



Hypertherm Joins Select Group of Organizations with OSHA STAR Safety Status

HANOVER, N.H.—Hypertherm today announced its selection as a STAR worksite by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The company joins an elite group of organizations to receive STAR VPP status. Currently, less than 2,200 worksites across the country have the STAR designation.

The VPP recognizes organizations that have outstanding safety and health practices. Organizations must maintain injury and illness rates that are significantly below U.S. Government averages for their industry. For 2010, Hypertherm's rate is less than one incident per 100 full-time associates, compared with an industry average of nearly eight incidents per 100 workers.

In addition, organizations have to demonstrate a disciplined system of hazard prevention and control, training programs, and worker involvement. The selection process includes a rigorous five day onsite evaluation by five safety and health professionals.

"This recognition is a testament to the hard work and commitment to safety that all Hypertherm associates have made over the last few years," said Hypertherm president and founder, Dick Couch. "The safety of all associates continues to remain a primary focus for Hypertherm and we plan to continue our drive to make Hypertherm the safest workplace possible."

Hypertherm designs and manufactures advanced metal cutting systems for use in a variety of industries such as shipbuilding, manufacturing, and automotive repair. Its product line includes handheld and mechanized plasma and laser systems, 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 metal cutting 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.

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

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