



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Teachers Head to Hypertherm for Second Annual Educational Council

HANOVER, N.H.—Aug. 5, 2009—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma arc metal cutting technology, is welcoming welding instructors to its United States headquarters for its Second Annual Educational Council.

The educators will meet Hypertherm engineers, trainers, and cutting experts, and review a new plasma technology and cutting curriculum. The curriculum, in development for more than a year and due out this fall, is part of an initiative by Hypertherm to support the teaching of plasma cutting to tomorrow's workforce.

"Plasma cutting is an important part of any welding program. If you want to become a welder, you need to know how to cut with plasma," said Christopher Lorio, Hypertherm's director of global customer training. "However, in looking at the market and talking to teachers, we realized a curriculum to teach plasma didn't exist. As a result, welding teachers often found themselves scrambling for information."

Hypertherm's new curriculum gives teachers the tools they need to teach plasma cutting to their students. Working closely with Hypertherm's training team, the Educational Council provided guidance on the sorts of material an ideal plasma curriculum should have and the way in which that material should be presented for optimal learning. In addition to traditional classroom instruction, the curriculum incorporates multi-media platforms with hands-on exercises and training.

Formed in 2008, the Hypertherm Educational Council is comprised of a mix of educators representing programs from specialized welding schools to leading four year universities. All have extensive experience with welding and cutting as well as a strong educational background.

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