

Common Sense in Maintenance Welding

Common Sense isn't always Common Practices according Ron Moore
author of "Making Common Sense Common Practice"

Welding in a production area could be hazardous to equipment reliability and could introduce premature failures on healthy assets. If premature equipment failure is important then connecting the welding ground lead can be a major issue.

Think about this, if connect a ground to a support column and weld somewhere in a production area where does the electric current flow..

... to Path of least resistance -through *electrical* conduits, through bearings, electrical devices, etc. until it reaches the welded area.

(I was taught this practice while working for Exxon, we were told proper welding lead grounding was a condition of employment -this refinery was built in the 1930s and only accepted high reliability)

Grounding leads should be attached within 6" of the welded area or seek approval of Reliability Engineering or Plant Manager.

