



Hypertherm expands Duramax Torch and Consumable offerings; more options now available for more systems

HANOVER, N.H.—May 23, 2011—Hypertherm is expanding its line-up of Duramax™ retrofit torches and consumables. The torches are now approved for use on Hypertherm's Powermax1650®—in addition to the Powermax1000® and Powermax1250®—and a new straight torch (HRTs) joins the previously released 75 degree, ergonomic hand torch (HRT) and convertible machine torch (MRT).

The new straight torch, designed for handheld cutting, makes it easy to cut and gouge in hard-to-reach areas. This marks the first time a handheld, straight torch is available for Hypertherm's Powermax1000, Powermax1250, and Powermax1650 systems.

Hypertherm is the only plasma manufacturer in the world to offer a straight, handheld plasma torch. As Fran Prokop of Aggregate Industries explains, "The angle of the torch is perfect for gouging, it keeps the molten metal and heat away from my hand and the Duramax consumables last two times as long. The torch is awesome, I'm lucky to have it!"

"The availability of three different torch styles designed for 40 through 100 Amp cutting and gouging with both 25 foot and 50 foot torch lead options gives owners of the Powermax1000, Powermax1250, and Powermax1650 access to the most versatile family of torches on the market today," said Clayton Gould, Product Marketing Manager at Hypertherm.

In addition to versatility, the Duramax retrofit torches also offer improved durability, reliability and consumable life.

- *Durability:* Designed with the same Duramax technology released last fall with Hypertherm's new Powermax65® and Powermax85® systems, Duramax series torches deliver unmatched durability. Fiber-reinforced handles allow the torches to withstand impacts five times longer than the previous generation of torches.
- *Reliability:* New patent-pending Spring Start™ technology eliminates moving parts within the torch for greater reliability.
- *Consumable Life:* All Duramax torches incorporate the Conical Flow™ nozzle and spring electrode technology for longer consumable life. Hypertherm testing shows up to a 55 percent increase in the life of the Duramax consumables, which translates into a 30 percent savings on consumable costs.

All of the Duramax retrofit torches (the HRT, HRTs, and MRT) come with the same Easy Torch Removal (ETR) connection as the standard Powermax1000, Powermax1250, and Powermax1650 torches, making it possible to upgrade in seconds.

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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