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**PEARL Prepares Level 1 Certification for Electrical Reconditioning Technicians**

**AURORA, CO December 15, 2013** – One of the challenges facing the electrical reconditioning and remanufacturing markets is a lack of industry certification for technicians. PEARL, the Professional Electrical Apparatus Recyclers League, expects to change that starting the summer of 2014 when it introduces the industry's first Technical Certification exam to PEARL member companies.

PEARL Technical Certification committee members met this month in Burlington, NC, to continue the review of 250 exam questions for the Level 1 Technical Certification test. The Technical Certification program will be demonstrated in detail at PEARL's upcoming annual conference in Phoenix, May 3-5, 2014 at the Arizona Grand Resort & Spa.

Doug Powell, President of National Switchgear Systems Inc. and chairman of the PEARL Technical Certification Committee, says the Level 1 Technical Certification exam will be delivered completely on the web – from the initial application available on the Pearl1.org website to the exam itself. This will allow PEARL to keep the technician certification fees to a minimum to encourage PEARL member companies to invest in their technicians.

"Technical certification has been a cornerstone to the development and acceptance of many electrical trade associations and standard development groups like PEARL," explains Powell. "If approved by the PEARL membership, technical certification will tell customers that they can trust the electrical reconditioning work performed by PEARL member companies with certified technicians on staff. This has been a competitive edge for companies in field testing and similar electrical industries, and we're looking forward to giving the same opportunity to grow to our PEARL members."

This month's meeting included the second review of the 250 exam questions, as well as reviews of the application, study materials, fee structures, and website delivery system. The complete Level 1 Technical Certification exam and website delivery system is expected to be in place for member review and comment by May 2014.

**About PEARL:**

Founded in 1997, the Professional Electrical Apparatus Recyclers League (**PEARL**) creates, collects, and disseminates information, policies, procedures, and standards to ensure the proper recycling and reuse of electrical power equipment. Its 70+ corporate members must meet strict technical, safety, and operational requirements.

*Photo Caption: From Left to Right: Robert Koren, National Switchgear Systems Inc.; Scott Griggs, Southland Electrical Supply Inc.; Jamie Holland, South East Switchgear, LLC; David Rosenfield, ROMAC; Stephen Reames, Oregon Breakers Inc.; Mike Griggs, Southland Electrical Supply Inc.; Don West, Southland Electrical Supply Inc.; Bobby Troxler, Southland Electrical Supply Inc.; Doug Powell, National Switchgear Systems Inc.; Andy Conklin, Southland Electrical Supply Inc.; and Malcom Fredrick, Shermco Industries Inc.*



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