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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**American Welding Society and WEMCO Seek Nominations for  
2015 Excellence in Welding Awards**

**Miami, Fla., March 9, 2015** – The American Welding Society (AWS) and WEMCO, an association of welding manufacturers, and a standing committee of AWS, have issued a call for nominations for the 2015 Excellence in Welding Awards. The awards, previously known as the Image of Welding Awards, recognize outstanding contributions to the welding industry.

Open to all welding industry professionals, the awards are issued in a number of categories. All individuals, organizations, and groups may be nominated for multiple categories. Self-nominations are also acceptable.

The Excellence in Welding program recognizes outstanding achievement in the following categories:

- Individual (you or other individual)
- Educator (welding teacher at an institution, facility, etc.)
- Educational Facility (organization that conducts welding education or training)
- Small Business (less than 200 employees)
- Large Business (200 or more employees)
- Distributor (welding products)
- AWS Section (AWS local chapter)
- Media (industry and business publications)
- Veterans (all branches of the U.S. military)

The veteran's category is a new category added in 2015, to recognize welders in all branches of the U.S. military that have made a significant contribution to the future of the industry.

The deadline for submissions is June 30, 2015.

Winners of the 2015 awards will receive a WEMCO sponsored trip to the 2015 FABTECH Show in Chicago to receive their award.

To learn more about the awards and submit a nomination, visit

<http://www.aws.org/awards/image.html>.

For inquiries, contact AWS toll-free at 800-443-9353.

#### 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 more than 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."*

#### About WEMCO

*In 1996, the American Welding Society established WEMCO as a Standing Committee dedicated to providing a common voice to the welding industry, government bodies and technical organizations worldwide. Today, this committee, representing manufacturers making products for welding processes and applications, provides valued added information and services to end users, distributors and manufacturers in the welding industry.*