

**Hypertherm**<sup>®</sup>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Hypertherm Honored as Adoption Friendly Workplace****DAVE THOMAS  
FOUNDATION  
FOR ADOPTION**<sup>®</sup>

Finding Forever Families for Children in Foster Care

**HANOVER, N.H.—May 5, 2009**—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma arc metal cutting technology, today announced its selection as an adoption friendly workplace by the Dave Thomas Foundation.

Hypertherm ranked fifth among manufacturing companies. Hypertherm's selection was based on a combination of financial assistance and paid leave given to associates who choose to adopt. Hypertherm currently covers up to \$5,000 of eligible adoption expenses and provides six weeks of paid leave. In addition, associates may choose to take an additional six weeks leave so they can continue to bond with their new child.

"Hypertherm's adoption program is meant to support associates as they build a family," said Barbara Couch, vice president of corporate social responsibility for Hypertherm. "Nearly a half million U.S. children are currently in foster care and Hypertherm wants to do all it can to encourage the placement of those children in permanent, loving homes."

The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing the number of adoptions of foster care children in North America. Dave Thomas, founder of Wendy's and an adopted child himself, created the Foundation in 1992 in support of the vision that every child will have a permanent home and a loving family. The Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption focuses on increasing foster care adoption awareness while supporting model adoption service programs and is committed to ensuring that adoption from the foster care system is streamlined, affordable and accessible to any family wanting to adopt. To learn more about the Foundation's work, go to [www.DaveThomasFoundationforAdoption.org](http://www.DaveThomasFoundationforAdoption.org).

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. To learn more, please visit [www.hypertherm.com](http://www.hypertherm.com).

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