



Hypertherm presents top independent distributor award for North American region

HANOVER, N.H.—Sept. 20, 2011—Hypertherm today announced the recipient of the 2011 Richard W. Couch, Jr. Award. The award, named after Hypertherm founder and President Dick Couch, recognizes the top independent distributor in Hypertherm’s North American region.



nexAir’s Bill Proctor (center) and Hypertherm’s Randy McMurtry (right) present a check to Vincent Borello, CEO of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Memphis.

This year’s winner is Memphis-based nexAir, one of the largest independent distributors of atmospheric gases and welding supplies in the United States. The company was selected through a ballot process involving Hypertherm’s management team, North American sales team, and customer and technical service teams. To be considered, distributors need to have independent status, employ a well trained and knowledgeable sales staff, and support all of Hypertherm’s core product lines.

The award includes a \$500 donation to a nonprofit organization of the winner’s choice. nexAir has selected the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Memphis which serves more than 7,300 kids and operates the only Boys & Girls Clubs Technical Training Center in the country. The center offers students hands-on training in culinary, automotive and logistics programs. Upon graduation, every student is placed in a paying job in their field.

“We are grateful to have a partner who shares many of our same values,” said Hypertherm’s Couch. “nexAir’s continuous investment in training and strong desire to provide outstanding service to its customers makes the company an ideal distribution partner, and one we are honored to work with.”

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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