MICRO AIR XA23 (2’ x 3’) Self-contained Downdraft Tables Provide a Unique Solution for Vocational Welding Schools

Application: Welding Lab at South Arkansas Community College
Location: El Dorado, Arkansas
Products: 33 ea. Micro Air Model XA23 Downdraft Tables

Challenge: Reed Industrial, the exclusive Micro Air distributor in Louisiana and Southern Arkansas was asked to provide a cost effective system for collecting welding smoke and fumes from the welding lab at South Arkansas Community College in El Dorado, Arkansas. The system needed to provide clean air for 33 stations in the growing welding program while complying with all local and OSHA standards on welding fume capture, specifically Hexavalent Chromium produced when welding with Stainless Steel.

Solution: While Reed Industrial and the school administration considered all of the traditional options including source capture arms, overhead hoods, back-draft hoods ducted to a central dust collection system, or smaller portable units, the college tried out one of Micro Air’s XA23 2’ x 3’ downdraft tables. The instructor and administrators liked the functionality, cost advantage and overall aesthetics offered by utilizing the downdraft table in place of a traditional booth with ductwork to an outdoor collector. The units actually captured the smoke and fume better than that of traditional systems, the portability of the tables offered future classroom flexibility and the faculty did not have to rely on the students to move around capture hoods. There were 8 of the 33 stations where the welding would occasionally take place on a taller customized welding pole. Reed Industrial asked Micro Air if they could customize the downdraft tables to attach an arm to the side of those tables for use on the occasion where welding would take place high off the table surface. Micro Air was able to custom fit one of our 3” arms to the table and incorporate a flip down lid to divert all airflow from the downdraft table to the overhead source capture arm.

Micro Air Advantage: Using Micro Air’s exclusive Roto-Pulse filter cleaning system and REDMAX cartridge filters, the system effectively removes 99.999% of the dust brought into the downdraft table and helps the end user maintain low operating costs while meeting the most stringent air quality standards of today and into the future.