



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hypertherm forms new foundation to better support community giving in the Upper Valley and beyond

HANOVER, N.H.—April 22, 2010—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma arc metal cutting technology, today announced the establishment of the HOPE (Hypertherm Owners' Philanthropic Endeavors) Foundation.

The new foundation will continue the efforts of Hypertherm's philanthropy team by working to partner with nonprofit organizations and engage in activities that strengthen and create sustainable, positive change in the community and environment.

"The creation of a foundation is a natural evolution of Hypertherm's philanthropic efforts. It has been a vision of ours for some time and it is gratifying to see this come to fruition," said Barbara Couch, Hypertherm's vice-president of corporate social responsibility.

Hypertherm will fund the HOPE Foundation with a yearly donation. In addition, as a nonprofit entity, the foundation can accept donations, invest funds, and grow the amount of money available for giving. A team of Hypertherm associates will continue to make funding decisions, while a board of both internal and external individuals will provide governance to the Foundation.

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, plasma and laser consumables, as well as CNC motion and height controls and cutting software. 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 more than 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

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