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S. ALLAN ETAL

3,300,200

SELF-SIZING THERMOCHEMICAL SCARFING

Filed May 3, 1965

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

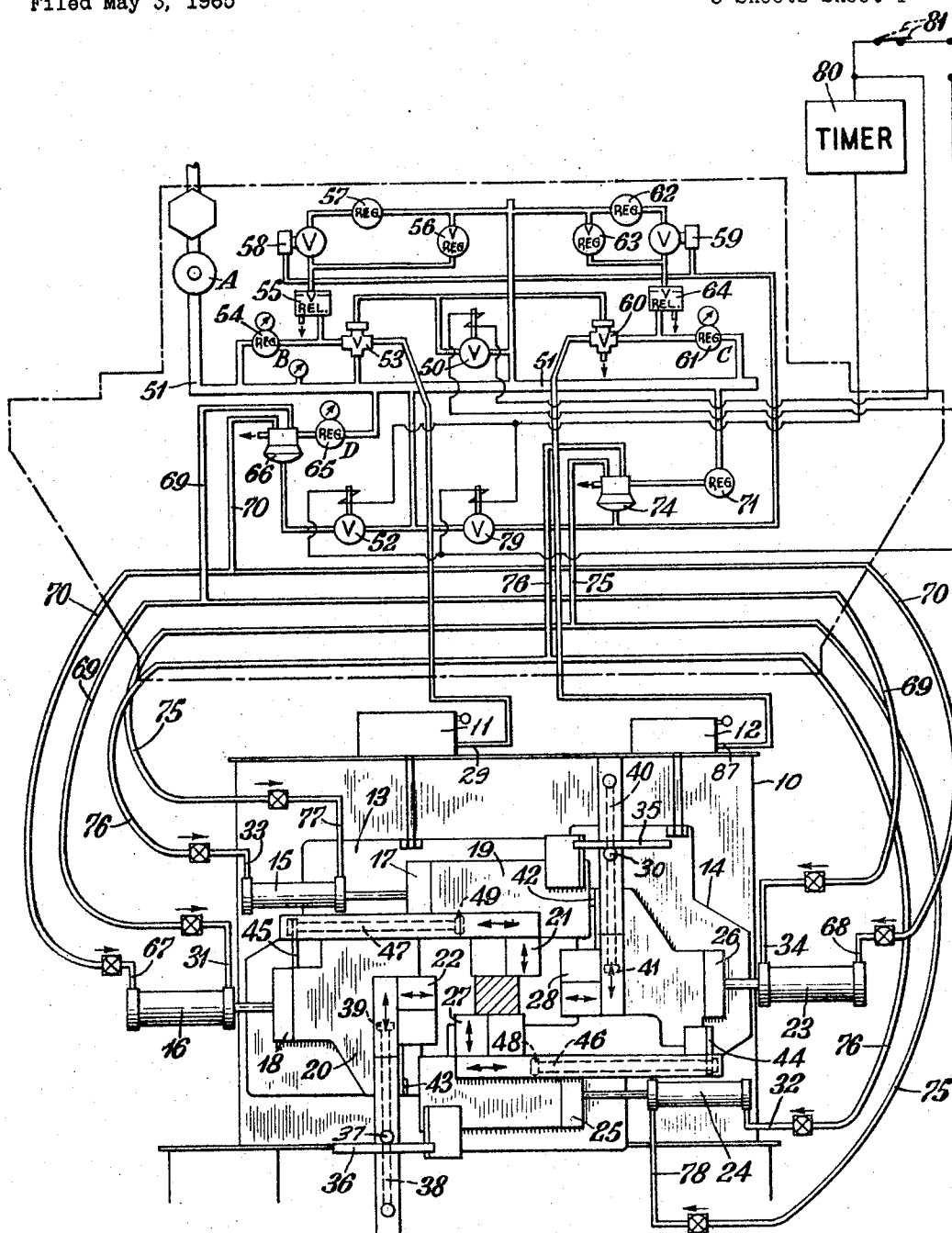


Fig. 1

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

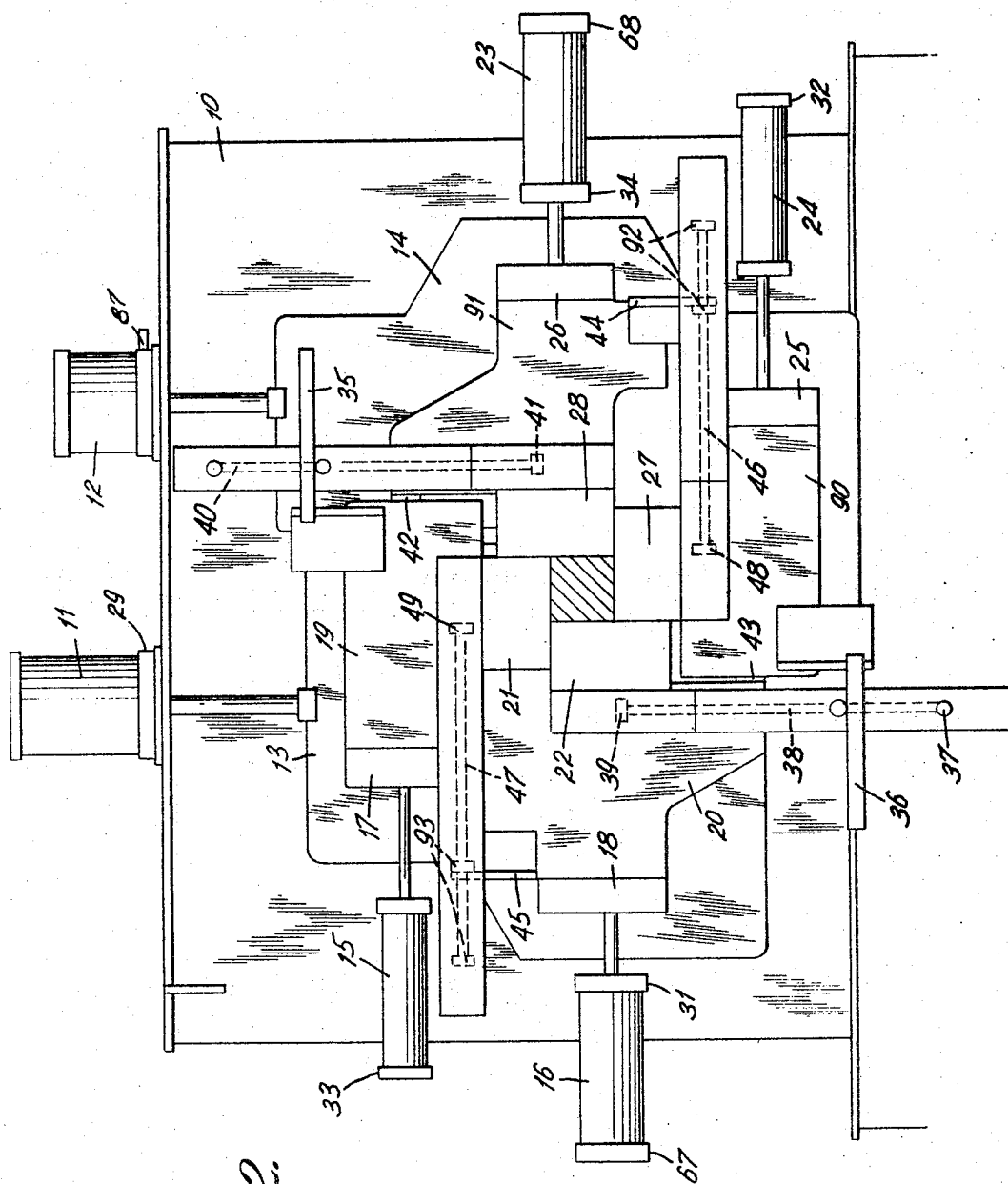


Fig. 2.

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3,300,200

SELF-SIZING THERMOCHEMICAL SCARFING
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corporation of New York

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7 Claims. (Cl. 266-23)

This application is a continuation-in-part of applica-
tion Serial No. 180,785, filed March 19, 1962, now aban-
doned.

This invention relates to the thermochemical scarfing
of ferrous metal bodies, and more particularly to an
apparatus which is automatically self-adjusting to scarf
the four sides of any size rectangular workpiece presented
for conditioning. As long as the overall size of the work-
piece is smaller than the maximum size which the machine
is designed to process, the actual cross-sectional dimen-
sions thereof need not be known by the operator of the
machine.

During the production of steel shapes in a rolling mill,
it is customary to condition the surfaces of the steel
bodies at an intermediate stage of the rolling steps. The
purpose of such conditioning is to eliminate surface de-
fects such as cracks, seams and slag inclusions that would
produce defects in the finished products if not removed.
It has been found economical to eliminate such defects
by thermochemically removing an entire surface layer
of one or more longitudinal surfaces of the body to be
conditioned by the use of a suitable machine preferably
interposed in the mill conveyor line between roll stands
such as after the blooming mill rolls. In this way, the
steel shapes may be conditioned while hot and without
interrupting continuous production of steel.

