



Kenya Bureau of Standards Certification Body



WELDER CERTIFICATION SCHEME BRIEF

KEBS launches Welder Certification Scheme

The Welder Certification Scheme is a 3 year renewable certification based on applicable national and international standards that include ISO 15607, ISO 9606-1, ISO 17846, ISO 3834 parts 1-6, ISO/IEC 17024, among others.

This fully developed and accredited welder certification scheme prescribes requirements to provide assurance of welding and fabricating competence, and also includes competence requirements for technical experts involved in process assessment, and competence evaluation of the welder for certification purposes.



KEBS-CB is accredited by KENAS for Certification of Welders.



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Background

Welding is the process of permanently joining two or more materials together, usually metals, by heat or pressure or both. When heated, the material reaches molten state and may be joined together with or without additional filler materials being added. Thermoplastics, for example can be welded together using a suitable heat source to form permanent joints.

Poor quality welds can cause pipes & structures failures which result to loss of life, containment, production loss, fire, etc. The total costs to the business can run to millions of money and millions of man-days lost, to say the least. Qualified Welders can perform bad welds!

Therefore, there is serious need to emplace a Worker Performance Monitoring System and database to ensure that "poor quality" welders are traceable and upskilled. Confidence in the respective certification schemes for persons is achieved by means of a globally accepted process of assessment and periodic re-assessments of the competence of certified persons. This way, facility failures can be significantly reduced resulting to improved production cost and, improved Safety, Health & Environment performance can also be realized.

An independent certification to prove compliance with welding processes and welder qualification requirements can benefit welding fabricators by providing an authoritative third party reference of commercial value. For the purchasers (customers), it provides a means of identifying fabricating companies whose competence for particular types of work had been independently assessed, providing greater confidence in their ability to deliver specific products of the required quality

Welder certification sets industry standards which help meet and maintain compliance to many project regulations. Certifications are built around the processes for different weld-types, and welders are then certified on those unique processes. Welders who have passed these certifications will have uniform outcomes, are knowledgeable about what can go wrong and why, and have proven that they have the skills to ensure good, secure welds.

Certification Body's Mission;

*To promote industry
competitiveness by
providing
internationally
recognised conformity
assessment services*

Welding keeps our world together and, the Welder is the Hero! From cars to planes and bridges to buildings, welding keeps our economy moving. It's the backbone of our world. While we don't always notice every weld under the hood or behind the walls, welding plays an integral role in keeping people safe and advancing our quality of life. Welding is a trade that every industry relies upon to keep from falling apart at the seams. Other examples of welded products include pressure vessels, tankers, tanks, goods wagons and containers, scaffolds, furniture, gates, pipes, just to name but a few.

Target market for Welder Certification Scheme

The target market includes the following industry categories among others;

- General – e.g. gates, fences, grills
- Automotive
- Building, Construction, Infrastructure
- Marine & Shipbuilding Industries
- Original Equipment Manufacturing (OEM)
- Oil & Gas, Chemical & Energy
- Manufacturing
- Railroads
- Government Regulatory Bodies – e.g. National Construction Authority
- Technical training institutions (TVET) – e.g. NITA
- Research institutions
- Aerospace & Defense
- Technology Standards Organizations e.g. KEBS

Benefits of Welder Certification to the Certified Welder

- **A Mark of Accomplishment:** Your knowledge and experience are impartially validated against an approved set of national and international welding standards and guidelines.
- **Proof of Achievement:** You pass examinations demonstrating that you have the foundational welding knowledge in the specific professional certification to become successful in that specialty.
- **A Competitive Edge:** You have a head-start compared to non-certified individuals when you are ready to advance your career to the next level or explore new opportunities.
- **Proof of Competency:** Having this internationally recognized certification communicates that you're knowledgeable, experienced, and reliable to companies seeking to hire new welders, solderers, or brazers
- **Business Opportunity:** Certified welders also have the opportunity to work on their own and start a business.
- **A Better Living:** You can increase your career prospects and capacity to make an honorable living with good take-home pay to support your family.
- **A Commitment to Growth:** You demonstrate your active pursuit of opportunities to learn and perform better each day using the skill sets and technological know-how you have acquired.

Certification Body's Vision;

To be a global leader in provision of certification services that deliver quality and confidence