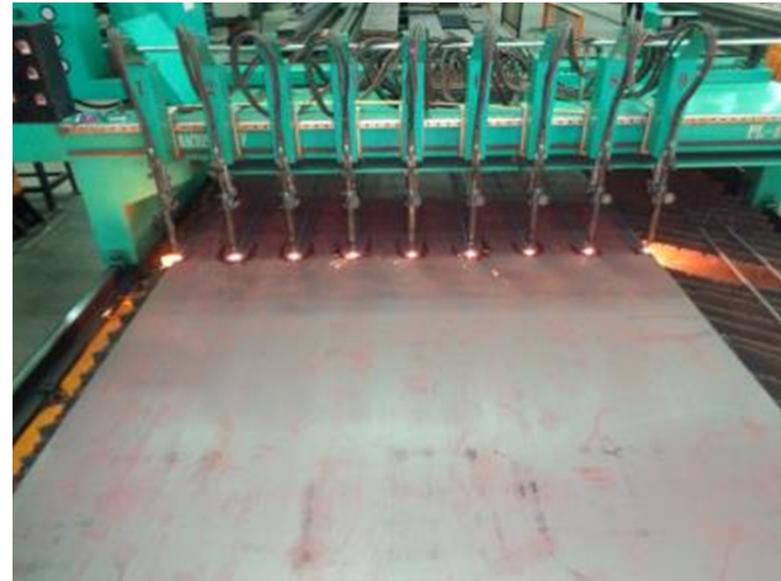
# Lifting Operations

Electromagnetic Lifting Beam – Safe, quick, minimal damage/distortion to plates and components



# Plate Cutting Process

## By Flame Cutting Machine



- The steel is heated locally by a pressurized mixture of oxygen and a combustible as such as propane, which passes through a ring of small holes in a cutting nozzle.
- Plate is cut to desired dimension and shape as per drawing. Cutting is very important to get fine edge and not to be distorted.
- Cut-off tolerance to be considered.

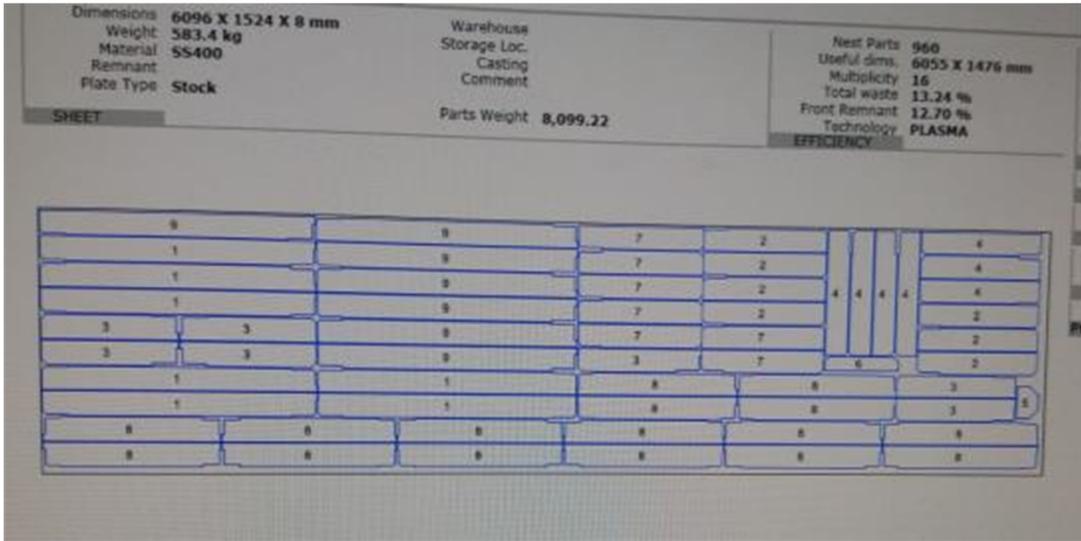
# Irregular Plate & Diaphragm Cutting

By CNC Plasma Cutting Machine



Cutting energy is produced electrically by heating a gas in an electric arc produced between a tungsten electrode and the workpiece.