In many instances, the steel mill does not roll merely
one size of billet or bloom, and often many different sizes
are rolled in the same blooming mill; it is common prac-
tice to change sizes between alternate blooms in some
mills. It is therefore desired to provide a conditioning
machine which can be automatically self-adjusting to ac-
cept successively different sizes of blooms or billets, par-
ticularly different sizes of square and other rectangular
cross-sectional shapes.

Since the advent of mechanical machine scarfing, im-
provements were developed to enable the operator to
more rapidly effect adjustment of the machine in order
to scarf different size sections of steel. Originally, the
operator had to manually and laboriously adjust the
setting of the scarfing units by jack screws, to suit the
size of section to be processed. This operation was time-
consuming and was not well adapted for an automated
processing operation. This disadvantage led to the use
of air motors which simplified machine adjustment to a
degree. The air motors were controlled by opening and
closing several air valves such that machine adjustment
was facilitated. Further progress was achieved by adding
Selsyn motors to the mechanical selection drives on the
machine, and then, by observing calibrated dials in the
operator's pulpit which were driven by slave Selsyn
motors, the operator's depressing of either "increase" or
"decrease" pushbuttons provided remote control size se-
lection.

It was soon found, however, that as higher production
was required by a mill, the scarfing station frequently
became the major bottleneck, particularly when the fre-
quency of variation of billet or bloom size increased, as
the increased number of machine adjustments required
often caused the operators to adjust the machine incor-
rectly. Sometimes these errors resulted because the op-
erator received incorrect size information from the rolling
schedule or from mill operators. Errors in size adjust-
ment of the machine can result in damage to the machine,

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in poorly scarfed product, or in safety hazards in the
improper adjustment of the gas selector valves.

The foregoing problems prompted consideration of the
possibility of eliminating manual requirements and opera-
tor-error almost entirely through the development of a
scarfing apparatus which would be self-sizing. Such an
apparatus should preferably require an operator only to
energize a master switch so as to initiate operation of
the machine, which in turn would automatically adjust
itself rapidly to suit the bloom size and to select the
proper gas valving to process any section of steel presented
thereto.

The main object of this invention is to provide an
improved machine for thermochemically scarfing the four
longitudinal surfaces of any of a succession of different
sized rectangular metal bodies, which machine has scarf-
ing heads that adjust themselves automatically so that
the size and shape of the opening provided by the heads,
and the effective widths of the gas passages, corresponds
to the size and shape of the workpiece to be processed.
The invention proposes a method of sizing which is not
only rapidly accomplished but does not require the opera-
tor to keep informed of the dimensions of each incoming
workpiece to be scarfed.

According to the invention, a scarfing machine is pro-
vided for thermochemically conditioning the longitudinal
surfaces of successive rectangular metal workpieces hav-
ing different cross-sectional dimensions when such work-
pieces are longitudinally propelled through the apparatus,
said apparatus being entirely self-sizing to automatically
adjust itself to suit any size rectangular section to be
processed, said apparatus having top, first side, bottom
and second side scarfing units, each unit being adapted for
scarfing a corresponding surface of the metal workpiece.
Each scarfing unit has a gas selector valve assembly asso-
ciated with it for opening and closing off gas ports along
the respective working surface thereof so that the operat-
ing width of each unit can be adjusted to correspond to
the size of the workpiece. Means are provided for lower-
ing the top and first side scarfing units simultaneously
until the top unit contacts the top surface of the work-
piece. Means are also provided for concurrently raising
the bottom and second side scarfing units simultaneously,
until the bottom unit contacts the bottom surface of the
workpiece. Means responsive to such vertical movement
are provided for adjusting the gas selector valves asso-
ciated with the first side and second side scarfing units
so that their operating width correspond to the thickness
of the workpiece. Means are provided for laterally mov-
ing the first side and top scarfing units simultaneously,
until the first side unit contacts the side of the workpiece.
Means operating concurrently therewith are provided for
laterally moving the second side and bottom units simul-
taneously, until the second side units contacts the op-
posite side of the workpiece. Finally, the gas selector
valves associated with the top and bottom units are ad-
justed by means responsive to such laterally movement
so that their operating width corresponds to the width
of the workpiece.

