

# TIPS FOR I-CAR AUSTRALIA'S HANDS-ON SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COURSES



If you're interested in registering for one of our Hands-On Skills Development programs, we've put together some suggestions on how to make the most out of the next course you attend.

## 3 MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO CONSIDER

**Being able to see the weld zone is absolutely critical.** Without a good level of vision it will be impossible to see what is happening in the weld zone and be able to accurately follow the weld joint. Having your eyes tested before attending a welding course may be the difference between success and failure.

**Having a reasonable understanding of the process.** We provide an online course to all participants as part of the welding program. This should be completed prior to attending and will provide an explanation of the welding process which will help the student understand the instruction and guidance offered by the Instructor on the day of training/certification.

**Knowledge of the equipment.** If you don't know how to set the welding equipment, from both a maintenance and welding perspective, it will be incredibly difficult to achieve welds to a consistently high standard. Something that is critical for any structural repair. If you have staff who are unsure how to correctly set a welding machine, I-CAR has a selection of online welding equipment courses which could still be beneficial to other staff members not attending the welding program. The welding equipment courses are available in our Course Catalogue area on the I-CAR Australia website

## MOST COMMON AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

**Most people attending arrive with incorrect knowledge of how much penetration is required.** Running a weld that has as much penetration (or melt through) as possible, will weaken the joint. When carrying out a lap or fillet weld, we are only looking for slight ripples of penetration on the rear side of the samples. This reduces the heat and keeps a percentage of the original steel intact for strength and also eliminates the shear point through the joint.

**Learning to control the heat input through a greater understanding of machine settings.** With many types of heat sensitive steels being used on modern vehicles, an inability to manage the heat and control the welding arc can result in damage to the material and potential failure of the joint in any subsequent accidents. With guidance from the instructor, a student can learn how to apply the heat in a controlled way to produce a much stronger, effective welded joint.

## THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN CLASS

**Demonstrations and interaction with the Instructor, but also with the other participants attending the session.** This is actively encouraged to maximise the learning experience.

**Practical knowledge and experience.** I-CAR trainers are hands on trainers, they can show you what you're doing wrong and work with you to correct it.

## THE KEY TO SUCCESS IN A HANDS-ON SKILLS DEVELOPMENT COURSE

**It doesn't matter how much experience you have with welding.** Attending with an open mind and a willingness to learn and ask questions is often the key to the session being a very positive and successful experience.

