

# Welding Electrode Core & Materials Technology

This presentation explores the structure, composition, classification, and applications of welding electrode materials. We'll examine how electrode cores and flux coatings interact to create optimal welds.



广州化工  
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# Core Concepts of Welding Electrodes

## Structure

Electrodes consist of a metal core (steel wire) coated by flux. This dual-material design enables their effectiveness.

## Core Functions

- Conducts current to generate arc heat
- Melts as filler to form weld seam

## Chemical Requirements

Core composition directly affects weld quality. Carbon content must remain below 0.1% for mild steel applications.

# Key Element Effects in Electrode Cores

Element	Benefits	Drawbacks	Typical Content
Carbon (C)	Deoxidation, Shielding	Increased spatter and porosity	$\leq 0.1\%$
Manganese (Mn)	Increased strength, Crack resistance	-	0.3%-2.1%
Sulfur/Phosphorus (S/P)	-	Increased hot cracking	$S \leq 0.04\%$ , $P \leq 0.04\%$



# Flux Coating Critical Roles



## Arc Stabilization

K/Na/Ca compounds ionize easily to maintain consistent arc.



## Gas-Slag Protection

Creates shield against atmospheric  $O_2/N_2$  contamination.



## Deoxidation/Desulfurization

Mn/Si/Ti elements remove impurities from weld pool.



## Process Improvement

Enables all-position welding with reduced spatter.





# Flux Types & Features

## Titanium Calcium

- $\text{TiO}_2 > 30\%$ , Carbonates  $< 20\%$
- AC/DC compatible
- All-position welding (e.g., J422)

## Low Hydrogen

- Fluorite + Carbonates
- DC power preferred
- Offers high toughness welds

## Cellulosic

- Organics  $> 15\%$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2 \approx 30\%$
- DC power required
- Provides deep penetration



# Electrode vs. Wire vs. FCAW

## 1 — Stick Electrode (SMAW)

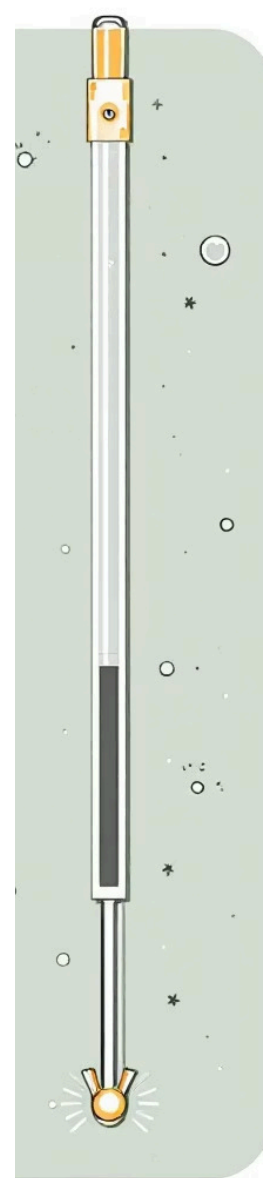
Core + external flux coating. Offers excellent flexibility for field work.

## 2 — Solid Wire

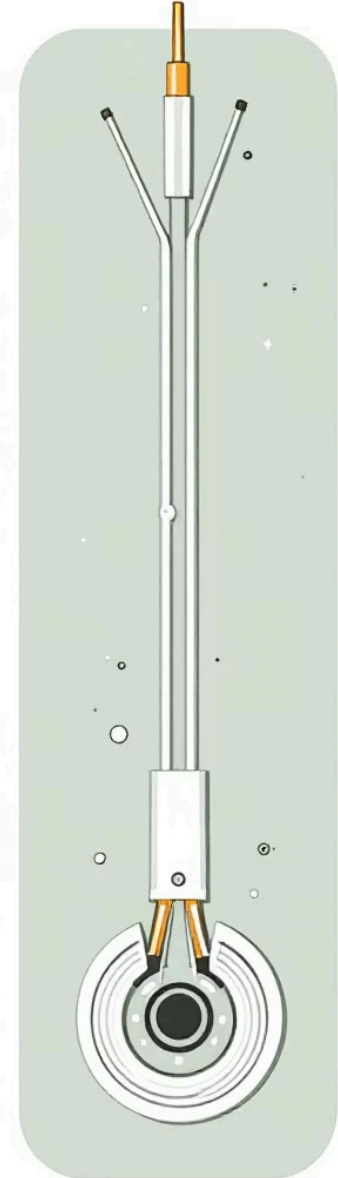
Pure metal wire for MIG/TIG/SAW. Provides high efficiency in automated settings.

