



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

International Scientists Honor Hypertherm for Plasma Research to Improve Cut Quality

HANOVER, N.H.—July 7, 2009—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma arc metal cutting technology, today announced international recognition for plasma research led by Hypertherm associate Dr. Sung Je Kim.



The International Symposium on Plasma Chemistry is recognizing research led by Hypertherm's Sung Je Kim.

The research, detailed in a scientific journal titled *Control Of Fluid Dynamic Instability In Oxygen Plasma Arc Cutting* was part of Kim's doctorate work at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. Kim, with support from Hypertherm engineers Jon Lindsay and John Peters along with University of Minnesota Professor Joachim Heberlein, spent more than three years studying fluid dynamics during plasma cutting. He discovered the fluids were often unstable causing poor cutting outcomes. He then worked on technology to make the fluids more stable thus improving cut quality.

Kim's journal is one of seventeen best papers selected by the International Organizing Committee of this year's International Symposium on Plasma Chemistry. The ISPC is a bi-annual international conference focused on topics that encompass plasma chemistry and plasma processing science. Top plasma experts from around the world gather to present recent progress in plasma chemistry and its applications. The IOC will present three Best Paper Awards during this year's symposium, scheduled to take place in Bochum, Germany during the last week of July.

Kim continues to apply his work at Hypertherm, where he is helping to design the next generation of Powermax cutting and gouging systems. He is one of nearly 100 engineering associates dedicated to research and development at Hypertherm.

"Hypertherm is committed to advancing plasma cutting and is always looking for ways to improve the performance and reliability of our plasma systems," said Mike Shipulski, Hypertherm's director of engineering. "Efforts such as those by Sung Je Kim and dozens of our other plasma experts are critical to the continued innovation of our products."

Hypertherm has funded research at the University of Minnesota for more than a decade and now employs several former students who received doctorate degrees at the school.

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. For more information please visit www.hypertherm.com.

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Contact: Michelle Avila at 603-643-3441 or pr@hypertherm.com