A basic difference between the present apparatus and
apparatus of the prior art is that according to our inven-
tion the operator does not pre-adjust the machine ahead
of time and thereafter insert the workpiece into the mouth
of the machine. Instead, the apparatus is so constructed
that the workpiece is fed into the mouth of the machine
while all of the scarfing units are in a completely re-
tracted position. Then, upon the closing of a master
switch, the scarfing units move toward the workpiece
until they become completely closed around it. At this
point the scarfing cycle is automatically initiated through
an appropriate system of timers. All four scarfing units
are automatically adjusted by the energizing of one master

switch, and the operator of the machine need neither know the size of the workpiece, nor be in the vicinity of the scarfing machine during any part of the scarfing cycle.

All of the prior art scarfing machines for scarfing all four sides of a rectangular metal workpiece require the operator to pre-set the scarfing units ahead of time to scarf a workpiece of known dimensions. The operator must know the size of the workpiece in advance before he can pre-set the machine. Usually, this requires the operator to make four separate adjustments, one for each scarfing unit. Even with the more recent machines employing remote controlled motorized drives for adjusting each scarfing unit, the process remains quite time-consuming and constitutes a real bottleneck in a mill producing billets or blooms over a size range.

Because of the intense heat and molten steel and slag spatter which exists adjacent the scarfing area, the operator's pulpit must be located a good distance away from the machine. This would make it impractical, if not impossible, for an operator to attempt visually to adjust any prior art machine to scarf a workpiece whose exact dimensions are not known to him.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view of a self-sizing scarfing apparatus including a control system therefor, the apparatus being shown at a point in the overall cycle wherein the top and left side and bottom and right side scarfing units have already moved vertically until the top and bottom units have contacted the workpiece;

FIGURE 2 is a front elevational view similar to FIGURE 1, in which the control system is not reproduced, but showing the relative position of the apparatus after all of the scarfing units have sized themselves about the workpiece, and

FIGURE 3 is an isometric elevational view of part of the apparatus shown in FIGURE 1, this view illustrating only the bottom and right side scarfing units, shown in completely retracted position.

The self-sizing scarfing machine consists essentially of a main frame 10 to which are mounted vertical acting air cylinders 11 and 12 respectively. These cylinders serve to raise and lower the left hand mounting plate assembly 13 and the right hand mounting plate assembly 14 respectively which ride in vertical roller ways (not shown) in frame 10. The left hand mounting plate assembly 13 includes air cylinders 15 and 16, upper horizontal slide assembly 17, edge horizontal slide 18, and carrier plate assemblies 19 and 20 respectively. Mounted on the carrier plate assemblies 19 and 20 are scarfing units 21 and 22 respectively. The scarfing units may be of the type disclosed in Patent No. 2,838,431.

Carrier plate assemblies 19 and 20 are connected to horizontal slides 17 and 18 respectively which ride in horizontal roller ways (not shown) in the left hand mounting plate assembly 13. The horizontal slides 17 and 18 are connected to, and thus motivated by, the air cylinders 15 and 16 respectively. Effectively then, the scarfing units 21 and 22 are horizontally movable by air cylinders 15 and 16 respectively. The right hand mounting plate 14 is similarly assembled with air cylinders 24 and 23 horizontally motivating the lower slide assembly 25 and edge slide assembly 26 respectively, which horizontally moves scarfing units 27 and 28 mounted upon carrier plates 90 and 91 which in turn are respectively connected thereto.

With the scarfing units in the normally retracted position, pressure is applied through port 29 to air cylinder 11 which retains the left hand mounting plate assembly 13, in a stopped "up" position. Air cylinder 12 is not pressurized and thus the right hand mounting plate assembly 14 remains in a stopped "down" position. Pressure applied through ports 31 and 34 to air cylinders 16 and 23 respectively maintains the horizontal slide assemblies 18 and 26 respectively in a stopped "out" posi-

tion. Pressure applied through ports 33 and 32 to air cylinders 15 and 24 respectively maintains upper horizontal slide assembly 17 and lower horizontal slide assembly 25 in a stopped "out" position. The vertical distance between scarfing units 21 and 27 as well as the horizontal distance between scarfing units 22 and 28 are such as to provide a maximum machine opening.

