

Inside EDGE Welding Cups & Supply— How To Improve The Weld, Make The Job Easier & Save Money

June 30th 2020



It's a simple, but powerful idea: glass TIG welding cups allow you to better see the weld as you're doing the job.

And you should know that the go-to company for glass TIG welding cups is [EDGE Welding Cups & Supply](#), in Mooresville, North Carolina. EDGE has the largest selection of glass welding cups worldwide, as well as creating thousands of custom cups. They ship and have distributors worldwide.

Made of pyrex glass, EDGE size-labeled welding cups offer greater visual ease, allowing the welder to see the weld as they go, according to VP

Stacia Mueller. "When you're welding into a blind corner or upside down on your head welding on a race car chassis, it's one less obstruction." They're also easily customizable. "We can vary the length, diameter, angles, notches and holes for feeding filler rod through."

Stacia and Eric Mueller founded EDGE Welding Cups and Supplies.

Eric explains, "EDGE welding cups look awesome on your torch...but they perform even better, and they are the most user-friendly glass cup welding system on the market. With our design, you can easily switch from the pink ceramic cup to the glass in a matter of seconds." He describes the EDGE adapter as using a double O-ring seal to prevent leakage of welding gas. "You're not creating a vacuum and depositing oxygen into your weld."

Made to exacting standards for use on any torch and consumable, Eric relates "We have the largest product offering of glass welding cups in the world. We're constantly evolving our product line, working directly with users to provide the cups they need, and not what we *think* they need."

According to Eric, "The best part of the EDGE product line is the ability to customize. Since EDGE makes everything in-house, in the U.S., we're able to customize any of our cups and develop cups that aren't available on the market. Ceramic cups cost thousands of dollars to develop one custom cup, but EDGE has the ability to make cups longer or shorter, different outlet sizes, different outlet shapes, with slots, holes or grooves for feeding filler wire through, or any other configuration the user needs, at a fraction of the cost."

Stacia elaborates, "Our adapter simply screws onto the existing gas lens or collet body, so there's no need for expensive parts and downtime. Once you have our adapter set up with the glass TIG cup/nozzle, you can simply unscrew the EDGE adapter and return to using your pink ceramic cup and vice versa. There's no expensive parts to replace; and we've set up our pricing structure for all different budgets."

Eric says "When you receive your first EDGE kit, it's an easy 4-step process to seeing more clearly. Remove the existing ceramic cup, screw the EDGE adapter onto your existing gas lens or collet body, install the two O-rings onto the adapter -- these fit into the two precision made O-ring grooves on the adapter, and press and rotate the glass cup until it bottoms out on the Teflon insulator. The EDGE adapter will fit onto any manufacturers'."

The extra viewing-range of EDGE cups offers an advantage for every level of welding experience, he asserts.

"Everyone is seeing the advantage to less expensive customization of glass welding cups, and being able to see and have a better viewing area. The advantage to the racing industry is being able to see more clearly when you're laying upside down on your head with your feet up in the air, trying to work a foot pedal with your elbow, while feeding filler wire and only being able to see out of one eye because your helmet just slipped, and you only need to weld the last half-inch – you need to not have the cup get in the way of being able to see that last half-inch and miss the seam."

But there's another important advantage as well: diffuser technology. "We started by only offering it in our flooding cups, but after working hand-in-hand with other companies independent testing, we're seeing the

advantage of the EDGE diffuser as much as the glass cups," he notes the diffuser gives superior gas coverage, "which pushes the oxygen away from the weld pool. The longer stick-out also gives you the ability to weld further away from the cup and still have gas coverage."

It also saves money, eliminating the need for flooding cup or higher gas pressure for basic welds that require a longer tungsten stick-out.

The company moved from Colorado to their present location in 2012, having been in glass blowing for 30 years. "We love being a part of the racing community so much that we chose to put our manufacturing facility 200 yards away from the local Mooresville drag strip, and we're an easy 20-minute drive to Charlotte International Speedway and the Zmaxx Dragway," Eric says.

Stacia recalls a friend originally introduced Eric to the glass blowing industry, which she describes as "definitely a niche industry...not just anybody can do scientific glassblowing, as the tolerances are ridiculously tight. Some of the stuff he builds, if you took a hair and split it about 10 times, that's how accurate the dimensions have to be. $\pm .0005\text{mm}$ tolerances. This is why I do the marketing and books," she laughs.

Eric attests "Just like a lot of other people, what was supposed to be a temporary stop on our life journey became a career. You never know what life's path will look like, and the assumptions you make never turn out how you planned."

Both Muellers take pride in the work of their staff. "EDGE would not be what it is without the hard work and awesome talent of each of our employees," Stacia asserts. "It takes a lot of skill to become a proficient glassblower, and we don't take that for granted. Each glassblower has extensive training to accomplish the quality and durability that EDGE Cups requires."

From Eric's standpoint: "Our philosophy is, "Treat others the way you want to be treated. Truly care about people and the success will follow."

EDGE products are handmade, and the company always stands behind their craftsmanship. "It's not just about profit, it's about people, because without people, whether it's our employees, vendors, or our customers, there's no reason to have a business," Stacia says. "We always want our customers to feel special, so we try to go the extra mile to make them feel that way."

By Genie Davis