

Technical Guidance Bulletin 09

Respiratory and Eye Protection for Stud Welding

This guidance is supplementary to that provided in Sections 4.4 “Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)” and “Welding Conditions / Environment” of Section 8 of the UKMDA Code of Practice which can be accessed here: <http://ukmda.org.uk/publications>

Respiratory Protection

The risk of harm resulting from fumes created by Stud Welding is typically low risk as the work is carried out for a short period of time and in the open air, with good natural ventilation.

In most cases, a tight-fitting FFP3 disposable mask or re-usable half-mask with a P3 filter will be adequate to protect against particulates, provided the wearer is clean shaven.

If the work area is more confined and a build-up of fumes is being witnessed, a powered air respirator or a supplied respirator which combines respiratory, eye and face protection, with an APF of at least 20 should be used.

More guidance on the control of exposure to welding fumes is available on the HSE website: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/welding/protect-your-workers/index.htm>

The UKMDA recommend that any RPE helmet being worn at the perimeter of the building or where there is any risk of the helmet falling should have a four-point chin strap.

Eye Protection

Due to the weld arc being contained within the stud ferrule, tinted goggles / glass are a suitable as they don't hinder visibility but do offer an appropriate level of protection.

