



Featured Company: Weber Machine & Welding

Meta-Lax[®] - Interesting Equipment

Weber Machine & Welding, Inc. in Billing, Montana manufactures and repairs heavy mining equipment.

In 1990 the weld shop supervisor, John Sparovic, saw the merits of having a Meta-Lax machine in his department but could not persuade upper management to include the Meta-Lax cost in the budget.

With management consent the very perspective weld shop supervisor found financial help and purchased a Meta-Lax machine himself. When the weld shop need Meta-Lax it was available on an hourly basis. One of the first Meta-Lax applications was to Meta-Lax during the welding of plow blades on earth graders up to 16 feet long. This resulted in reducing the distortion from 10 inches to 1/8 inch, a 99% reduction of distortion! The heavy, time consuming straightening process was eliminated. A savings of \$2,000 on each blade was the accounting result.

Weber began using Meta-Lax in many other application including; wheels, engines, frames, buckets, dog bones (for loaders) coal crushers, shovels and ripper shanks. They were various materials from A-36 to T-1 and hard-facing.

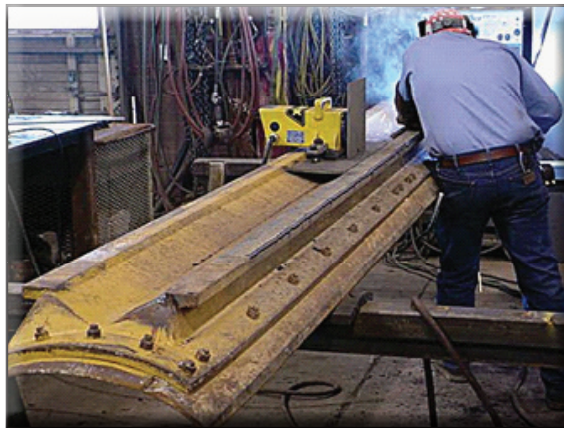
Speaking of ripper shanks reminded Mr. Sparovic of an incident that happened one day. "We had to make

an emergency repair on a ripper shanks and the Meta-Lax machine was busy on something else.

We made the repair without Meta-Lax ... it lasted less than 3 hours in the field. When we did it again we used Meta-Lax and it then wore out without any breakage."

Weber management was finally convinced that Meta-Lax was a good money saving machine and they purchased one – a used one from Sparovic and Associates.

When asked to summarize his experience with Meta-Lax Mr. Sparovic, (now Weber's plant manager), said "We've saved a trainload of time. It's one of the most interesting pieces of equipment that I've ever operated. It's a well-built machine and easy to teach others to operate. **I've never been disappointed with Meta-Lax, ever!"**



Meta-Lax weld conditioning prevented 99% of the usual weld distortion when welding these plow blades.



After using Meta-Lax during repair welding of cracks, ripper shank wore out without any further cracking.

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