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**Green Button Certification Initiated**

Raleigh, NC, June \_\_, 2014, - The public-private partnership of UCAIug, Underwriters Laboratories, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), and the Department of Energy announced today they have initiated Green Button Certification efforts to ensure interoperability of the broad range of Green Button deployments across the nation.

UCAIug will certify two categories of Green Button implementations. The first category represents product vendors who provide Green Button software solutions to service providers; the second category includes service providers such as utilities and energy efficiency organizations themselves. Service Providers require certification independent of whether or not their product vendor’s offering has been separately certified.

UCAIug has completed a trial run for the Green Button Download My Data certification. In the dry run process two implementations have successfully completed the UCAIug Green Button Test and Certification process for Download My Data:

* Seattle City Light is the first Electric Utility to receive certification
* Schneider-Electric is the first Vendor to receive certification

“UCLIUG is delighted with Seattle City Light and Schneider-Electric and their participation in this pioneering effort, and congratulate them on their well-deserved success!” says Kay Clinard, President - UCAIug

The design of Green Button Connect My Data Certification is currently underway with target Certification of Green Button machine-to-machine Connect My Data to occur in late 2014.

Green Button Certification as an essential underpinning of the national Green Button for America initiative. In its absence, non-interoperable implementations will result in frustration and additional costs in exchanging data rather than using it.

Additionally a reliable certification mark will allow a robust ecosystem of data providers and users to grow to help consumers optimize the efficiency of their energy usage and hence their cost of energy.

The UCLIUG encourages all organizations actively implementing Connect My Data to participate in the weekly UCAIug OpenADE sessions focused on the definition of the Connect My Data interoperability certification test procedures. (link to OpenADE Calendar needed)

UCA International Users Group is a not-for-profit corporation focused on assisting users and vendors in the deployment of standards for real-time applications for several industries with related requirements. The UCAIug as well as its member groups (CIMug, Open Smart Grid, IEC61850, Standards Testing and Green Button) draws its membership from utility user and supplier companies. The mission of the UCA International Users Group is to enable integration through the deployment of open standards by providing a forum in which the various stakeholders in the energy and utility industry can work cooperatively together as members of a common organization. For more information about the Green Button Intitative, visit http://www.gbitca.org.