



**The ESOP Association** *News Release*  
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### **Carey Chen of Hypertherm Elected to The ESOP Association's Board of Directors**

**May 6, 2009 (Washington, DC)** – Carey Chen, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Hypertherm, located in Hanover, New Hampshire, has been elected to the Board of Directors of The ESOP Association. Mr. Chen has been elected to fill a two-year, at-large slot representing a corporate member on the Board of Directors. The ESOP Association is the national trade association for companies with employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs) and the leading voice in America for employee ownership.

Hypertherm designs and manufactures the world's most advanced plasma cutting systems for use in a variety of industries such as shipbuilding, manufacturing, and automotive repair. Mr. Carey joined the company in 2006. Hypertherm's ESOP was created in 2001 and currently owns 32% of the company.

The Board of Directors is the premier governing group in the Association. Seven members of the nine person Board of Directors are elected by the Association's Board of Governors.

The core cause of The ESOP Association is the belief that employee ownership will improve American competitiveness, increase productivity through greater employee participation, and strengthen our free enterprise economy.

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