



Product Review

SimWelder™ Client:

Lancaster County Career and Technology Center
Pennsylvania, USA

Review Written By:

John Boyer
Welding Instructor

After observing the operation of the units used by the military training base in Aberdeen, Maryland and benefits demonstrated to school personnel which included myself, the decision was made to purchase 1 stationary unit to serve the full time secondary students and 1 portable unit to serve in recruitment and training at our two other schools. Talking to the military trainer assigned to the units gave me an excellent overview of how the units benefited them and gave me a foundation on how to implement the units into my program. Using the units has also given me an opportunity to realize the benefits they can provide to the welding program on a high school level and to the school system I work in.

Before the purchase of the 2 units, the school and the SimWelder™ company [VRSim] committed a lot of time and support for me and others involved in using the units. When the units arrived, the company, again, committed a lot of time and support to the school personnel in training and setup. The commitment to the operation of the units has continued in a professional and timely manner every time I have asked for assistance.

The units in my program have been a learning experience to all those who have used them as well as to others visiting my program. Industries, other learning institutions, prospective students and their parents, and also fellow instructors have had a chance to observe the SimWelder™ in use, and all have had positive comments. My consumption of metal, welding rod and wire and especially task metal has noticeably decreased, which saves the school time and money. I expect I am using less electricity and definitely produce less weld fumes. In the 27 years of instruction this is the first year we used the units, and not one of the 25 students were having problems with welding rods sticking on metal. In addition, these students progressed through the beginning tasks faster than ever before. The end year testing the student's conduct (NOCTI) showed an increase in performance scores in the welding evaluations compared to the last several years. I am excited about the future and how the SimWelder™ will continue to improve student skills through my continued use of the units in the welding program. I also feel this technology and its continued use will fuel future growth in the ability to train students in more processes and newer techniques. The SimWelder™ will be an extremely positive tool for recruitment and training in the welding field.