The scarfing cycle begins with the scarfing units in completely retracted position. The bloom or billet to be scarfed is rolled up to the machine so that its end enters the mouth of the machine, and is then stopped in that position between the four scarfing units. The workpiece remains stationary in this position until the scarfing cycle has begun. All phases of the scarfing cycle are initiated by the closing of a master switch 81. When the master switch 81 is closed, air cylinders 11 and 12 respectively cause the upper scarfing unit 21 and the lower scarfing unit 27 to move vertically until they contact the upper and lower surfaces respectively of the metal workpiece. In so doing, sizing arms 35 and 36 move vertically therewith into engagement with stops 30 and 37 respectively, which in turn move piston rods 40 and 38 so that their respective pistons 41 and 39 are positioned such that the gas ports within scarfing units 28 and 22 will correspond to the thickness of the workpiece to be scarfed. The pistons 41 and 39 moving within manifolds connected to each scarfing unit form a gas selector valve assembly, which may be of the type shown in U.S. Patent No. 3,016,947, issued to S. Allan.

As soon as the scarfing units 21 and 27 contact the upper and lower surfaces respectively of the workpiece, the air cylinders 16 and 23 cause scarfing units 22 and 28 respectively to close upon the edges of the workpiece. In so doing, the pusher plates 42 and 43 which are welded to carrier plates 91 and 20 respectively come into contact with and horizontally shift the carrier plates 19 and 90. Scarfing units 21 and 27 mounted respectively on the carrier plates 19 and 90 are moved therewith horizontally so that their working surfaces correspond to the width of the workpiece. At the same time, sizing arms 44 and 45 moving horizontally with carrier plates 91 and 20 to which they are respectively attached, engage stops 92 and 93, respectively and move the piston rods 46 and 47 so that their respective selector valve pistons 48 and 49 are positioned wherein the gas porting in the scarfing units 27 and 21 corresponds to the width of the workpiece.

Upon scarfing units 28 and 22 contacting the edges of the metal body, the gases necessary for scarfing, such as fuel gas and oxygen, are immediately turned on by the timer operated automatic control system, and scarfing of the metal body, now moving through the machine, takes place. Opening of the master switch shuts off the gases used for scarfing and moves all the scarfing units to their fully retracted position.

The control system forms a particularly valuable part of the present invention, which enables the machine to size itself rapidly for scarfing any size rectangular metal body presented thereto. During sizing the left hand mounting plate assembly 13 and consequently scarfing unit 21 moving therewith is lowered until said scarfing unit contacts the surface of the metal body, by reducing the pressure applied through port 29 of air cylinder 11. Simultaneously, the right hand mounting plate assembly and therefore scarfing unit 27 moving therewith is raised until said scarfing unit contacts the lower surface of the metal body by applying air pressure through port 87 to air cylinder 12.

In order to achieve a smooth rapid movement during vertical sizing, it is necessary to apply a greater pressure to air cylinder 12 than is necessary to merely overcome the weight of the right hand mounting plate assembly 14 in addition to the frictional force. Similarly, it is necessary to amply reduce the pressure to air cylinder 11 in order to smoothly and rapidly lower the left hand

mounting plate assembly 13 until the scarfing unit 21 rests upon the upper surface of the metal body.

When upper scarfing unit 21 and lower scarfing unit 27 contact the metal body they would tend to hug it with such force as to make it extremely difficult for the pusher brackets 42 and 43 to horizontally shift scarfing units 21 and 27 so as to expose a working surface corresponding to the width of the metal body. To overcome this problem, the control system serves to increase the pressure through port 29 to air cylinder 11 while causing a decrease in the pressure applied through port 87 to air cylinder 12 as soon as scarfing units 21 and 27 contact the upper and lower surfaces respectively of the metal body. In this way, there is a reduced riding force of scarfing units 21 and 27 acting upon the upper and lower surfaces respectively of the metal body. Scarfing units 21 and 27 are now substantially more free to be shifted horizontally as the edge scarfing units 22 and 28 approach the edge surfaces of the metal body.

Complete vertical movement of all scarfing units is achieved through the left hand vertical and right hand vertical subsystems which make use of a common solenoid valve 50 and a common primary air supply 51. Complete horizontal movement is similarly attained through the left hand horizontal and right hand horizontal subsystems which make use of a common solenoid valve 52 as well as the common primary air supply 51.

The left hand vertical control subsystem closes and retracts the air cylinder 11. It consists of a pilot operated 3-way valve 53 operatively connected to port 29 of air cylinder 11, a pressure reducing regulator 54 connected to the inlet of 3-way valve 53, and a diaphragm type pilot operated relief valve 55 connected in parallel between regulator 54 and 3-way valve 53, the pilot operated relief valve 55 being operatively connected to a regulator 56 supplying a loading pressure to the pilot side of relief valve 55 and a second regulator 57, supplying a higher pressure than said loading pressure, connected to a normally closed pilot operated valve 58, the outlet of which is also connected to the pilot side of pressure relief valve 55.

