 European Welding Association	GENERAL STATEMENT ON FAKE PRODUCTS - FLAME FOCUS ON TORCHES	FOCUS ON Torches 2021 09 28
EWA \ TC FLAME		

GENERAL STATEMENT ON FAKE PRODUCTS


EWA is a European professional association which brings together manufacturers of equipment and consumables for flame and electric arc welding (Electrodes, MIG, TIG). Each member of EWA is a producer with a factory in Europe. These European manufacturers comply with European directives and standards that ensure the safety of equipment.

The purpose of this document is to inform you about counterfeits. Counterfeits are products which are copied without permission from the original products and are most often sold at lower prices. The globalization of trade, e-commerce and the development of freight facilitates their marketing. Their uncontrolled quality can be dangerous for the health and safety of users. Their impact on the economy affects intellectual property rights, business markets and employment

The products of European industrial manufacturers are marked. We can therefore identify and find the manufacturer in the event of difficulties or problems which is not generally the case with counterfeit manufacturers leaving you alone to face the difficulties and security risks for users. This marking of the producer (and distributor) identification is important to ensure that the products meet quality and safety standards.

The position paper of EWA "Importer's liabilities" recalls the obligations of importers of products which are not manufactured in the EEC:

<https://european-welding.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/Importers-liabilities-Reviewed-in-March-2016.pdf>

 <p>European Welding Association</p>	<p>GENERAL STATEMENT ON FAKE PRODUCTS - FLAME</p> <p>FOCUS ON TORCHES</p>	<p>FOCUS ON Torches 2021 09 28</p>
<p>EWA \ TC FLAME</p>		

FOCUS ON TORCHES

Blowpipes are to use for cutting, welding and heating processes. There are several types of blowpipes on the market which differ in the type of the gas mixing system.

These torches must be compliant to the EN ISO 5172.

When deciding on an oxy-fuel burner, not only the purchase price should be relevant. Working with fuel gases and oxygen basically requires high quality equipment. Those who neglect this not only put their health on risk, but also the safety of the production facility and the quality of their work.

The use of high-quality equipment is a postulate for safe and successful operation. The problem here is that the user can often only determine during operation whether a burner can be operated safely.

With the devices, the danger does not always come directly from the devices themselves, but from individual wear parts. In the first place, welding, heating and cutting nozzles should be mentioned.

It is precisely these nozzles that are often copied and sold. It is very likely that burners are operated with nozzles that are not original parts.

If the copied replacement part is not of the same quality as the original part, this can lead to flashbacks, sometimes back into the gas hoses. This puts the user in danger and leads to burner defects ahead of schedule and thus to frequent repairs. As a result, the decision for the cheap copy can turn out to be the more expensive investment compared to the original parts.

Despite the dangers which often low-quality copies can represent when used, these are offered again and again.

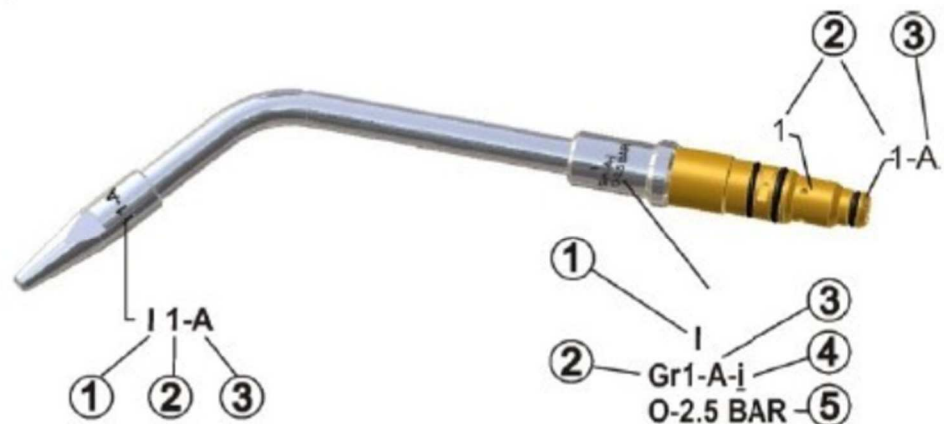
The fact that many end users do not know the details of the required product labelling is used here.

EN ISO 5172 specifies the requirements for tests for oxy-fuel torches for welding, cutting and heating. Depending on the design, the torches and nozzles have to:

- Correspond to the gases used
- Gas tight
- Be designed so that fuel gas and oxygen are fed to the torch in separate lines
- Be backfire-proof
- Be clearly identifiable and permanently marked on the nozzle with the gas type and on the mixing nozzle with the mixing system

Example for the marking of a welding insert

**Labeling
EN ISO 5172**



- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Manufacturer |
| 2 | Size |
| 3 | Gas type |
| | A = Acetylen |
| 4 | Mixture system: |
| | i = gas-return safe mixture with suction
(injector burner) — |
| 5 | Oxygen pressure |
| | O = Oxygen |

Brand manufacturers stand with their products for recognized safety and quality. This not only includes the burner construction that complies with the standards, but it is also important to choose the right high quality material according to EN ISO 9539.

All EWA technical information documents are based on EWA members' experience and technical knowledge at the time of publication. Such technical information documents provide voluntary guidance and are not binding. EWA hereby disclaims any liability that may arise from the use of such technical information documents, including, but not limited to, non-performance, misinterpretation, and improper use of the technical information.