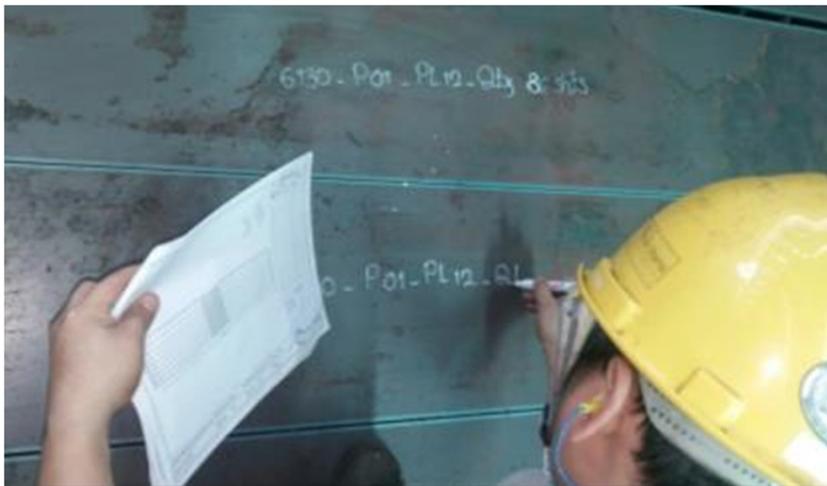
# Marking & Identification



Nesting Drawing

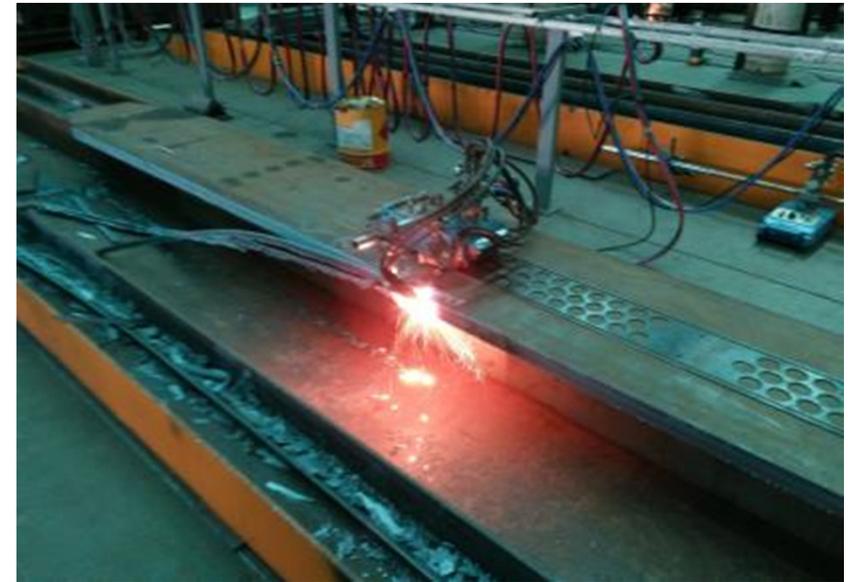


Parts Marking according to ID in Nesting Drawing



# Plate Bevelling

By Auto Cutter Machine



Bevel Surface Preparation by semi-auto oxy-fuel cutting machine

