

FLOWLINE ALASKA, INC.

October 1, 2002

TipMate Systems
P.O. Box 246
Belpre, OH 45714

Attn: Mr. Randy Davis

Subj: Tip Mate Nozzle Referral

To Whom It May Concern:

Flowline Alaska Inc. has established itself as one of the leading contractors for the supply of piping fabrication to the North Slope Oil Fields. Our clients most specifically include BP Exploration and Phillips Alaska, the two primary operators of the North Slope fields. Over the course of the last five years Flowline has annually provided an average of over 3000 double joint welds ranging in size from 8" pipe to 36" pipe. These double joint welds have been performed using the SAW process.

Within the last 4-5 years, with the help of TimMate Systems, Flowline has implemented the additional electrode extension technique (EE) to the SAW process. The additional EE has been achieved using the TipMate Nozzle Systems.

Flowline currently maintains a welding operation that is comprised of five sub-arc welding stations, all of which are equipped with the TipMate EE nozzles.

Since the implementation of the extended stick out technique Flowline has enhanced production by an estimated 25%. Enhanced productivity can be directly related to the greater weld metal deposition rates that are achieved using the TipMate Systems nozzles. Flowline now has the ability to achieve the greater deposition rates while still maintaining the required interpass temperature limits as allowed by specification. The reduction in arc time hours per weld, along with a shorter process time per weld, has lead to these enhanced production rates.

Flowline provides welds for clientele that transport oil and gas across the environmentally sensitive Arctic Environment. As a result, welding operations are continually monitored to assure that maximum quality production welds are being produced. We have found that the EE process has shown no detrimental effects towards the quality of our welding processes. All welds provided to the North Slope are subject to 100%VT and RT inspection processes.

Flowline has witnessed greater success with the use of the EE technique on thin wall pipe applications. We have noticed a significant reduction in any "burn through" type problems that are commonly inherent to the thin wall pipe welding when using the SAW process.

The TipMate System has also been implemented without any inconvenience to the "user-friendly" nature of the SAW process that we use as it applies to the welding operator.

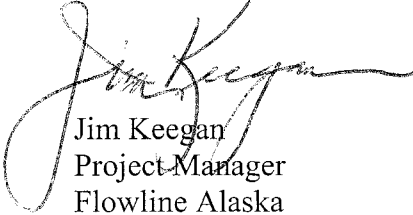
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We have also found that the TipMate products that have been provided to Flowline are quality components that seem to have a substantial wear life.

Flowline feels that the TipMate product line has proven to be a reliable addition to our welding operations. We would strongly recommend this product line in any similar type welding applications.

Best Regards,



Jim Keegan
Project Manager
Flowline Alaska