

## Success Stories from the WTIA SMART TechNet Project

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SUCCESS STORY NUMBER 3: CHALLENGING MATERIAL CALLS FOR OZWELD EXPERTISE – *The manufacture of stainless steel and alloy screens involves a great deal of welding, with success dependant upon a knowledge of the materials, the welding process and the customers requirements, Standards and Codes.*

### The background

Brisbane based company Johnson Screens manufactures a range of stainless steel and alloy grids and baskets designed to provide separation, filtration, sizing, and straining of different materials.

Screens and filter grids are essential in many processes as they prevent downstream equipment from being damaged or destroyed, which can require costly clean up operations.

### WTIA specialist assistance

All of the products that the company produces are made up of a multitude of welded components. “Some of our larger screens can have up to 3,000 – 4,000 welds in them,” said Mike Neal, Engineering Supervisor at Johnson Screens.

Johnson Screens has been a long time member of the WTIA, and the OzWeld Network has provided an ongoing source of specialist technical advice. “Our work involves a large amount of welding stainless steel and other alloys and often we work with overseas welding codes. We rely heavily on the advice and expertise we get from the WTIA and it has helped us with our domestic and international projects.”

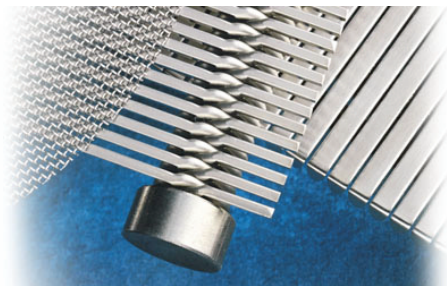
There is limited technical information around on welding stainless steel and other alloys compared with steel and other metals, and Johnson Screens has utilised the expertise and guidance of the WTIA’s State Technology Manager for Queensland, Leon Rosenbrock.

“We are constantly adapting our products to meet the specific needs of our clients. This may involve taking a sample of the material to be filtered and then designing and welding a screen for it,” said Mike.

### The challenge

In a recent project Johnson Screens was contracted to produce grids in accordance with the USA ASME Codes for high pressure vessels. “Leon at WTIA wrote the welding procedures for the job and then conducted training for our employees on the ASME Codes,” said Mike Neal. Johnson Screens staff have also attended seminars on welding of stainless steel.

“We sell around 60% of our products in Asia and the only way we can continue to be competitive is to constantly innovate and achieve the highest standards possible. The advice and guidance of the WTIA helps us to do this,” explains Mike.



### The benefits to industry

The OzWeld Technology Support Centres Network assisted Johnsons Screens by providing:

- Advice and independent interpretation on international Standards and Codes
- Access to international technology and best practice processes
- Training of employees