# Fitting of Backing Plate

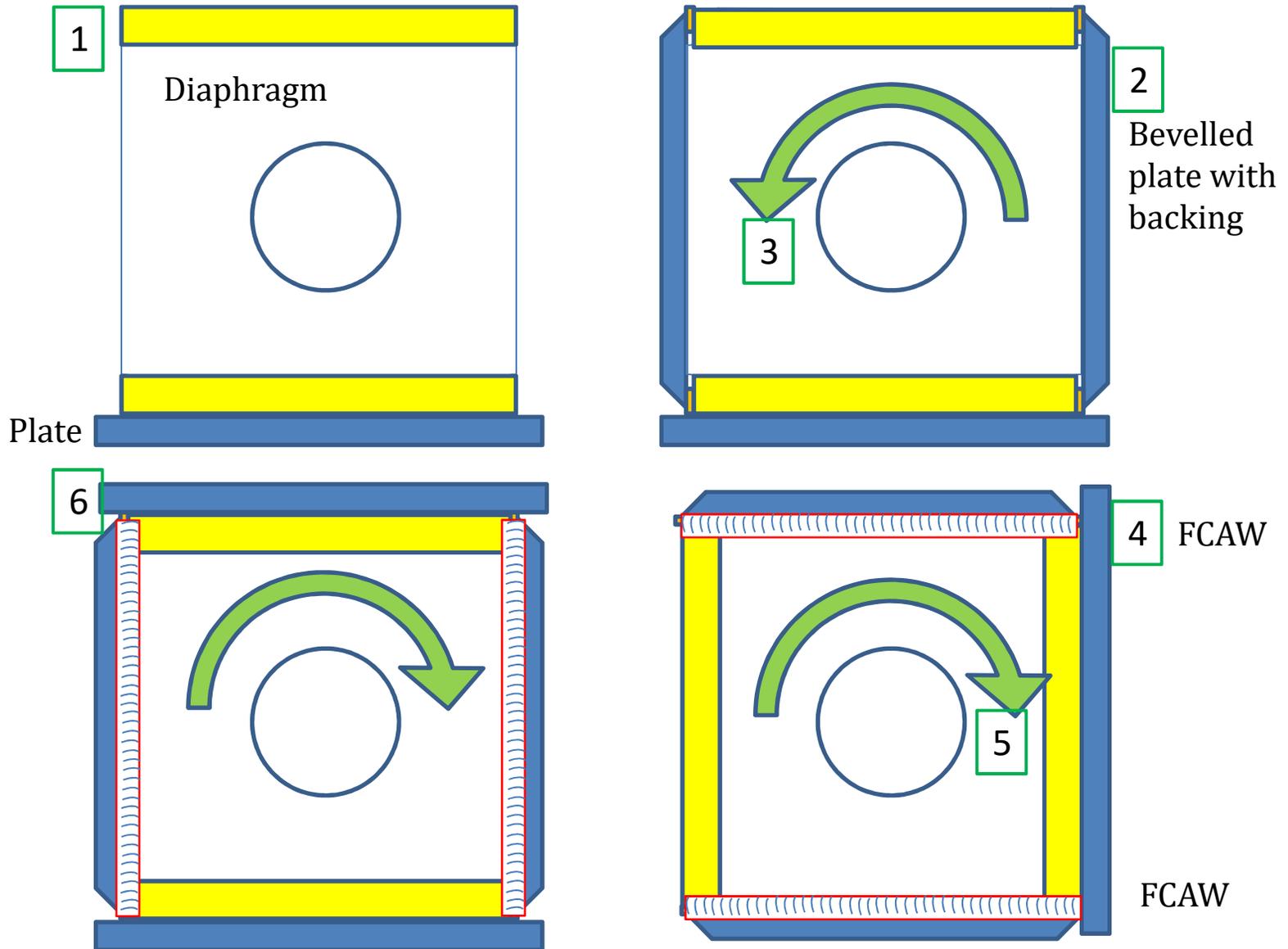


Backing plates are fitted against bevelled edges

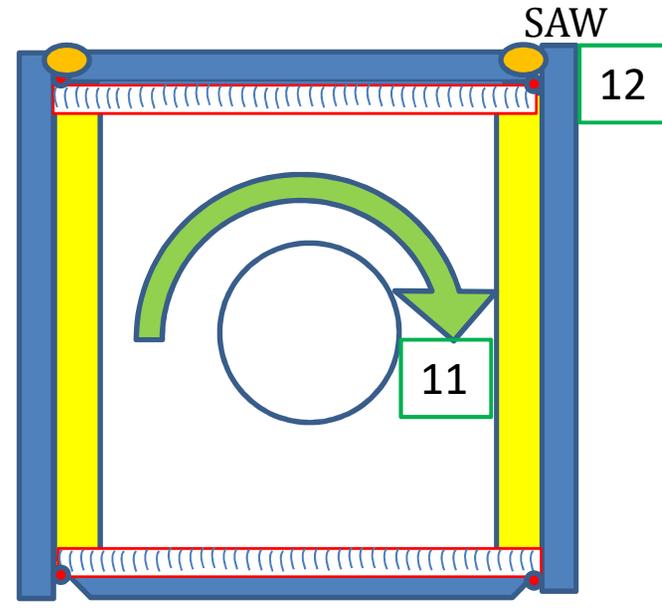
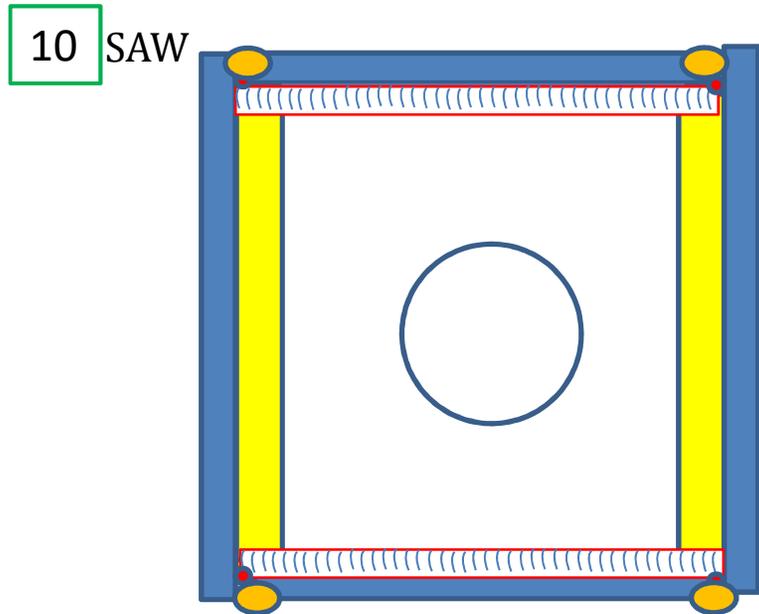
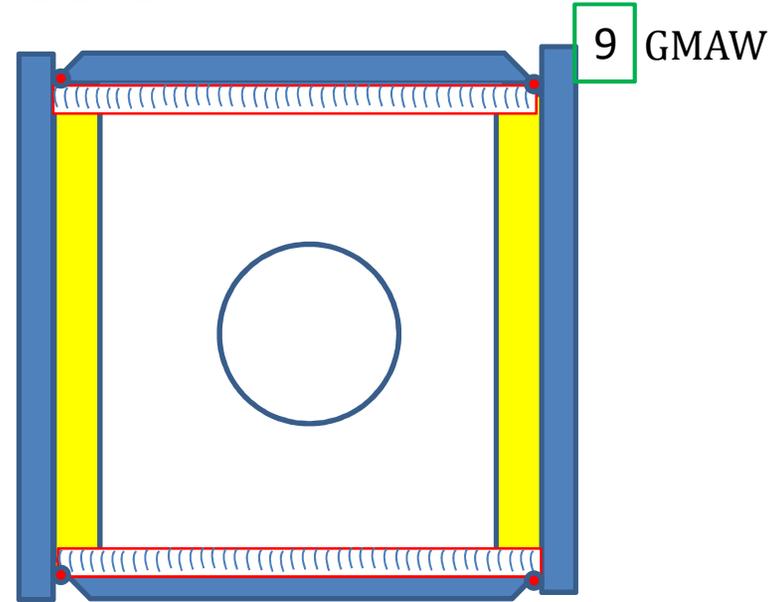
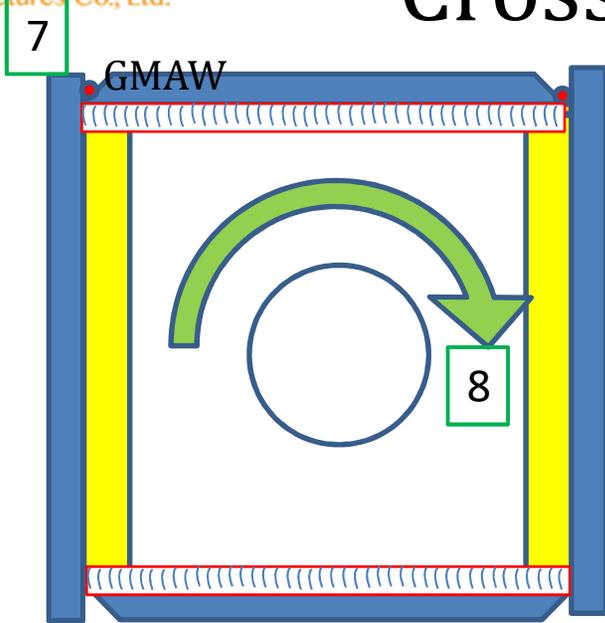
# Diaphragm Plate Preparation