The right hand vertical control subsystem closes and retracts the air cylinder 12. This subsystem is identical to the left hand vertical subsystem above described except that the pilot loading pressure to relief valve 64 is applied through a normally open pilot operated valve 59. As shown, the 3-way valve 60 has one port open to discharge to the atmosphere while the other outlet is connected to port 87 of air cylinder 12. The system also includes regulators 61, 62 and 63.

The edge horizontal control subsystem closes and retracts air cylinders 16 and 23. This subsystem comprises a pressure reducing regulator 65 connected from the primary air supply line 51 to a pilot operated 4-way valve 66. The 4-way valve has one outlet which is always open to the atmosphere. One of the remaining outlets is connected via lines 69 to ports 31 and 34 of air cylinder 16 and 23 respectively. The other outlet from the 4-way valve 66 is connected via lines 70 to ports 67 and 68 of air cylinders 16 and 23 respectively.

The 4-way valve is actuated by solenoid valve 52 which is normally closed when the scarfing units are in retracted position and therefore the outlet of said valve connected to lines 70 will be closed off while the outlet to lines 69 will be open.

The top and bottom horizontal control subsystem only closes and retracts air cylinders 15 and 24. This subsystem comprises a pressure reducing regulator 71 connected from the primary air supply line 51 to a 4-way valve which has one outlet always open to the atmosphere. One of the remaining outlets is connected via lines 76 to ports 32 and 33 of cylinders 24 and 15 respectively. The other outlet from said 4-way valve 74 is connected via lines 75 to ports 78 and 77 of air cylinders 24 and 15 respectively.

Said 4-way valve is actuated by solenoid valve 79 which is normally closed when the scarfing units are in retracted position, and therefore the outlet of said valve connected to lines 75 will be closed off while the outlet to lines 76 will be open.

With the metal body positioned in the machine, all scarfing units in completely retracted position, the operator merely closes a scarfing switch 81. Closing of the scarf switch energizes solenoid valve 50 which opens, whereupon pressure from line 51 is applied to valve 53, thereby closing off its lower port such that the primary air pressure previously applied to air cylinder 11 through port 29 is now cut-off. At the same time, reduced pressure delivered by regulator 54 is allowed to pass through valve 53 to port 29 of air cylinder 11. Relief valve 55 relieves the high pressure within the air cylinder 11 when such pressure is equal to or greater than the pressure delivered by regulator 54. Said relief valve 55 has been set by means of a loading pilot regulator 56 to relieve at a pressure equal to that achieved by regulator 54. This causes the piston within air cylinder 11 to lower, thereby lowering frame 13 and scarfing units 21 and 22 which are connected thereto.

At the same time, the solenoid valve 50 having been energized by the closing of the scarf switch 81, also causes pressure to be applied from main line 51 to valve 60, thereby closing off its lower port, such that pressure delivered by regulator 61 is allowed to pass through valve 60 to port 87 of air cylinder 12.

This causes the piston within air cylinder 12 to rise, thereby raising frame 14 and scarfing units 27 and 28 which are connected thereto. Relief valve 64 has been set by means of a loading pilot regulator 62 to relieve at a pressure equal to that delivered by regulator 61. At this point in the cycle, scarfing units 21 and 27 are moving into contact with the upper and lower surfaces respectively of the metal body.

Closing of the scarf switch 81 also starts timer 80 which is set to energize solenoid valves 52 and 79 at a predetermined interval after the solenoid valve 50 has been energized. When solenoid valve 52 then becomes energized, pressure is applied from line 51 to valve 66 which changes its porting such that pressure is no longer delivered to lines 69 but instead is delivered to lines 70. This reversal of porting in valve 66 causes the piston in each of air cylinders 16 and 23 to move scarfing units 22 and 28 respectively to contact the metal body.

