

Table of Contents

Foreword: Welding Technology – a Field for Creative Minds	1
Foreword by the Gesellschaft für Schweißtechnik International – Schweißtechnische- Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt Hannover, Germany	3
Welding connects	5
The healing Power of Singing while Welding	14
In Seventh Heaven	120
Mr. Smith and the Thing about Experience	129
The Return of the Jedi Knights	134
Quick and painless	177
We love the Storms, the roaring Waves	226
What would the World be without Steel?	280
The Magic of Industry	293
Ten small sewage Sludge Dryers and the Archangel Raphael	315
The stainless Steel Thing	338
Welding connects – and fulfils Children's Dreams	364
You'll Never Work Alone!	382
Take Me Home, Country Roads	384
The Story Behind 359°	389
Sincere Thanks!	391
List of References	395

Foreword: Welding Technology – a Field for Creative Minds

The author acquired his knowledge in Germany. His professional career is a striking example in the welding branch: A solid foundation through vocational basics and advanced training by a dual training system, followed by international projects worldwide. Exactly like the *DVS – Deutscher Verband für Schweißen und verwandte Verfahren e. V.* (German Welding Society) offers with its training facilities and vocational variants as one of the great career options.

DVS Media as a subsidiary of *DVS – Deutscher Verband für Schweißen und verwandte Verfahren e. V.* is particularly delighted to publish Mr. Thiemonds' stories now also in English.

In his book the author tells in his very personal and unique way about former projects and his personal encounters around the world.

His narrative style is inspired by popular culture, like comics and movies, develops an irresistible suggestive pull within the professional reader as well as in those without welding experience, who learn as a pleasant side effect something about welding and its methods. The author shares his inner and exterior experience with the reader. The literary 'welding filler' is a good sense of 'Magic Realism', interweaving and joining the individual chapters. Imaginations running wild, but always with the heartbeat in welding, and furthermore, in engagement in humanitarian projects like the construction of a school in Southeast Asia.

Not fairy tales told by a welder, not a prank, the stories are well-founded experience reports, told in a thrilling way and spiced-up with a good sense of positive thinking about the world, connecting with people with the same technical and human mindset. In one of the vividly told stories about copper tube welding you'll get to know about the connection between welding and the healing power of singing! Showing how to approach and realize awesome projects together and to grow personally from this challenge.

For sure, this entertaining and illuminating book by our 'metallograph-philosopher' will find a lot of avid readers around the world. You highly value technique, adventure, and creativity speeded-up by imagination? – Then you will love every page of this book!

Uta Tschakert
DVS Media GmbH