

One Glove Does the Job for Rigging and Welding



Many employees of large-scale manufacturers are involved in both rigging and welding functions, requiring them to switch between gloves that are purpose-built for each function. One major U.S. shipbuilder saw the inherent waste and potential safety issues with this practice and asked Lincoln Electric to help.

Waste came in the form of time spent with the constant switching of gloves; it was inconvenient and inefficient for employees. Waste was also evident in the cost of maintaining a large inventory of two types of gloves in multiple sizes. Adding to the cost was the fact that both sets of gloves became unusable quickly, usually in about two weeks.

More important was addressing the safety factor. Hand and finger injuries are among the most frequent in the shipyard, and gloves are an important part of the employees' safety gear. But neither traditional glove addressed the safety issues of the other.

The shipbuilder sought an alternative to reduce costs and improve worker safety. After one unsuccessful attempt on its own, the company turned to Lincoln Electric to find a solution. The company outlined its specifications and Lincoln Electric designed a prototype. Company employees tested the gloves in the shipyard under various working conditions.

Prototypes of what became known as the Roll Cage® Welding Rigging Gloves validated the customer's needs, lasting longer than what employees had been using, resulting in the order of additional gloves. But more work was needed to ensure that the gloves provided even better protection for employees.

Based on feedback from the company and its employees, Lincoln Electric developed a new prototype that contained a higher grade leather to better resist heat and more impact-resisting features on the top part of the hands and fingers, as well as around the forearm and wrist. More leather was added to protect workers performing out-of-position welding. As these enhancements were adopted, the gloves continued to maintain their longevity.

Employees that rig and weld now wear the patent-protected Lincoln Electric Roll Cage Gloves. These dual-purpose gloves offer complete protection of hands when welding and rigging, as well as cutting and grinding, in such industries as automotive, heavy fab, pipeline, mining, offshore and shipbuilding. The gloves are constructed of durable cowhide, sewn with Kevlar® thread and enhanced with high-temperature silicon knuckle protection.

Since adopting the Roll Cage Gloves, the shipbuilder has seen:

- An increase in glove durability. Employees use the gloves for up to six to eight weeks, compared with two weeks with the multiple gloves.
- A substantial savings in the cost of total gloves worn by year.
- Better protection of employees' hands when welding and rigging.

By working with Lincoln Electric, the shipbuilding company has experienced the financial and safety benefits of the heavy-duty, dual-purpose Roll Cage Gloves. Contact us to see whether we can do the same for your company.



Roll Cage® Welding Rigging Gloves
K3109-S, K3109-M, K3109-L, K3109-XL, K3109-2XL