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**NH's "10 Best Companies to Work For" named  
in December issue of *Business NH Magazine***

Manchester, NH — *Business NH Magazine* and NH Businesses for Social Responsibility are proud to announce the 2009 Best Companies to Work For in NH.

At a time when the economy is testing the most solid company cultures, this year's Best Companies to Work For competition demonstrates how making employees partners in a company's success is not only good for morale, but also good for the bottom line. Respect for employees, no layoff policies and creative strategies to keep everyone employed have earned **Wire Belt Company of America** in Londonderry the title of Best Small Company to Work For in NH, and **Hypertherm Inc.** in Hanover the title of the Best Large Company to Work For in NH, in *Business NH Magazine's* 13th annual competition.

Wire Belt has 94 employees in NH, and Hypertherm has 870 in NH (1,077 total.) Both are profiled with eight other Best Companies to Work For in the December issue of *Business NH Magazine*.

Named to the Best Large Companies list are:

- #1- **Hypertherm Inc.** in Hanover (1,077 total employees/870 in NH)
- #2- **Comcast** in Manchester (100,000 total employees/1,500 in NH)
- #3- **St. Joseph Hospital** in Nashua (2,032 total/NH employees)
- #4- **BAE Systems** in Nashua (9,000 total employees/4,736 in NH)
- #5- **RiverWoods at Exeter** in Exeter (338 total/NH employees)

Named to the Best Small Companies list are:

- #1- **Wire Belt Company of America** in Londonderry (94 total/NH employees)
- #2- **Dynamic Network Services Inc.** in Manchester (29 total/NH employees)
- #3- **Clark-Mortenson Agency Inc.** in Keene (52 total employees/47 in NH)
- #4- **BittWare** in Concord (40 total employees/30 in NH)
- #5- **Graphicast Inc.** in Jaffrey (28 total/NH employees)

Stryker Biotech of Lebanon enters the Hall of Fame, which honors companies that have been named Best Companies to Work For four out of the past five years.

Companies across New Hampshire answered *Business NH Magazine's* call to compete, completing extensive applications detailing their benefit packages, company culture, communication and employee development strategies, workplace philosophies and letters of support from employees. The field was narrowed to 21 semi-finalists by a panel of *Business NH Magazine* judges. From there, a panel of four outside judges evaluated all 21 applications while site tour judges, consisting of CEOs and human resources professionals from across the state, visited each company to interview their CEO and employees and tour the facility. Bruce Mast and Associates in Exeter organized the site tours. The outside panel of judges then reviewed scores from the applications and the site tours to determine the 10 finalists.

The 11 semi-finalists are: **Bottomline Technologies** in Portsmouth, **Colby-Sawyer College** in New London, **Harbor Homes Inc.** in Nashua, **Lonza** in Portsmouth, **McLane Law Firm** in Manchester, **Southern NH Health System** in Nashua, **Geophysical Survey Systems Inc.** in Salem, **On Call International** in Salem, **PixelMEDIA** in Portsmouth, **Whipple Hill Communications** in Bedford, and **Wiggin & Nourie, P.A.** in Manchester.

This year's judges include: Therese Gesel-Towne, principal consultant and president of Aegis Consulting in Bedford; Daniel W. Griffiths, state director of the Human Resources Council State Council of NH; David Henderson, executive director of the Safety and Health Council of Northern New England in Concord; and Molly Hodgson Smith, executive director of NH Businesses for Social Responsibility in Concord.

The 2009 Best Companies to Work For in NH offer their employees an impressive variety of benefits, from on-site gyms and childcare, to profit sharing and tuition reimbursement. One thing they all have in common is the creativity and flexibility to keep their employees motivated and happy. While not immune to recessions, the Best Companies to Work For have a strategic advantage—motivated, loyal employees.

Leaders from the 10 winning companies will share their best practices at the Breakfast With The Best forum on February 18, 2010 at the Radisson Hotel/Center of NH in Manchester. To register for the event or to order a copy of the December issue of *Business NH Magazine*, visit [www.businessNHmagazine.com](http://www.businessNHmagazine.com) or call 603-626-6354.

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