

Tool BUSINESS + HIRE

The Specialist Tool and Equipment Magazine

Workshop

professional quality tools & consumables



136 pages of professional quality tools and consumables suitable for automotive and workshop environments.

For more information, contact your Draper representative
or telephone sales on: **023 8049 4333** Sales fax enquiries contact either/or: **023 8049 4201 / 023 8049 4209**
General admin. fax: **023 8026 0784** www.draper.co.uk e-mail: sales@drapertools.com

Reply No 201

GYS Welding: When You Need To Do A Proper Job.



I confess that the last time I did some welding was with a transformer based welder that was made in the Far East. It was long enough ago for me to have blanked out just how skilled a good welder needs to be and just how bad my welding skills are. But it was also a lesson in how starting with quality equipment gives any worker a headstart.

The range of GYS welders is vast and covers all types of welding:- electrode inverter welders and MIG and TIG welders. In size they range from a welder that will literally fit into a shoebox with a specification that will astonish you right through to a bit of a beast on a four-wheeled trolley. And it does include static welders for industrial applications too.

Since it is impossible for me to test such a range in any meaningful way, GYS singled out two representative machines that are commonly used in relatively light welding applications in the UK market. My guess is that they also needed to reflect my low level of welding skill and demonstrate just how easy they are to operate, and how with even a small amount of practice I could make a weld that would stay together well enough.

I started with the smaller of the two machines, the GYSMI 131 – a 130 amp welder weighing just 2.9 Kgs and with the seemingly impossible dimensions of 40cm length, 15cm width and 32cm tall. Could any welder so compact work? And it is by no means the smallest welder in the GYS range either!

The GYSMI 131, like most of the compact welders in the GYS range, comes in a black plastic carry case that can easily be stored in the back of a van or put away neatly in a workshop. It is a true “plug and play” tool in the sense that it comes with everything you need to start work except perhaps the correct size welding rods. (1.6 to 3.2 mm if you need to know)

My first faltering efforts at joining a couple of steel plates confirmed my ragged and rusty technique, but the GYS is so easy to use that within a few minutes of using it I was able to see a massive

improvement in my welds. (It also helped that I had GYS “expert” on my shoulder providing me with necessary advice). I have struggled to start a weld in the past from the initial tap needed to start the arc and then to get the weld flowing. After a very few attempts the GYS was starting very well for me and the welds were flowing well. The reason for the simplicity was the use of electronic Inverter technology replacing the traditional and heavy transformer, that I remember was so hard to use, enabling the process of starting and maintaining a smooth arc to require much less skill, so either the machine really was a step forward in ease of welding, or I was a far better welder than I remember, sadly I suspect the former to be the case. The simple technique seemed to be just to rest the rod on the steel and gently and slowly draw it along. It didn't seem to matter what size rod I used, I was able to achieve a sound, if not entirely expert, welded seam.

For the retailer it might be interesting to note that the 131 has been produced in its tens of thousands (very reliably tested in the market!) and is a staple for small workshops as it will work easily on a standard 13 amp power supply. Its retail price of roughly £237 means that it is within reach of home users, car restoration buffs and smallholders for example.

I then moved on to the much more sophisticated GYSMI 196. This is bigger, being 42cm long, 17cm wide and 37cm high – still not exactly a massive space waster in the workshop. This welder has a digital display and Power Factor Correction (PFC) technology. Essentially this is an electronically controlled method of “taming” the wild fluctuations of electrical current that may occur in unreliable mains supplies and generators. It means that you get a smoother weld and a consistent arc at all times. It also enables operation at 160 amps, which means the ability to weld 4mm electrodes at just 13Amps. With traditional machines a fuse of 16 amps will be required which of course requires a specialist supply. Also, the welder is so flexible that it will work on any voltage ranging

An Independent Tool Review by Peter Brett



from 110 to 230 volts. Not a bad trick to pull off I think, and certainly of much use to users working out of the backs of vans or at some distance from mains current. In a recent demo, this welder was able to work with 3.2mm welding rods on a 110 volt supply on a 25metre long extension lead. So impressive for the customer that it led to a few instant sales.

With more welding power at my command and optimal conditions, I was able to test the "lift TIG" mode and also the ability to adjust the hot start that the electronics make possible. Soon I was feeling a lot more expert with my welding, but I am not about to give up the day job just yet. Good welders have a level of skill that I admire and aspire too. Maybe with a GYS welder I would stand a chance of becoming passable.

