

## What is a stencil number or stamp?

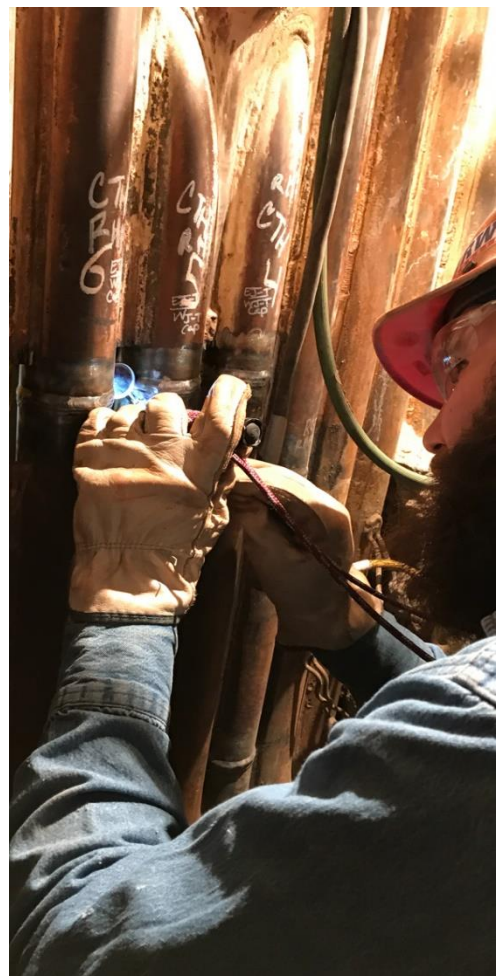
A stencil number or stamp in welding is a unique identifier that is used to mark or identify a weld joint, a welder's identity, or other relevant information on a welded part. This marking is typically made using a stencil, stamping equipment or paint marker to ensure traceability and quality control in the welding process. Stencil numbers or stamps help in tracking and identifying welded components, ensuring that they meet relevant standards and specifications.

Each individual welder may be assigned a unique stencil number or stamp to mark their work. This helps to track the work of specific welders, ensuring accountability and traceability in the welding process. The unique identifier can be used to link each weld to the specific welder who performed it, which can be valuable for quality control, certification, and compliance purposes.



The welders stencil number for this tube was **EJ-T** and **WJ-T**. Often welders will write R/F/C or a combination of R, F or C in the area around their stencil to communicate that they only put in a root, fill or cap in the event of night shift finishing a weld that day shift started or vice versa.

This photo illustrates a QC inspector first inspecting the weld for defects. He will then write down the stencil numbers of the welders that made the weld. This information is relayed to the QC manager for documentation purposes.



As you can see, there is often many welds to be made on a project. Stencil numbers are an important part of tracking who welded what. Without this information there would be no way to prove that the welder was qualified to make the weld (your stencil corresponds to your welding certification). There would also be no way to determine a trend in defects coming from an individual welder. After your weld test always ask what your stencil number is. Keep a paint marker with you and write your stencil near every weld you make.

