

## Back-To-Basics:

## *Squeeze-Type Resistance Spot Welder Maintenance*



Sometimes, going back to the basics can make the difference between a quality repair and a failed repair. Squeeze-type resistance spot welder (STRSW) maintenance is essential to ensure it functions correctly and to its designed specifications.

Most spot welders have the same general wear points and parts. Some of those are:

- **Electrode tips**
- **Arm contact points**
- **Coolant**
- **Coolant connections**
- **O-rings**

During use, tips deform, thin, and pit. Welds are typically weak when the tips are oversized. The electrode tips should be replaced when the face shape, size, and surface affect the weld quality, or if the machine can't

calibrate properly. Some electrode tips may be reshaped using the tools supplied by the welder manufacturer, if available.

The arm contact points should be inspected when changing the arm to ensure the surface is clean and free from defects. This is where the current transfers to the arm, which is crucial for ensuring that the correct current reaches the electrode tip to perform a quality weld.

Coolant levels should be checked before each use and filled as needed. Each manufacturer has their own coolant recommendations, couplers, and O-rings. The machine manual should have information on maintenance intervals and part numbers. If not, contact your supplier for assistance.