



## AWS A3.0M:A3.0 Official Interpretation

**Subject:** Manual versus Mechanized Process Definitions  
**Edition:** 2020  
**Provisions:** Definitions for manual and mechanized processes  
**AWS Log:** A3.0-20-I01

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**Inquiry 1:** Is a weld[ing] process where the torch is mechanically mounted but is manipulated by hand during welding considered mechanized?

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**Interpretation 1:** Yes.  
If the torch or gun is mechanically held and any type of adjustment is made by a person (hand pressure, screw adjustment, joy-stick controller, etc.) it is mechanized. If the adjustment is made by a device, (probe type seam tracker, laser, photo system, etc.) and not a person, it is automatic (or robotic).

**Inquiry 2:** Is a weld[ing] process where the torch is mechanically mounted but is manipulated by micrometer spindles on the torch holder during welding considered mechanized?

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**Interpretation 2:** Yes.  
See Interpretation 1.

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