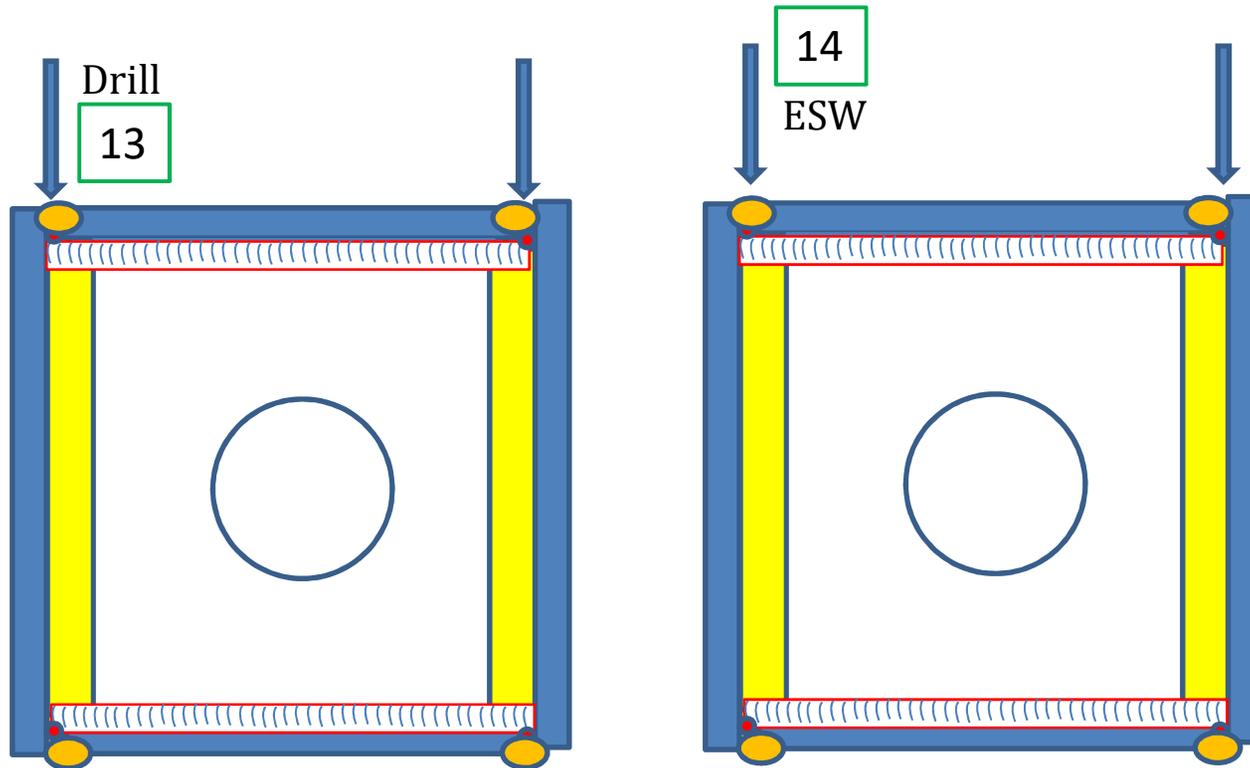
# Cross Section



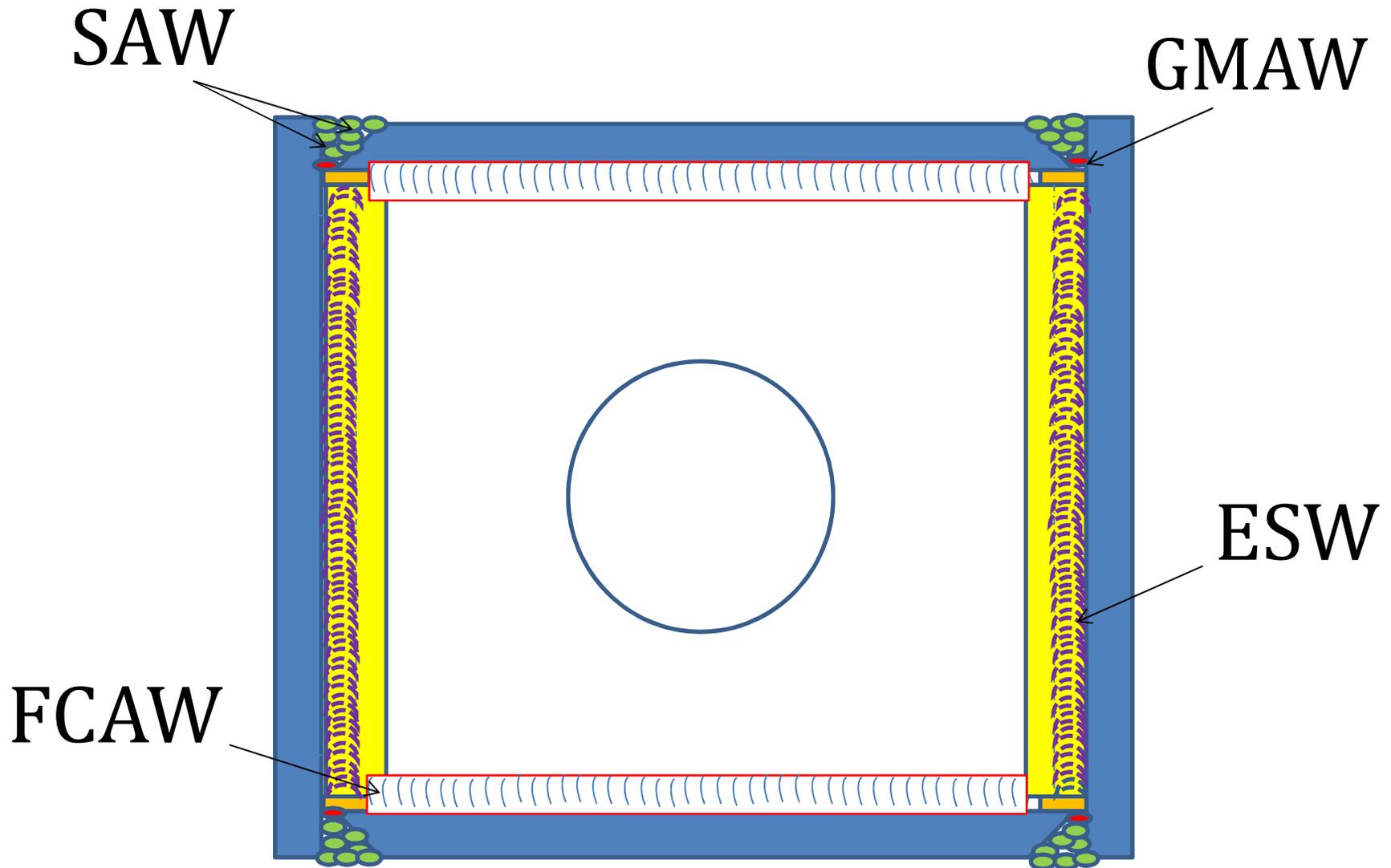
# Cross Section



# Cross Section



# All Full Penetration Welding



# Box Assembly



- Component parts are fitted-up temporarily with small amount of welds. These operation includes attachment of Side plates, Backing plates, Diaphragm plates, Stiffener plates.
- If design for diaphragm plates are with two sides ESW weld and two sides manual weld, then the manual welding is completed before the final side of box is completed.

# U-Type Manual Welding



2 opposite sides of diaphragm plate are welded manually. The U-shaped box is closed to form a complete box.

