



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELEBRATING

Hypertherm Holds Ceremony for New HTTI Graduates

Hanover, NH—May 22, 2008—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma metal cutting technology, today announced a graduation ceremony for its first class of students seeking advanced-level machine operator certification through the Hypertherm Technical Training Institute. This graduation comes on the heels of hiring, training, and graduating more than 60 entry-level machine operators over the past 12 months.

Hypertherm is recognizing eight associates—Isaac Arnold, Kevin Fitchett, George Hulton, Wayne Ingalls, Annette Jewell, Paul Ruest, Jerry Taylor, and John Topolewski—for completing a rigorous 16 week course including four weeks of classroom work on advanced CNC concepts, six weeks of advanced hands-on training with three different machine tools, and six weeks of project work.

“This is a significant milestone for the HTTI and the team here at Hypertherm,” said Jim Miller, director of operations at Hypertherm. “It is gratifying to see these eight individuals achieve a new level of professional growth, which benefits not only them but Hypertherm as well.”

EVENT ADVISORY

Hypertherm founder and president Dick Couch, HTTI instructors, and graduating students will be on hand to speak to members of the media. Please contact Michelle Avila if you are interested in attending this event.

What: Graduation ceremony for students

Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2008

Time: 11:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Where: Hypertherm’s main headquarters at 21 Great Hollow Road in Hanover, NH

A graduation ceremony is planned for take place on Tuesday, May 27 at 11:30 a.m. during which time Hypertherm founder and president Dick Couch will present each graduate with a certificate. In addition, each graduate will receive an advanced machine operator pin.

The HTTI is a unique partnership between Vermont HITEC, a nonprofit workforce development organization, Hypertherm, as well as the states of Vermont and New Hampshire. The center provides world class entry-level and advanced machinist training, mentoring and jobs to Vermont and New Hampshire residents. In addition, it helps current Hypertherm machinists acquire the skills they need to grow professionally.

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 cutters and consumables, as well as CNC motion and height controls. Hypertherm systems are trusted for fast, precision metal cutting 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 nearly 1,000 associates along with operations, plasma cutting training centers and partner representation worldwide.

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