

HGG Knowlegde Article

Plasma cutting compensation for beams, bars and bulbs



Kerf Width Compensation

The width or kerf depends on the plasma cutting system. This kerf is compensated by a machine's software to ensure an even better accuracy.

This compensation is typically half of the kerf width.



Arc Shape Compensation

In most cutting conditions the plasma arc cuts a convergent kerf; this convergence can vary depending on the plasma torch, nozzle and set torch height. To make sure the cut bevel angle is accurate the convergence can be compensated by a parameter in a machine's software. If the convergence of the kerf is 3 degrees with a required bevel of 30 degrees, the cutting angle needs a correction of 1.5 degrees for example. Consequently, the torch angle will be 28.5 degrees compensating for the convergence.



Optimized Cutting Direction

Plasma cutting uses a swirl to focus, stabilise and protect the arc. The swirl creates a 'good' and a 'bad' side in the kerf. In order to get a straight cut the torch must travel in the proper direction to have the 'good' side on the part and the bad side on the remnant material. The good side is on the right relative to the torch's movement direction. HGG uses this knowledge and adapts the cutting routines to maintain the most accurate cut.



Melting Correction

Especially when cutting a negative bevel the melting away and rounding of the corners occurs on the fit line. Within a machine's software this melting away can be compensated with a numeric variable (mm). This parameter corrects the (local) fit line easing the fitting and welding of the final product.

For more information on this subject contact our specialists on 0031 227 50 40 30 or info@hgg-group.com

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