## 3 — Flux-Cored Wire (FCAW)

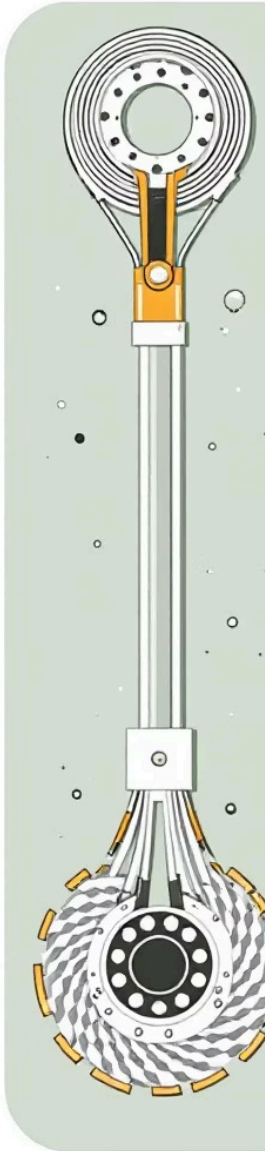
Steel tube with internal flux. Combines adaptability with productivity.



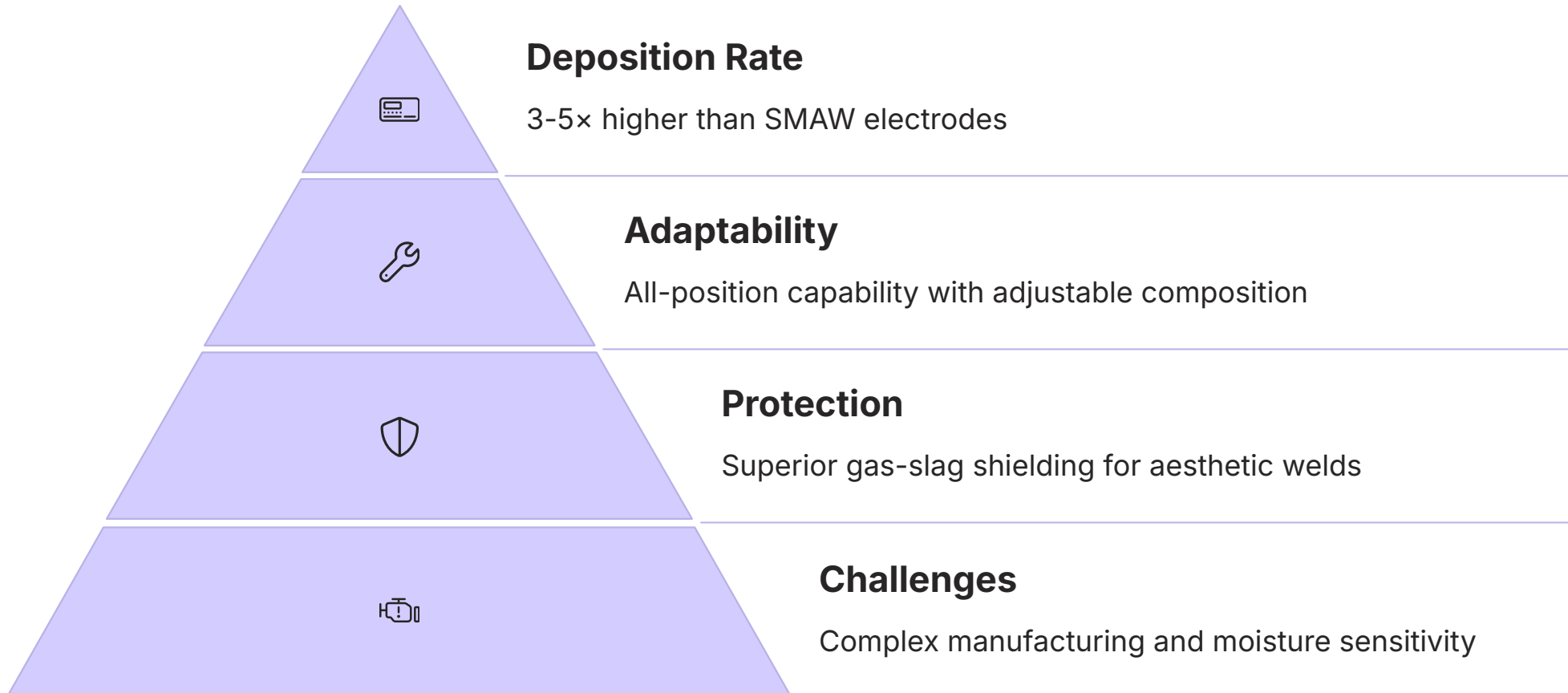
Stick electrode



Solid wire



# FCAW Technological Highlights



# Rutile (TiO<sub>2</sub>) Core Value

## Arc Stabilization

Lowers ionization potential for smoother operation



## Slag Formation

Creates high-viscosity protective slag over weld pool

## Weld Appearance

Ensures aesthetic finish critical for shipbuilding applications