# Gas Metal Arc Welding (GMAW)

GMAW or CO<sub>2</sub> welding for the 1<sup>st</sup> layer against backing plate

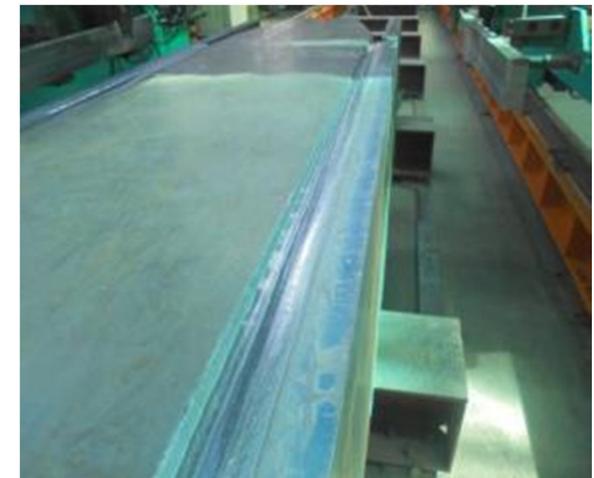


- Pre-heating to prevent crack propagation on the weld seam
- Welding control by operator (Ampere, Voltage, Travel speed, electrode oscillation, electrode angle for each weld pass)
- Important parameters: backing plate material, bevel angle, environment, welding input parameters

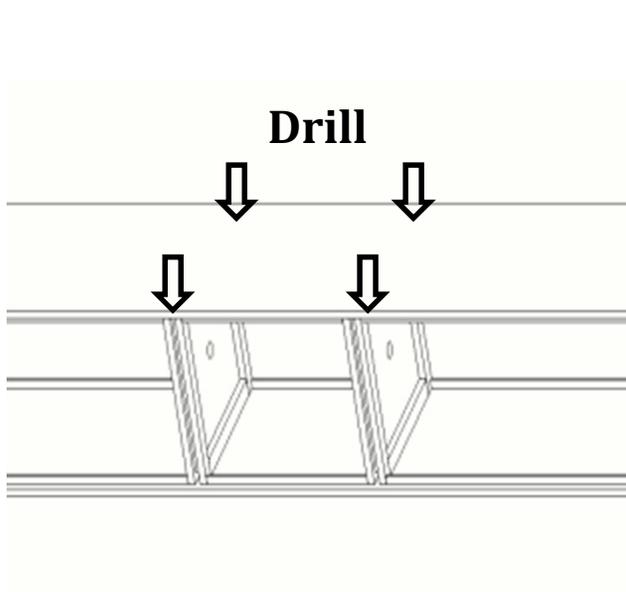
# Submerged Arc Welding (SAW)



Fully mechanized process in which the welding head is moved along the joint by a gantry, boom or tractor. The electrode is a bare wire, advanced by a motor. Better quality welds are obtained as it is carried out in controlled conditions.

