



**American Welding Society®**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Nancy Cole Elected 2013 President and Chair of the Board of the American Welding Society**

**MIAMI, Fla., January 15, 2013** – Nancy C. Cole, a longtime veteran of the welding industry, has been named as the 2013 president and chair of the board of the American Welding Society (AWS).

Cole was one of the first women to become active in AWS and served three terms as vice president before being elected 2013 president. During her term she will manage the affairs of the Society and preside at all board of directors and executive committee meetings. Cole will also represent the American Welding Society at many of its local section meetings, and other technical, national and international meetings.

“There is a dire shortage of skilled workers in the welding industry and I’m looking forward to focusing on changing that in 2013,” said Cole. “My goal as president this year is to celebrate women in welding and help fill the need for properly skilled and educated welding professionals.”

Cole was the first female to graduate with a degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Tennessee. After she received her B.S. degree in metallurgical engineering, she began her career at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) doing

research on the corrosion of metals and soon joined ORNL's Welding and Brazing Laboratory where she researched the joining of stainless steels, refractory metals and ceramics. Twenty five years later she earned her M.S. degree while working for ABB Combustion Engineering (now Alstrom) developing welding electrodes, fluxes, and flux-cored wires for their use in building power plant components.

Cole served as chair of the AWS Technical Activities Committee, Fellows Committee, and C3 Brazing and Soldering Committee. She has received several industry awards, authored over 35 technical publications and holds three patents.

Currently Cole lives in Fernandina Beach, Fla., where she has a welding engineering consulting firm.

#### About AWS

*The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves nearly 70,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 Sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the society's website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on "Pressroom."*

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