



## **Xiris Weld Camera FAQ** for the Educational/Certification Market



We offer the following frequently asked questions (FAQ) to help Educators and Certification Facilities understand how using a weld camera can solve issues unique to a teaching environment.

**What is a Xiris weld camera?**

A weld camera is an HDR (high dynamic range) camera with a specially designed sensor that can see both the details of the bright arc, as well as its darker surrounding background. A weld camera, when pointed at a welding arc, will not saturate, making details of the arc visible to the user.

**Why won't a traditional/off the shelf camera work?**

Traditional cameras do not use an HDR sensor. The HDR sensor in Xiris weld cameras generates a response across a massive range of light brightness that is then translated into an 8-bit image for computer screens. A regular camera will saturate with such a bright light source, so that the weld arc would appear as a bright ball of light, without any details of the weld or immediate background visible. The HDR sensor is designed to withstand the massive amount of light that comes from a weld, where a regular sensor camera could be potentially damaged when exposed to such strong light.

**What is the difference between a mono and color camera?**

There is not much difference other than one produces images in color and the other in black and white, except for a slight drop in image resolution for a color camera. At Xiris, we prefer monochrome for Stick and MIG applications, but color for TIG and plasma. If a school is only purchasing one camera, they typically prefer to purchase a color camera.

**Can the camera record?**

Yes, the camera can record videos and take pictures when attached to a computer. You can store as much picture and video as your hard drive space will allow.

**What is the benefit of changing optics versus a digital zoom feature?**

Changing optics allows for more flexibility as you can change the working distance and field of view at will. When you zoom digitally, image quality will be degraded and could become pixelated. Instead, by changing optics, you are using a different physical lens to get a closer view or tighter field of view. In some cases, using spacers also puts the lens physically closer to the source resulting in no loss of image quality or clarity.

**Does the weld camera use a USB connection?**

No, it uses a Gigabit Ethernet connection that is protected to combat high frequencies and interference from welding.

**What is the warranty on the camera?**

Twelve months from the time you receive your camera.

**What software does the XVC-1000/1100 use?**

The Xiris WeldStudio™ software is provided with every camera sold. It provides users with a variety of powerful features including camera controls, graphical overlays, audio and video recording and playback, and image processing and display functions. The user-friendly interface allows operators to set-up and control multiple cameras on any suitable PC running Windows 10 operating system.

### Does the camera require cooling?

The XVC-1000/1100 weld camera can be in ambient air temperatures of up to 100 ° F / 40 °C before it needs cooling. With cooling, it can go up to 175 ° F / 80 °C. It can also withstand even higher temperatures with our high temp cooling kit. We actually put our camera to the test on a BBQ without failure!

### Can you run the Software on a Mac/iOS?

Currently WeldStudio™ is only available on the Windows operating system.

### What kind of support do you provide after purchase?

You can also contact Xiris by phone or email at [support@xiris.com](mailto:support@xiris.com). We have a support team that can help you with any questions you may have. Also, you can sign up for Support Center, which has access to latest versions of WeldStudio™, tips and tricks.

### Can you use the video online with platforms like Zoom or Canvas?

Weld videos can be pre-recorded or even streamed live over the internet. Zoom, Teams, Skype and more are all able to stream the video.

### Can the camera move along the joint for hand welding instead of remaining stationary?

Yes, some schools will mount the camera to a track system and have the weld camera move along with the student. This can be good for especially long welds while maintaining a nice close up shot of the process.

### Do you have to manually dim the camera? Or is there a feature that auto dims?

The camera will detect when a weld is present and automatically dim. It can also be configured to automatically record.

### On what types of welding can the XVC-1000/1100 be used?

The XVC-1000/1100 Camera system has been tested for use on virtually most types of welding processes including GMAW (MIG/MAG) short-circuit and spray, GTAW (TIG), Plasma, Fiber Laser, CO2 Laser, Hybrid MIG/Laser, Tandem TIG, Electron Beam (EBW), Stick.

### Is it hard to install the system?

Typically, the system can be installed in a matter of minutes. The most time-consuming steps is the time to get the camera mounted in a position that is suitable for the welding class. However, we have created Xiris step-by-step videos to help with the set-up as well as a support team that is available to answer any questions or concerns.

### Is the camera protected against smoke, dust and weld spatter?

With the extended mounting plate, protective cover and replaceable protective window installed, the camera is safe from smoke, dust and weld spatter.

### How far away from the weld process must the camera be?

The flexibility with the optics allows this to be up to the operator's preference. The most common distance is about 1 foot / 30 cm. The biggest misconception is that the camera can be too close, but it's not a problem. We say put the camera wherever you like then choose optics that accommodate your working distance and field of view. There is a chart to help in the selection of optics.

### Can a larger screen be added to the system? If so with what connection?

A larger monitor or TV can be used for displaying the camera images by using a standard video cable such as VGA, HDMI or DVI depending on the device.

### Is there audio?

To get audio, you would need to add on the Xiris WeldMic™. This option is a welding microphone specifically designed for integration with a Xiris weld camera system to be able to clearly hear, record and playback the welding sound. Audio integration with weld cameras gives fabricators two sensory inputs – sight and sound – to help them determine if the welding process is functioning correctly or needs fine-tuning.

### Is there a way to add voice over to the weld video?

WeldMic™ can be used to do voice over as well. You can tune the mic for voice or welding with the EQ available in the WeldStudio™ software.

### Do we need to purchase a Xiris PC or can we use our own?

The camera does require a PC to run the software. However, you do not need to purchase the PC from Xiris; the software comes with the camera and can be run on your own PC. Keep in mind we do have recommended computer specs. Ask your sales rep for more information.



# Would you like more information?

[sales@xiris.com](mailto:sales@xiris.com)

+1 866 GO XIRIS

+1 905 331 6660

[www.xiris.com](http://www.xiris.com)

