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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LEED® for Homes Gold Certification Awarded to Green Maine Affordable Housing Project

Portland, Maine - August 4, 2008

Fore Solutions is proud to announce that the first of the two Pearl Place buildings constructed for Avesta Housing was awarded LEED® for Homes Gold by the U.S Green Building Council on Tuesday, July 29, 2008. The Pearl Place building, located at 159 Oxford St, Portland, Maine holds the distinction of being the first multifamily and affordable LEED for Homes project certified in the State of Maine. The LEED for Homes certification verifies that the building has been built to rigorous energy and water efficiency standards and is an environmentally sound, and healthy place to live.

The LEED for Homes Gold certification of this building is a testament to all of those involved in the design and construction process. These individuals should be commended on their leadership, hard work and dedication to the green building process. Included in the project team was the developer, Avesta Housing, Winton Scott Architects with Pandika Plegi as Architect of Record, Ledgewood Construction, and Fore Solutions who provided green building consulting services and also served as the LEED for Homes Provider. Financing was provided by low-income housing credits syndicated by the Northern New England Housing Investment Fund, MaineHousing, the City of Portland, the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston, and TD Banknorth.

Pearl Place is a 60-unit affordable housing development of two buildings located in the Bayside neighborhood of Portland, Maine. The second building, 180 Pearl St., which is also targeting LEED for Homes Gold is awaiting certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Located in downtown Portland, Pearl Place is within walking distance of public transportation, shops, schools and social services. The building design focused heavily on reducing operating costs by building a tight and a well insulated envelope with energy efficient lighting fixtures, programmable thermostats and an efficient heating and ventilation system. These measures allowed the building to attain a Home Energy Rating

Score (HERS) of 61, which is 39% more efficient than standard construction. Low VOC paints, local framing lumber and concrete, insulation with recycled content and carpet certified by the Carpet and Rug Institute's Green Label Program are some of the environmentally friendly materials that were used in the construction of the building.

About the U.S. Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Building Council is a nonprofit membership organization whose vision is a sustainable built environment within a generation. Its membership includes corporations, builders, universities, government agencies, and other nonprofit organizations. Since USGBC's founding in 1993, the Council has grown to more than 14,500 member companies and organizations, a comprehensive family of LEED® green building rating systems, an expansive educational offering, the industry's popular Greenbuild International Conference and Expo (www.greenbuildexpo.org), and a network of 77 local chapters, affiliates, and organizing groups. For more information, visit www.usgbc.org.

About LEED for Homes

LEED for Homes is a third-party certification system for high-performance green homes. Developed and administered by USGBC, LEED for Homes awards points to projects in seven categories of environmental performance: Location & Linkages, Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Indoor Environmental Quality, Energy & Atmosphere, Homeowner Awareness, and Innovation and Design. To date, more than 540 homes have been LEED-certified, and over 13,000 have been registered and are under development. For more information, visit www.thegreenhomeguide.org.

LEED for Homes in Maine

Fore Solutions is a USGBC LEED for Home Provider. If you are a homeowner, builder, or developer interested in building a LEED home, please visit us at www.fore-solutions.com to help guide you through the process and certify your project.

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