Accepted Manuscript

Title: The effect of alumino-thermic addition on underwater wet welding process stability

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PII: S0924-0136(17)30076-6

DOI: http://dx.doi.org/doi:10.1016/j.jmatprotec.2017.02.023

Reference: PROTEC 15135

To appear in: Journal of Materials Processing Technology

Received date: 13-12-2016 Revised date: 24-2-2017 Accepted date: 25-2-2017

Please cite this article as: Li, H.L., Liu, D., Guo, N., Chen, H., Du, Y.P., Feng, J.C., The effect of alumino-thermic addition on underwater wet welding process stability, *Journal of Materials Processing Technology* (2017), http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jmatprotec.2017.02.023

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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

The effect of alumino-thermic addition on underwater wet

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2	welding process stability
3 4 5 6 7	H.L. Li ^a , D. Liu ^b *, N. Guo ^{a,b} , H. Chen ^a , Y.P. Du ^a , J.C. Feng ^{a,b} (^a State Key Laboratory of Advanced Welding and Joining, Harbin Institute of Technology, Harbin 150001, China ^b Shandong Provincial Key Laboratory of Special Welding Technology, Harbin Institute of Technology at Weihai, Weihai 264209, China)
8	Abstract: Real-time electric signal data, metal transfer images and weld appearances at different
9	alumino-thermic additions in underwater wet flux-cored arc welding (FCAW) were obtained. The
10	electric signal results showed that the thermite addition would improve the stability of the wet
11	welding process while the weld appearances at larger content of thermite displayed numerous tiny
12	spatters. The shock in weld pool due to metallurgical reaction was responsible for the tiny spatters.
13	Two typical modes of metal transfer process, globular repelled transfer mode and surface tension
14	transfer mode, were observed. The aluminum flux addition changed the droplet diameter, transfer
15	time and relative proportion of metal transfer mode. When the thermite addition increased from 0
16	to 50%, the weld penetration depth increased from 2 mm to 4 mm, and the weld dilution rate
17	increased from 22% to 37%.
18	Keywords: Underwater wet welding; FCAW; Welding process stability; Alumino-thermic.
19	1. Introduction
20	Underwater wet welding has been applied widespreadly in the construction and repairing of
21	offshore steel structures due to its easy operation and cost-effectiveness. According to Fydrych et
22	al. (2016), rapid cooling rate, high diffusible hydrogen content in deposited metal, limited
23	visibility and increased pressure with water depth were crucial issues in wet environment.
24	Łabanowski et al. (2008) suggested that welding arc became unstable and loss of alloying

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