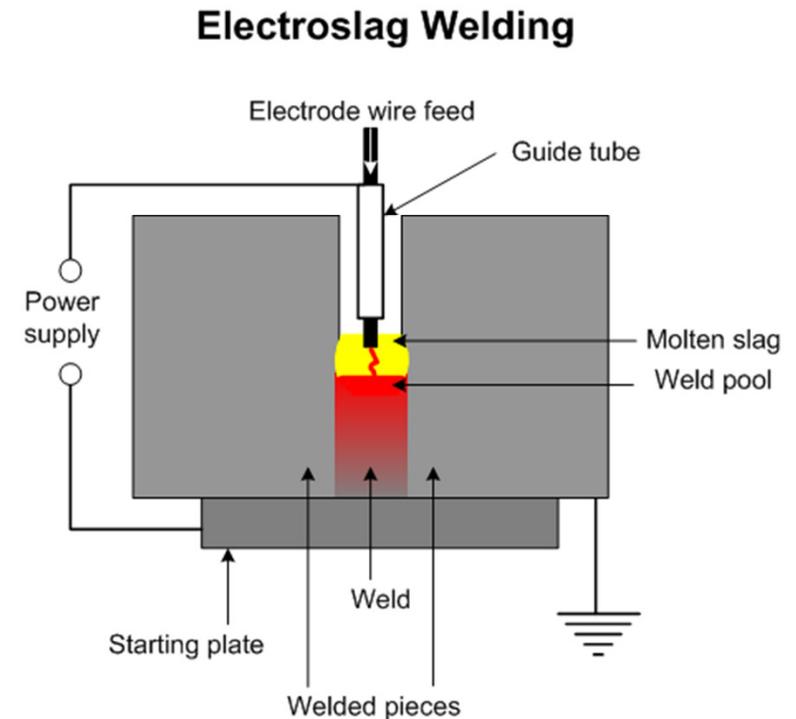
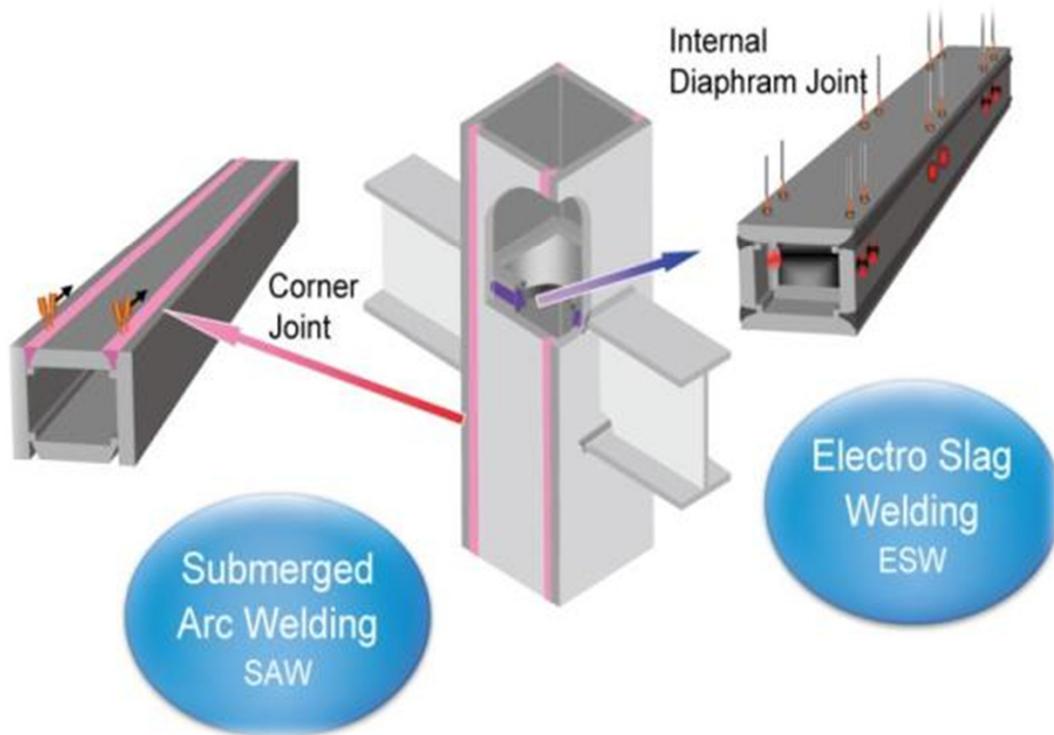


# Drilling for Diaphragm Welding



Drilling after SAW welding as preparation for Electro-slag Welding (ESW) welding of diaphragm plate and side plate

# Electroslag Welding (ESW)



[www.substech.com](http://www.substech.com)

Electro-slag welding is an uphill welding process. Uphill welding process is a process in which weld joints are made in vertical direction and the plates to be weld held vertically.

# Electroslag Welding (ESW)

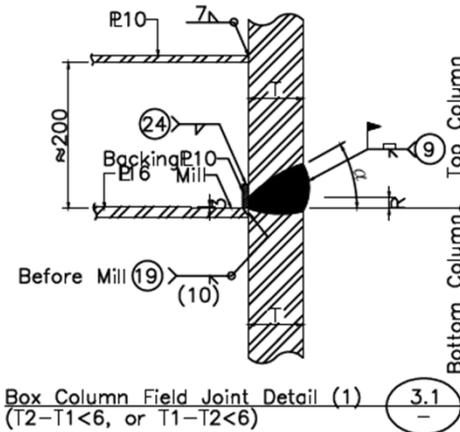


# End-Face Milling



Top surface milling work is important due to column splicing with adjacent column