I got a small insight into where good research and development gets you when I was shown one of the circuit assemblies for a compact welder. This was a marvel of miniaturization and sophistication and shows just how modern electronics can be harnessed to produce products that are really up-to-date and increase the accessibility of, in this case, welding to the less skilled, even DIY welder.

The photograph shows how the "guts" of a small welder can be held in one hand.

For many reasons the GYS welder range deserves our attention. Having finally "swum the Channel" (from the GYS Factory in France) it clearly provides a well designed and well made range of welding machines and battery chargers. For home-users all the way to highly specified industrial applications, With a Europe-wide market presence, and with a new distributorship based in Warwick, it seems as though the GYS brand could find some good friends and customers here.

Don't think that it's all about welding either – battery chargers, welding accessories and car body welding and repair products are the things that GYS is particularly good at. Worth a mark on our reader reply card don't you think?

Reply No 216

**This Product was independently
tested by
Peter Brett – TOOL REVIEWER**



Call Christine at Tool Business + Hire on
01444 440188 to have your product reviewed or
email: christine@airstream.co.uk

A High Specification Dempts MT Bryan Contractors



MT Bryan Contractors has recently received a large order for high specification tracked excavators from Bryan Contractors. The order consists of 10 excavators, which will be used for a variety of construction projects. The excavators are equipped with a range of attachments, including buckets, grapples, and trenchers. This allows them to be used for a wide range of tasks, from earthmoving to demolition. The excavators are also highly manoeuvrable, making them ideal for use in tight spaces. MT Bryan Contractors is a leading supplier of tracked excavators, and this order is a testament to their reputation for quality and reliability.

The excavators are highly manoeuvrable, making them ideal for use in tight spaces. MT Bryan Contractors is a leading supplier of tracked excavators, and this order is a testament to their reputation for quality and reliability. The excavators are equipped with a range of attachments, including buckets, grapples, and trenchers. This allows them to be used for a wide range of tasks, from earthmoving to demolition. The excavators are also highly manoeuvrable, making them ideal for use in tight spaces. MT Bryan Contractors is a leading supplier of tracked excavators, and this order is a testament to their reputation for quality and reliability.

Reply No. 14

SED 2011 Gathers Speed

The 10th SED (Specialist Equipment Dealers) conference has been held at the NEC in Birmingham. The event was attended by over 100 delegates from across the industry. The conference was a success, with delegates enjoying a range of activities, including networking, seminars, and a social evening. The conference was held in a state-of-the-art venue, and the delegates were impressed with the facilities. The conference was a great opportunity for delegates to meet and discuss the latest developments in the industry. The conference was held in a state-of-the-art venue, and the delegates were impressed with the facilities. The conference was a great opportunity for delegates to meet and discuss the latest developments in the industry.



The conference was a great opportunity for delegates to meet and discuss the latest developments in the industry. The conference was held in a state-of-the-art venue, and the delegates were impressed with the facilities. The conference was a great opportunity for delegates to meet and discuss the latest developments in the industry. The conference was held in a state-of-the-art venue, and the delegates were impressed with the facilities. The conference was a great opportunity for delegates to meet and discuss the latest developments in the industry.

Reply No. 15

New Appointments At GYS

GYS Ltd, the French welding equipment and battery charger manufacturer continues to further expand and develop its UK sales, marketing and business development team by announcing the following appointments.

Cédric Ouguergouz (29) has been promoted to UK Sales Manager responsible for sales of all welding equipment, battery chargers as well as ancillary equipment to an expanding network of distributors. Cédric, who has a BA in Sales and Business, has worked for GYS in France and came to the UK when GYS opened the Warwick Subsidiary.

Phil Styles (40) has been appointed Area Sales Manager covering the West Midlands and Wales from the Mersey Estuary in the North to the Severn Estuary in the South. Phil has a number of



Left to Right: Phil Styles; David Deventer; Cédric Ouguergouz.

years experience in the sales of welding equipment both for a manufacturer and a distributor. He lives in Stourport-on-Severn being

centrally located to cover his area. David Deventer has been appointed Business Development Consultant with the mandate to

introduce the GYS brand and products to Northern England, Scotland and Northern Ireland. David brings with him a wealth of knowledge and experience of marketing welding products with over 20 years experience working within the industry, Anthony Pierre joins from GYS in France as Sales Office Manager bringing with him the experience of setting up the GYS subsidiary in Germany. Other recent appointments include John Hill as After Sales Engineer, Fay Staton as Sales Administrator and Anthony Deronzier as Warehouse Manager at Warwick.

Reply No. 15