



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hypertherm Earns 2011 Spirit of New Hampshire Award

HANOVER, NH—Nov. 9, 2011—Hypertherm, a United States based manufacturer of advanced metal cutting products, today announced it is a recipient of a 2011 *Spirit of New Hampshire Award* in the Volunteer Program Champion category. *The Spirit of New Hampshire* awards are presented by Volunteer New Hampshire and the Office of Governor John Lynch to honor volunteers as well as supporters of volunteer programs.

Hypertherm was recognized for providing each associate was 16 hours of paid community service time (CST) each year, and for actively encouraging its associates to volunteer. Last year alone, more than two-thirds of Hypertherm associates donated more than 7,000 hours to dozens of nonprofit organizations.

The company anticipates donating even more hours this year, and in 2012, plans to build on its community service time by adding a third day to the program. This means, instead of 16 hours a year, associates will receive 24 hours of paid CST every year.

"We've seen a tremendous increase in the number of associates utilizing their CST over the past couple of years which is why we felt the time was right to increase the number of hours given to each associate," said Barbara Couch, vice-president of Corporate Social Responsibility at Hypertherm. "It benefits not only the community, but our associates by allowing them to feel a greater sense of purpose and fulfillment. This practice aligns with our long standing belief that it is important to give back to the communities in which our associates live and work."

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 a best place to work, 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