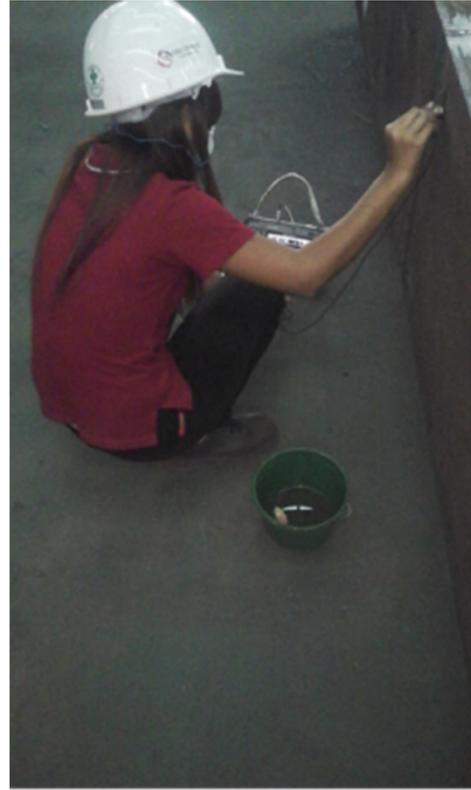
Box Column Field Joint Detail



# Box Column Inspection



Ultrasonic Inspection (UT) in box corner joints in accordance with specification



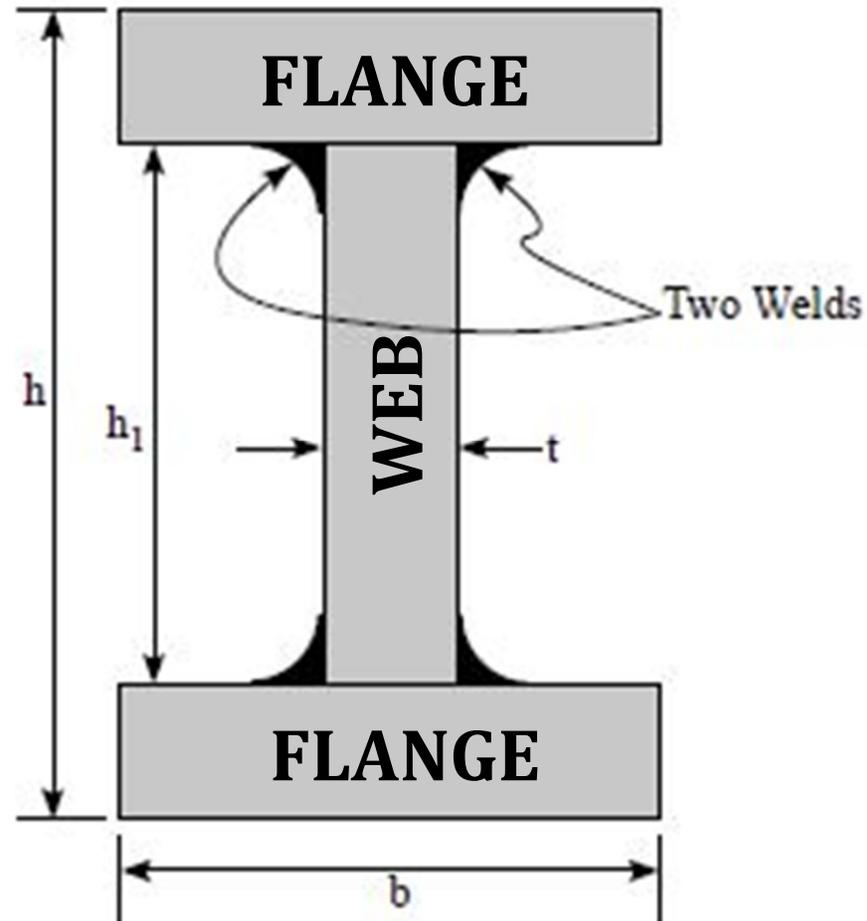
Ultrasonic Inspection (UT) in ESW joints in accordance with specification



Release to Assembly process after QC passed

# **PLATE GIRDER & BEAM PRODUCTION**

# Built-up H (BH) Beam



# Plate Cutting Process

By Flame or Arc Plasma Cutting



# BH Assembly



Plate Girders and Beams are fabricated by welding together two flanges and a web plate. Before final welding, two flanges and a web plate are fitted-up with small amounts of weld to hold it in position.

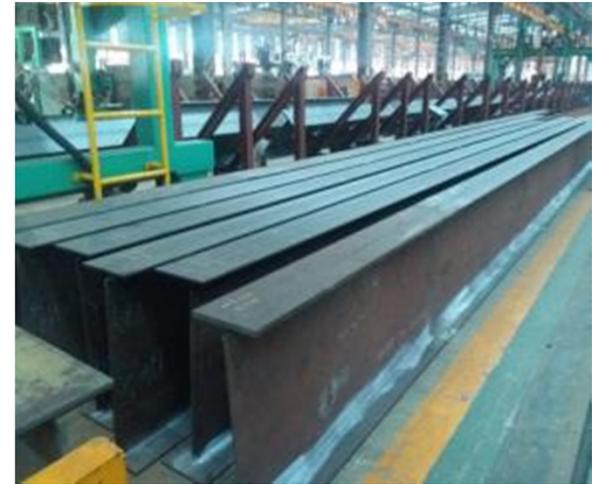
# Submerged Arc Welding (SAW)



Gantry Type  
Submerged Arc  
Welding Machine



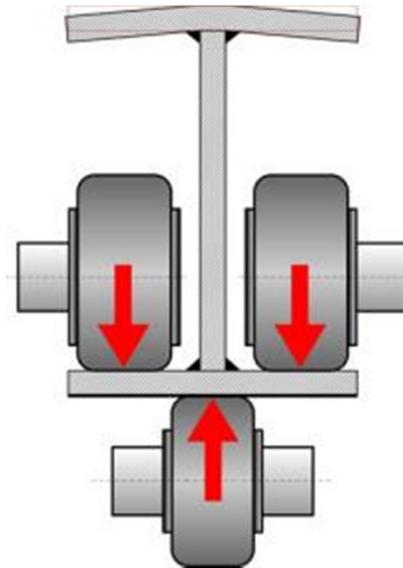
BH Welding Machine



QC checking after Weld

Submerged-Arc Welding (SAW) produces coalescence by the heat of an electric arc struck between a bare metal electrode and the base metal. The weld is shielded by flux, a blanket of granular fusible material placed over the joint. Pressure is not used on the parts to be joined. Filler metal is obtained either from the electrode or from a supplementary welding rod.

# Straightening, Bending & Rolling



Flanges are often distorted when beams are welded on. This distortion can be rectified mechanically and hydraulically by our flange straightening machine in continuous operation by means of mechanical straightening of the flange.

# Drilling & Cold Sawing



This process in NC (Numerically Controlled) tooling, registers and drills in response to keyed in data. Multiple holes can be drilled simultaneously.

3-axis Drilling  
& Band Saw  
Cutting, One  
Stop Solution

All band saws are mechanical and computer controlled. The saw blade is continuous metal edged, with cutting teeth, and driven by an electric motor.

# **COMPONENT PARTS PRODUCTION**

# Parts Production Process



Arc Plasma Cutting



Shearing & Cropping



Drilling



Punching

# ASSEMBLY

# Fitting & Welding



- Before final assembly, the component parts of a member are fitted-up temporarily with small amount of welds.
- The components are assembled and welded together by the fabrication team.
- This is critical because the assembly pieces must be correctly matched in accordance with the specification.



