

Testing the oxy-acetylene DHC 2000 welding system

THE DHC 2000 has been developed over a period of 11 years. To obtain optimum performance of the unit the instructions should be understood and followed with reasonable accuracy. There is a set-up procedure for the torch in order for it to operate correctly. This set-up procedure is outlined in the instruction manual and it is demonstrated on the DVD video supplied. Once the instructions are understood, it only takes a few minutes to set the machine up. The DHC 2000 can be connected to conventional regulators. The torch uses equal quantities of oxygen and acetylene. Both regulators are set at 4 P.S.I or 28 KPA, which means it is very economical on gas usage.

The manufacturer claims that some of the advantages with this torch are that it has a unique mixing chamber and a low velocity tip which allow a narrow concentrated heat pattern to be achieved. A neutral flame is used for 99 per cent of welding operations.

I found the DHC 2000 torch easy to handle and welding of 0.8mm and 1.0mm panel steel was excellent. Welds can be hammered up and file finished if required. Four welding tips are supplied and you can weld from very thin steel to 10mm steel. Panel beaters would appreciate how easy the torch is to hold and positional welding is easy to achieve.

I also welded 1.2 mm aluminium using 5356 aluminium rods containing two per cent magnesium. The welds were good; the flux was mixed with water and applied to the rod. Special cobalt blue welding goggles are available for welding aluminium. These eliminate the bright orange/yellow glare associated with aluminium welding. Also cutting attachments are supplied in the kit. In order to get a clean cut on panel steel, literally rest the tip on the metal when cutting.

There are many more applications for the DHC 2000 which I did not use on this test, but I have no doubt they are achievable. These additional applications are all demonstrated on the DVD video which is available free on request or you can visit the website www.amweld.com.au.

In summing up, I found the DHC 2000 great to use in welding and cutting operations. Watching the DVD video or using the website will give you a new look at where oxy-acetylene welding applications can be used in your workshop.



The DHC 2000 with attachments fits neatly into its own carry case



Tester, Allen Higginbotham putting the DCH 2000 through its



The torch is at home welding aluminium too.



The DCH gives a neutral flame and a clean weld.

Fact File

Supplier: American Welding Distributors Pty Ltd

Product: DHC 2000

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Welding a body panel is simple and effective

This benchtest was conducted by Alan Higginbotham of Mt Drutt TAFE. Benchtests are carried out by teachers and students at TAFE colleges around Australia for a nominal charge. If you would like one of your products to be benchtested call the editor of Paint & Panel on (02) 9213 8334.