Hypertherm awards 2021 educational grants to 12 North American schools

HANOVER, N.H.—May 4, 2021—Hypertherm, a U.S. based manufacturer of industrial cutting systems and software, is excited to announce recipients of its 2021 Spark Something Great educational grant. The grant program, now in its seventh year, is designed to place the latest plasma technology into schools so the next generation of metalworkers can train on the equipment found in workplaces.

This year's winning schools were selected from a pool of 231 applicants representing high schools, vocational schools, and colleges from throughout the United States and Canada. Each of the 12 schools will receive a Hypertherm Powermax45® XP plasma system and in-person training from a Hypertherm industrial cutting expert. This year's recipients are:

- Bluestone High School – Skipwith, VA
- Clark County Area Technology Center – Winchester, KY
- Felicity-Franklin High School – Felicity, OH
- George Stevens Academy - Blue Hill, ME
- Iron Eagle Welding Academy – Stockton, MO
- Morrilton High School – Morrilton, AR
- North American Trade School – Baltimore, MD
- South Carolina School of Welding, LLC - Beech Island, SC
- Spotswood High School - Penn Laird, VA
- Terre Haute North Vigo High School - Terre Haute, IN
- University of Tennessee at Martin – Martin, TN
- Vincent Massey Secondary – Windsor, ON

"Increasing enrollment coupled with tight budgets means schools are tasked with teaching greater numbers of students with fewer resources," said Betsy Van Duyne, who manages Hypertherm's educational program. "Many schools have no plasma systems at all, and others are using machines that are 15 to 20 years old and in very bad shape. Although we cannot award a plasma system to every deserving school, we are thankful that a meaningful number of students now have an opportunity to cut, gouge, and mark metal with a Powermax45 XP."

In addition to its annual grant program, Hypertherm provides educational discounts to schools and students, and offers educators it's "Plasma Cutting Technology: Theory and Practice" curriculum as a free download. To date, thousands of teachers have acquired the lesson plans helping standardize the teaching of plasma cutting to students in North America and beyond. Hypertherm also offers ProNest® for Education, a free program that places ProNest CAD/CAM nesting software in schools using CNC applications.

Hypertherm engineers and manufactures industrial cutting products used by companies around the world to build ships, airplanes, and railcars, construct steel buildings, manufacture heavy equipment, and more. Its products include cutting systems, CNCs, and software trusted for performance and reliability that result in increased productivity and profitability for hundreds of thousands of businesses. Founded in 1968 and based in New Hampshire, Hypertherm is a 100 percent Associate owned company, employing more than 1,800 Associates, with operations and partner representation worldwide. Learn more at www.hypertherm.com.

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