



American Welding Society®

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kimberly-Clark to Help Fund Training for USA World Skills Competitor in Welding

MIAMI, Fla., July 23, 2013 – The Kimberly-Clark Corporation, known as a world leader in providing essentials for a better life for consumers, has donated \$10,000 to support the American Welding Society's USA Training for International Welders Competition (World's Skills).

Following each biennial national welding skills competition, an individual is selected to represent the United States in the international competition. The international event was recently held, and USA Welder Alex Pazkowski, a student at Washtenaw Community College, won the silver medal. Thirty-six individuals representing various countries competed in the event.

The contribution from Kimberly-Clark will support the AWS competitions that will lead to the selection in early 2015 of the USA winner that will represent USA welding in Brazil for the world competition that year. The travel, training and other related activities are very costly, and this contribution will assist with these activities. Many of the countries involved have government funding to train and cover all expenses for their representatives. Kimberly-Clark has started a much-needed funding effort to assist with this World Skills event so the USA representative can be properly trained for the competition.

AWS President Nancy Cole, who recently attended both the Skills USA and World Skills events, stated, "It is so exciting seeing young, intelligent and welding-skilled youth participate at these two events. With our future need for welders worldwide, they will have wonderful career opportunities available to them. We at AWS are delighted to be an active supporter at these events, and we welcome the additional

financial support from Kimberly-Clark to enhance this support. AWS and the USA Committee for the International Welders Competition would like to acknowledge and thank Kimberly-Clark for this donation. We hope others will join the effort.”

For additional information please contact the AWS Foundation, 1-800-443-9353, Ext. 212, or sgentry@aws.org or vpinsky@aws.org .

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 worldwide, including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves nearly 68,000 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."

About AWS Foundation

The AWS Foundation was established by the American Welding Society on September 13, 1989, to support programs that ensure the growth and development of the welding industry through strengthening research and educational opportunities in welding and related industries. Led by a volunteer Board of Trustees, the Foundation is organized as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Administration, including program development, fundraising, public relations, marketing and financial management, is provided by a small development staff of the American Welding Society. Its operations are conducted from the Society's offices in Miami, Florida. For more information, visit <http://www.aws.org/foundation> .

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