# Critical Types of Assemblies



Y-Shape Base



X-Shape Node



K- Node



V- Node



Y- Node

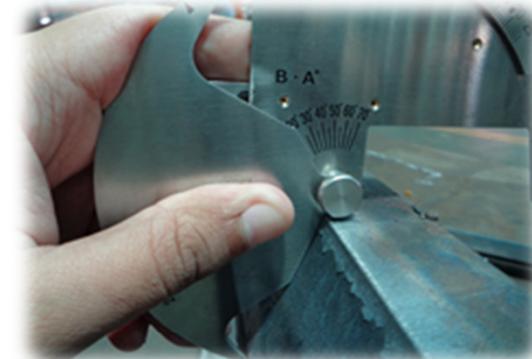
## Critical Areas :

Dimensions,  
Orientations,  
Welding  
Sequences,  
Distortion

# Assembly Inspection



- Fit-Up Inspection
- Dimensional and Visual Inspection for Correct Location, Orientation, Straightness and Dimension tolerance, Bevel angle, Grinding, Cleanliness, Backing bar/ Back-gouging
- Visual Inspection of Welds for Welding Quality/Defects, Weld Appearance and etc.



# Assembly Inspection



Non Destructive (MT or PT, UT) Examination

# Trial Assembly



- Girders and other main components are pre-assembled to prepare or verify field splices.
- Trial assembly is a traditional way of ensuring that fit-up and geometry can be achieved at site, thus reducing the risk of delays in erection.

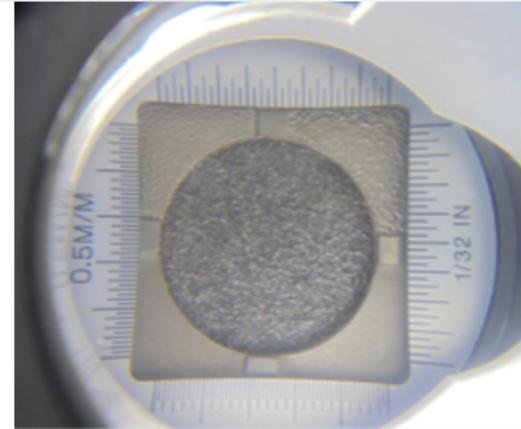


# **CLEANING & COATING**

# Cleaning / Surface Preparations



Shot Blasting Portal  
(3m H X 2.5m W)



By using shots, surface oxides are removed and a rougher surface is obtained to provide an adequate key for metal spraying or special paint.

# Painting & Coating



Airless Spray Painting (20,000m<sup>2</sup> per month)



Painting is the principal method of protecting structural steelwork from corrosion. Paints are usually applied one coat on top of another. Primer is applied directly on to the cleaned steel surface.

# **LOGISTICS & TRANSPORT**

# Transportation

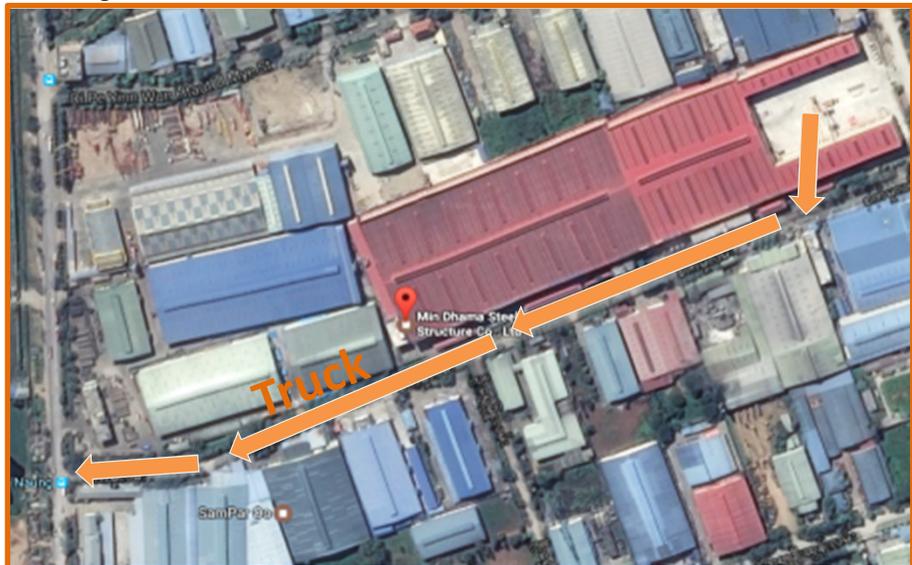


- Fabricated members are stored upright above ground in a shored position on platforms, skids or other similar supports.
- Good coordination and scheduling between project site and factory is critical to ensure timely delivery of members to support the tight erection schedule (JIT).

**M Tower:** 9,688 pieces / 539 truck loads / 14 tons / 14.5 metres length  
Stacking and delivery logistics are critical parameters

# Modes of Transport

## By Road or River



MODE	Max Length (ft)	Max Height (ft)	Max Width (ft)	Max Weight (MT)
By Truck (normal road)	60' (20m)	10' (3m)	10' (3m)	60 ton
By Truck (Highway)	60' (20m)	16' (4.8m)	20' (6m)	60 ton
By Vessel (Barge)	60' (20m)	16' (4.8m)	50' (15m)	75 ton

# Health, Safety & Environment

- Tool Box Talks & Morning Briefings
- 712,000 man-hours without LTI
- Safety Training
- Risk Assessment



# Thank You

We are proud  
to be  
associated with  
**M TOWER**  
Project



## WEBSITE

For further information, kindly browse the following websites:



[www.m-tower.co](http://www.m-tower.co)



Min Dhamma  
Steel Structures Co., Ltd. [www.mindhamasteel.com](http://www.mindhamasteel.com)

All presentation materials, Q&A & event photo records will be uploaded on the above websites within the next 10 days. Do check it out!