



## **Professional Electrical Apparatus Recyclers League (PEARL)**

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### **Seattle Requires Electrical Service Providers to Comply with PEARL Standards**

AURORA, CO August 15, 2013 – The City of Seattle has become one of the first major metropolitan areas to include electrical reconditioning standards developed by the Professional Electrical Apparatus Recyclers League (PEARL) as a requisite for new electrical testing, assessment, and remanufacturing services.

Early this month, the city announced it was seeking to contract for electrical testing, assessment, and remanufacturing services. The invitation to bid specified that officials in Seattle were looking to obtain “standardized, qualified services” from a PEARL member – and in doing so it affirmed the city’s confidence in PEARL’s reconditioning standards. The city anticipates spending up to \$500,000 per year for the services.

“Seattle’s requirement that vendors have PEARL certification reflects the high levels of quality and safety ensured by our electrical reconditioning standards and the hard work of our corporate members that helped develop the standards,” says Stephen Reames, owner of Oregon Breakers, Inc., and recently elected PEARL president. Seattle’s decision follows the Canadian Standards Association’s recent decision to reference PEARL reconditioning standards in its CSA Z463 Guideline on Maintenance of Electrical Systems.

The RFQ speaks to the continued growth of the remanufacturing industry in two important ways. It reflects an increasing demand for electrical remanufacturing services as organizations seek to maximize the return on their assets. At the same time, it recognizes that remanufacturing aligns with Seattle’s sustainability policies, which officials have been actively working to develop and implement – and which residents have welcomed and embraced.

“We expect that other cities are likely to follow the lead of Seattle as the demand for remanufactured goods grows and sustainability policies similar to Seattle’s are put into place,” Reames adds. “Just as important, PEARL expects to announce very soon that the American National Standards Institute [ANSI], the premier standards development organization in the U.S., has approved our application to become an ANSI Accredited Standards Developer. While there is still much work to be done, we expect that the ANSI stamp of approval will go a long way toward helping PEARL educate the public on the benefits of standards-based electrical reconditioning and remanufacturing.”

### **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.