PRESS RELEASE

Hypertherm

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Hypertherm Unveils World's Most Versatile Half-inch Plasma System

Powermax45 Offers High Performance in Portable Package

HANOVER, N.H.—Aug. 18. 2008—Hypertherm, the world leader in plasma metal cutting technology, today introduced the Powermax45® to customers in the Americas, Australia and New Zealand. The world's most versatile and portable ½" plasma cutting and gouging system is a single-gas system (air

and nitrogen) designed for both hand-held and mechanized applications. Users will benefit from the system's ease-of-use, excellent cut quality, and long consumable life, which keep productivity high and operating costs low. And with its strong performance on generators, the Powermax45 provides the versatility to move from the shop to the field, and back again.

With a recommended ½" cut capacity, and one inch severance, the 37-pound system is ideal for cutting and gouging applications in many industries including HVAC duct cutting, truck and trailer fabrication, as well as facility and equipment maintenance of all types, including manufacturing and agricultural.

Featuring patented technology and high power efficiency, the system delivers consistent performance even with low-line conditions or when connected to a motor generator. This feature—along with its light weight—provides additional versatility as it allows the Powermax45 to be easily used in various locations. In addition, it is designed with a built-in CNC interface and 50:1 voltage divider, making it a great choice for mechanized cutting of duct work and other materials up to 3/8 inch.

The unit is also easy to use. Patented drag cutting technology and simple controls, allow any operator to quickly become skilled with the Powermax45. The system includes the industry's fastest quick disconnect torch for simplified transitions between handheld and mechanized applications. And unlike oxyfuel systems, the Powermax45 requires no pre-heating of the work piece and no regulating flammable gases. The fast cut speeds and high-quality cut of the Powermax 45 requires less grinding than with oxyfuel or other plasma systems, thus improving operator productivity. A 45 amp output current and 50 percent duty cycle mean the system is designed for true industrial usage. The Powermax45's cut speed, cut quality and reliable performance combine with long-lasting consumables to keep operating costs low.

The unit joins Hypertherm's Powermax family of single-gas, handheld and mechanized plasma systems for cutting or gouging metals from gauge to 1.5 inch thickness. The Powermax line features industry-leading torch and power supply technologies that deliver high performance, high productivity and exceptional reliability at a low operating cost. To learn more about the features and benefits of the Powermax45, please visit: www.powerfulplasma.com.

About Hypertherm

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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