

Weld tracking software evaluation protocol

A repeatable way to compare status control, traceability, reporting and handoff.

PURPOSE	Use the same representative work pack, review window and acceptance criteria for every software option.
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Six review controls

CONTROL	WHAT TO VERIFY
Baseline	Preserve the accepted register and describe the job type, sample dates and weld population.
Status control	Test ownership, current state, blocked work, inspection holds and release decisions.
Traceability	Follow drawing, weld, welder, procedure, materials, NDE and repair evidence.
Reporting	Count reconciliation work, missing evidence, clarification questions and export cleanup.
Handoff	Ask an independent reviewer to use the export without configuration knowledge.
Commercial fit	Record setup, migration, training, administration, support and exit costs.

How to produce a publishable result

A useful benchmark is reproducible and limited to the sample actually tested. Do not convert an illustrative worksheet into a customer claim.

1. Preserve the baseline	Keep a read-only copy of the accepted source and record the job type, dates and scope.
2. Define acceptance	List mandatory fields, allowed normalisation, correction rules and the reviewer role before testing.
3. Run the same sample	Use identical source material, workflow steps and review window for each option or period.
4. Record every exception	Do not silently repair missing, conflicting, duplicated or ambiguous information.
5. Reconcile the result	Report totals and rates from the retained row-level record; keep excluded items visible.
6. Publish limitations	State what the sample cannot demonstrate and identify any commercial relationship.

Required publication disclosure

Include source scope, sample dates, sample size, metric definitions, exclusions, reviewer role, correction policy, limitations, consent status and commercial affiliation. External practitioner review must be credited only after the reviewer approves the published wording.

This protocol is guidance, not a code-compliance certificate, engineering approval or product-performance guarantee.