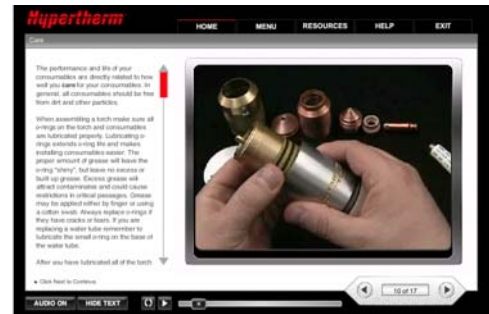




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Online Class Helps Plasma Operators Get the Most from their Consumables

HANOVER, N.H.—Sept. 22, 2009—A new e-Learning course available through the Hypertherm Cutting Institute is teaching people how to achieve better performance from their plasma cutting consumables.



The free course titled *Consumables: Care and Optimization* covers a range of topics. The topics include consumable types and common wear issues, proper torch assembly, maintenance routines, as well as how to track and evaluate consumable performance. The course is ideal for plasma operators, distributor sales and service personnel or anyone else interested in learning more about the basics of plasma consumables.

“When visiting people out in the field, we run into a lot of operators who are changing out their consumables at the wrong time,” said Erik Brine, consumables product manager for Hypertherm. “They are either tossing consumables before they need to and throwing money away, or waiting too long and risking major damage to their torch.”

Developed by Hypertherm’s global training team in partnership with Hypertherm’s torch and consumable experts, the 20-minute course is one of several courses available from the Hypertherm Cutting Institute at www.hyperthermcuttinginstitute.com.

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.

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