



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hypertherm Honored Nationally for Commitment to Volunteer Service

HANOVER, N.H.—June 29, 2006—Volunteering and national service leaders honored representatives from the corporate sector, during the National Conference on Volunteering and Service in Seattle. Eight companies, including Hypertherm (www.hypertherm.com), were honored for their commitment to volunteering and civic participation. The annual conference is co-convened by the Corporation for National and Community Service and the Points of Light Foundation & Volunteer Center National Network.

Corporate Spirit of Service Awards were presented to The Home Depot, State Farm Insurance, and Hypertherm, in recognition of their commitment to volunteer service. The companies honored support volunteering through means such as developing partnerships with nonprofit organizations, offering employees paid leave to perform volunteer duties, and focusing on specific social issues in their communities.

One of the keys to Hypertherm's commitment to community services is the Associate-led Philanthropy Team, having a mission to promote the development and well being of children and families within their community. Hypertherm helps people by giving them the power to create their own lasting solutions to problems. To elevate awareness and involvement of Hypertherm Associates, the company also provides each Associate with 16 hours of paid community service leave each year. Last year, one of the organizations to which the Associates gave their support was COVER Home Repair, which uses AmeriCorps*VISTA members to help local residents fight poverty. The support has led directly to the success of the program.

The Corporation for National and Community Service (www.nationalservice.gov) improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering. Each year, the Corporation provides opportunities for nearly 2 million Americans of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities and country through Senior Corps, AmeriCorps, and Learn and Serve America. Together with the USA Freedom Corps, the Corporation is working to build a culture of citizenship, service, and responsibility in America.

Hypertherm designs and manufactures the world's most 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 cutters and consumables, as well as CNC motion and height controls. Hypertherm systems are trusted for fast, precision cutting and reliability that results in increased productivity and profitability for tens of thousands of businesses. The Hanover based company's reputation for plasma innovation dates back nearly 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 700 associates along with regional operations and partner representation worldwide.

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