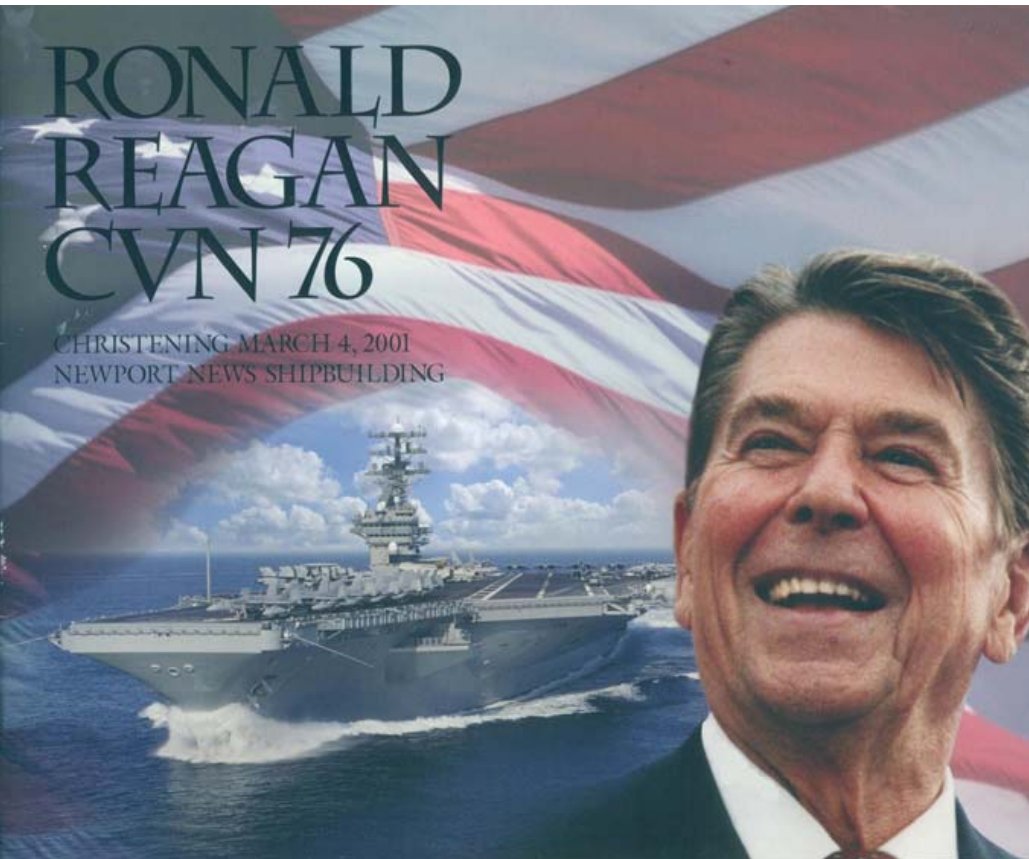


Weld Quality Starts in the Arc

| Gold Track Orbital Pipe Welding System |

Newport News Shipbuilding performed over 100,000 code quality welds on the Reagan with Gold Track Orbital Pipe Welding Systems.



Above: Welder Mike Howard operates an automatic pipe welding machine aboard *Reagan*. A nuclear pipe welder with 18 years of experience, Howard was part of a welding team who achieved unprecedented success during construction by welding all shipboard main coolant piping joints on *Reagan* without a single defect.



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