Upon solenoid valve 79 being energized by timer 80, pressure is applied from line 51 to valve 74 which changes its porting such that pressure is no longer delivered to lines 76 but instead is delivered to lines 75. This reversal of porting in valve 74 allows the piston in each of air cylinders 15 and 24 and scarfing units 21 and 27 mounted on carrier plates 90 and 91 which are connected thereto, to be more easily shifted horizontally by pusher plates 43 and 42 respectively so that the working surfaces of such scarfing units correspond to the width of the metal body to be scarfed. It is particularly important to point out that pressure delivered through solenoid valve 79 in addition to being applied to valve 74, also is applied to valve 58 thus opening this normally closed valve, thereby allowing pressure delivered from regulator 57, which is greater than that already delivered from regulator 56, to shut off the bleed on the pancake relief valve 55. When the normal bleed on said relief valve is cut off, it will naturally cause an increased pressure buildup to port 29 of air cylinder 11, thus reducing the riding force of scarfing unit 21 upon the upper surface of the metal body. This will allow scarfing unit 21 to be shifted across the upper surface of the metal body with a minimum of friction.

Similarly, pressure delivered through solenoid valve 79 is also applied to valve 59, thus closing this normally open valve, and preventing pressure delivered from regulator 62, which is greater than that delivered by regulator 63, from loading the pancake relief valve 64, with the result

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that more air is bled off by such relief valve. This causes a decrease in pressure to port 87 of air cylinder 12, thereby reducing the riding force of scarfing unit 27 upon the lower surface of the metal body. This will similarly permit scarfing unit 27 to be shifted across the lower surface of the metal body with a minimum of friction.

Another timer (not shown) is preset to turn on the process gases to all scarfing units at a time immediately after all sizing has taken place. When this occurs, an electrical disconnecting means such as, for example, a pressure switch in the process gas lines (not shown) de-energizes solenoid valve 79; pressure is no longer applied to valves 59, 58 and 74 and thus the pressure conditions are established for normal scarfing operation.

Opening of the scarf switch shuts off the scarfing gases and returns the units to the fully retracted position.

Although the preferred embodiment of this invention has been described in detail, it will be appreciated that modifications may be made and that some parts may be used without others, all within the contemplation and spirit of the invention. For example, the top scarfing unit and the right side scarfing unit could have been mounted upon the upper carrier plate, while the bottom and left side scarfing units were mounted upon the lower carrier plate, by obvious modification to the control system disclosed and by appropriate mechanical changes. Also, while the scarfing units and gas selector valve assemblies moving therewith are motivated by pneumatic control means, a mechanical gearing system interconnecting such parts for synchronizing their movement with one another could be substituted therefor.

What is claimed is:

1. An automatic self-sizing thermochemical scarfing apparatus for scarfing successive rectangular metal workpieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, although such dimensions are not known to the scarfing machine operator, said apparatus having top, first side, bottom and second side scarfing units, each of said units being adapted for scarfing a corresponding surface of a metal workpiece; a gas selector valve assembly associated with each of said scarfing units for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof; means for lowering the top and first side scarfing units simultaneously, until the top scarfing unit contacts the top surface of the workpiece; means operating concurrently therewith for raising the bottom and second side scarfing units simultaneously, until the bottom scarfing unit contacts the bottom surface of the workpiece; means responsive to such vertical movement for adjusting the pieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, as gas selector valves associated with said first side and second side scarfing units so that their operating width corresponds to the thickness of the workpiece; means for laterally moving said first side scarfing unit and said top scarfing unit until the first side scarfing unit contacts a side of the workpiece; means operating concurrently therewith for laterally moving said second side scarfing unit and said bottom scarfing unit simultaneously until the second side scarfing unit contacts the opposite side of the workpiece; and means responsive to such lateral movement for adjusting the gas selector valve assemblies associated with said top and bottom scarfing units so that their operating width corresponds to the width of the workpiece.

2. An automatic self-sizing thermochemical scarfing apparatus for scarfing successive rectangular metal workpieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, although such dimensions are not known to the scarfing machine operator, said apparatus having top, left side, bottom and right side scarfing units, each of said units being adapted for scarfing a corresponding surface of a metal workpiece; a gas selector valve assembly associated with each of said scarfing units for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof; means for lowering the top and left side scarfing units simultaneously, until the top scarfing unit contacts the top surface of the workpiece; means operating concur-

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rently therewith for raising the bottom and right side scarfing units simultaneously, until the bottom scarfing unit contacts the bottom surface of the workpiece; means responsive to such vertical movement for adjusting the gas selector valves associated with said left side and right side scarfing units so that their operating width corresponds to the thickness of the workpiece; means for laterally moving said left side scarfing unit and said top scarfing unit until the left side scarfing unit contacts a side of the workpiece; means operating concurrently therewith for laterally moving said right side scarfing unit and said bottom scarfing unit simultaneously until the right side scarfing unit contacts the opposite side of the workpiece; and means responsive to such lateral movement for adjusting the gas selector valve assemblies associated with said top and bottom scarfing units so that their operating width corresponds to the width of the workpiece.

3. Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 including control means for returning all of said scarfing units to their original completely retracted position upon completing the scarfing of each successive workpiece, said control means being energizable by a single master switch.

4. An automatic self-sizing thermochemical scarfing machine for scarfing successive rectangular metal workpieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, although such dimensions are not known to the operator of such machine, said machine comprising a main frame; upper and lower complementary carrier plates carried by said frame and movable vertically therein; a top scarfing unit and a first side scarfing unit carried by said upper carrier plate and slidably mounted thereon for lateral movement with respect thereto, each of said scarfing units having a gas selector valve assembly associated therewith for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof to adjust the width of each gas stream issuing therefrom to correspond to the surface to be scarfed thereby; a bottom scarfing unit and a second side scarfing unit carried by said lower carrier plate and slidably mounted thereon for lateral movement with respect thereto, said bottom unit and said second side unit each having a gas selector valve assembly associated therewith for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof to adjust the width of each gas stream issuing therefrom to correspond to the surface to be scarfed thereby; means interconnecting each of said side scarfing units with a respective gas selector valve associated with each vertically movable scarfing unit such that lateral movement of each side scarfing unit produces a responsive movement of the respective gas selector valve associated with each vertically movable scarfing unit; and means interconnecting each of said vertically movable top and bottom scarfing units with a respective gas selector valve associated with each of said side scarfing units such that vertical movement of said top and bottom units produces a responsive movement of the respective selector valve associated with each of said side scarfing units.

5. An automatic self-sizing thermochemical scarfing machine for scarfing successive rectangular metal workpieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, although such dimensions are not known to the operator of such machine, said machine comprising a main frame; upper and lower complementary carrier plates carried by said frame and movable vertically therein by vertical pneumatic cylinders secured to said frame; a top scarfing unit and a first side scarfing unit carried by said upper carrier plate and slidably mounted thereon for lateral movement with respect thereto, each of said scarfing units having a gas selector valve assembly associated therewith for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof to adjust the width of each gas stream issuing therefrom to correspond to the surface to be scarfed thereby; a bottom scarfing unit and a second side scarfing unit carried by said lower carrier plate and slidably mounted thereon for lateral movement

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with respect thereto, said bottom unit and said second side unit each having a gas selector valve assembly associated therewith for opening and closing off gas ports along the respective working surface thereof to adjust the width of each gas stream issuing therefrom to correspond to the surface to be scarfed thereby; horizontal pneumatic cylinders secured to said frame and operatively connected to said scarfing units to provide for the said lateral movement thereof; means interconnecting each of said side scarfing units with a respective gas selector valve associated with each vertically movable scarfing unit such that lateral movement of each side scarfing unit produces a responsive movement of the respective gas selector valve associated with each vertically movable scarfing unit; and means interconnecting each of said vertically movable top and bottom scarfing units with a respective gas selector valve associated with each of said side scarfing units such that vertical movement of said top and bottom units produces a responsive movement of the respective selector valve associated with each of said side scarfing units.

6. Apparatus as claimed in claim 5 including timer means connected by circuitry with solenoid valve control means for applying air pressure in sequence, first to said vertical pneumatic cylinders for moving said top and bottom scarfing units into contact with the surfaces of the workpiece, and thereafter to said horizontal pneumatic cylinders for moving said side scarfing units into contact with the workpiece, and a master scarf switch connected by circuitry to said timer for actuating same.

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7. Apparatus as claimed in claim 6 including pressure regulating valves in circuitry with said timer and solenoid valve control means for controlling the pressure to said vertical pneumatic cylinders so as to reduce the frictional forces to be overcome by said horizontal pneumatic cylinders in shifting said top and bottom scarfing units laterally as said side scarfing units are moved thereby into contact with the workpiece.

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JOHN F. CAMBPELL, *Primary Examiner.*

L. J. WESTFALL, *Assistant Examiner.*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,300,200 .

Dated January 24, 1967

Inventor(s) S. Allan and W.C. Weidner

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 1, line 49, cancel the entire line, namely

"pieces having different cross-sectional dimensions, al-"

SIGNED AND
SEALED
OCT 20 1970

(SEAL)

Attest:

Edward M. Fletcher, Jr.

Attesting Officer

WILLIAM E. SCHUYLER, JR.
Commissioner of Patents