

Wheelabrator Baltimore celebrates the people who keep the city clean

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

Media

Melissa Lohnes
(603) 929-3193
mlohnes@wm.com

Wheelabrator Baltimore

1801 Annapolis Road
Baltimore, MD 21230

BALTIMORE, Md. - Oct. 27, 2009- Baltimore's garbage crews will be on the receiving end of a different kind of collection today as Wheelabrator Baltimore, L.P. (BRESKO) and city officials dish out a barbecue lunch and "thank you's" in appreciation for another year of great service at the annual "Garbageman Appreciation Day."

Wheelabrator Baltimore has hosted the event for 16 years to thank the hundreds of private and municipal solid waste collection workers from Baltimore City and County who help keep the City's streets and neighborhoods clean by hauling more than 340 truckloads and up to 2,250 tons of garbage to the waste-to-energy facility every day. Last year's event, held at the facility, attracted members of Union Local 44, including 35-year veteran Gregory Gage. Reflecting back on what has changed since the 1970s, Gage said that "back in the day, people put out pretty much anything for us to pick up. But that's all gone. Now we separate and try to recycle as much as possible. It's better for the environment." Baltimore Mayor Sheila Dixon and several city councilors handed out lunches to crews as they took a break from delivering waste to the facility.

In brief remarks during this year's event, Dixon plans to thank the crews for performing a vital service to Baltimore in all kinds of weather with pride and professionalism, and discuss the city's Initiative for a Cleaner Baltimore. Part of Wheelabrator's appreciation is for the crews' contributions to Wheelabrator Baltimore's safety record. Maintaining a safe environment amid so much activity at the facility requires each employee, contractor and hauler to closely observe safety policies.

"We like to use Garbageman Appreciation Day to draw attention to safety issues, as well as the work that goes on out in the public eye," said Mark Schwartz, project vice president of business development, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. "A safe solid waste collection system works better for everyone, and we want the public to know how hard the crews work on the less visible side of the system, when they're at our facility."

As a partner of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Energy Recovery Council (ERC) Wheelabrator and other companies in the waste-to-energy industry have formed an alliance to promote and improve safety for all waste haulers working at waste-to-energy facilities. This alliance was originally signed in October 2005. Following its initial success, the alliance was again renewed in 2007; also during that year, Wheelabrator earned Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star certification - OSHA's highest recognition.

About Wheelabrator Baltimore, L.P.

Located in Baltimore, Maryland, the Wheelabrator Baltimore waste-to-energy facility, also known as BRESKO, provides dependable, environmentally safe disposal of municipal solid waste for the City and County of Baltimore, while generating clean, renewable electricity for sale to the local utility. Designed, built, owned and operated by Wheelabrator, Wheelabrator Baltimore serves 850,000 residents by processing up to 2,250 tons per day of municipal solid waste. Wheelabrator Baltimore has an electric generating capacity of 60,000 kilowatts; the equivalent of supplying the electrical needs of 68,000 Maryland homes. Wheelabrator Baltimore also supplies steam to the downtown heating loop.

About Wheelabrator Technologies

A wholly owned subsidiary of Waste Management of Houston, Texas, Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. is a world leader in the safe and environmentally sound conversion of municipal solid waste and other renewable waste fuels into clean energy. Wheelabrator's 17 waste-to-energy facilities provide safe waste disposal for towns and cities across the U.S. Wheelabrator also operates five independent power plants designed to generate electricity using an assortment of fuels,

including waste wood, tires, waste coal, and natural gas. In addition to producing electricity, some of these facilities also produce steam sold to nearby government and commercial establishments. Wheelabrator's 22 facilities have a combined electric generating capacity of 896 megawatts, enough energy to power more than 985,000 homes. To learn more, visit www.wheelabratortechnologies.com.

About Waste Management

Waste Management, based in Houston, Texas, is the leading provider of comprehensive waste management services in North America. Through its subsidiaries, the company provides collection, transfer, recycling and resource recovery, and disposal services. It is also a leading developer, operator and owner of waste-to-energy and landfill gas-to-energy facilities in the United States. The company's customers include residential, commercial, industrial, and municipal customers throughout North America. To learn more, visit www.wm.com or www.thinkgreen.com.

###