



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

C E L E B R A T I N G

40 YEARS

Hypertherm Once Again Honored as Best Place to Work in America

HANOVER, N.H.—June 25, 2008—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma arc metal cutting technology, is once again a best place to work in America. The company is one of three manufacturers and the only Northern New England organization on the medium sized company list.

The winning organizations were selected and ranked by the Great Place to Work® Institute. Hypertherm learned it was number 22 before an audience of more than 15,000 people at the Society for Human Resource Management's 60th Annual Conference & Exposition occurring this week in Chicago.

"Hypertherm is especially honored as this year's competition was the strongest yet with eight new companies joining the list," said Melissa Carlson, director of human resources for Hypertherm. "We work hard to ensure the contributions of every Hypertherm associate are valued and appreciated because we know working as a team is one of the best ways to deliver added value to our customers and channel partners."

The results are based on a randomly distributed survey completed by Hypertherm associates. The 57-question survey, which accounts for two-thirds of the final score, was then combined with results from the Great Place to Work Institute's evaluation of Hypertherm in the areas of credibility, respect, fairness, pride and camaraderie. This year, 321 companies representing nearly 50,000 associates, took part in the process.

"Small and medium-sized companies make up the majority of the American economy and workforce," said SHRM president and CEO, Susan R. Meisinger. "These winning organizations demonstrate that making effective use of their workforce is key to their success, and their accomplishments deserve recognition."

Great Place to Work Institute co-founder Robert Levering said, "These companies stand out because their employees find them to be places where they can trust the management, take pride in their work and have fun. Other companies have much to learn about how to be productive and do right by their people."

The Best Place to Work award is the latest in a string of honors for Hypertherm. In addition to recognition as a Best Place to Work for five years now, Hypertherm is the recipient of the Corporate Spirit of Service award from the Corporation for National and Community Service. The award recognizes Hypertherm's commitment to volunteering and its philanthropic support of nonprofit organizations in the Upper Valley. Hypertherm was also recently named one of the most adoption friendly workplaces in the country. In addition, Hypertherm consistently ranks as one of the Best Places to Work in the state of New Hampshire.

Hypertherm designs and manufactures the world's most advanced plasma cutting systems for use in a variety of industries such as shipbuilding, manufacturing, and automotive repair. Its product line includes handheld and mechanized plasma systems and consumables, as well as CNC motion and height controls. Hypertherm systems are trusted for performance and reliability that results in increased productivity and profitability for tens of thousands of businesses. The New Hampshire based company's reputation for plasma innovation dates back 40 years, to 1968, with Hypertherm's invention of water injection plasma cutting. The company, consistently named one of the best places to work in America, has more than 1,000 associates along with operations and partner representation worldwide.

END

Contact: Michelle Avila at 603-643-3441 or pr@hypertherm.com