



## ESCALA EARNS EPA'S ENERGY STAR® CERTIFICATION FOR SUPERIOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

**Seattle, Wash. (September 28, 2016)** – Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting company Columbia Hospitality announced today that Escala has earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) ENERGY STAR certification, signifying that the building currently performs in the top 15 percent of similar multifamily buildings nationwide for energy efficiency, meeting strict energy efficiency performance levels set by the EPA. Escala is a luxury 31-story residential building in downtown Seattle, offering 267 units and premier amenities such as a full spa and fitness facility, private theater, wine cave and private event spaces.

“We are honored to accept EPA’s ENERGY STAR certification in recognition of Escala’s energy efficiency efforts,” said Bruce Jarrard, facilities manager of Escala. “Through this achievement, we have demonstrated our commitment to environmental stewardship while also lowering our energy costs for residents.”

Earning ENERGY STAR certification highlights Escala’s status within the top 15 percent of residential units in the nation with regard to energy performance. Escala improved its performance by strategic management of how it uses energy – and by incorporating multiple sustainable and green initiatives that were both cost-effective and overall improvements to the building’s infrastructure.

To earn the ENERGY STAR certification, Escala completed the following:

- Partnered with Seattle City Light to complete three comprehensive lighting retrofits with the latest LED technology over a four-year period, resulting in annual savings of more than \$57,000 and a decrease in electricity consumption of 17 percent.
- Implemented multiple green initiatives that helped reduce solid waste and increase annual totals of recycled and composted materials to more than 126 tons, a yearly savings of over \$38,000.
- Developed a recycling program that recovers toothpaste tubes, dental floss containers and cosmetic containers that are eventually upcycled into park benches by TerraCycle.

ENERGY STAR was introduced by the EPA in 1992 as a voluntary, market-based partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through energy efficiency. Today, the ENERGY STAR label can be found on more than 65 different kinds of products, 1.4 million new homes, and 20,000 commercial buildings and industrial plants that meet strict energy-efficiency specifications set by the EPA. During the past 20 years, American families and businesses have saved more than \$230 billion on utility bills and prevented more than 1.8 billion metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions with help from ENERGY STAR.

For more information about Escala please visit [www.columbiahospitality.com/escala](http://www.columbiahospitality.com/escala).

### **About Escala**

*Escala is a luxury condominium located in downtown Seattle. The elegant 31-story building is composed of 267 condominium units offering spacious floor plans for one-bedroom homes up to 16,000 square foot penthouses with expansive views of Puget Sound, Elliott Bay, and the Olympic Mountains. Amenities include a spa and fitness facility, controlled-climate wine cave, a combination of indoor and outdoor event spaces and a private theater. A full team of concierge professionals is available to residents offering services such as vehicle detailing, assistance with reservations, and business and travel services. Escala is managed by Seattle-based Columbia Hospitality, Inc. For more information, please visit [www.columbiahospitality.com/escala](http://www.columbiahospitality.com/escala).*

### **About Columbia Hospitality**

*Columbia Hospitality (Columbia) is a Seattle-based hospitality management and consulting company that was established in 1995 by founder and CEO John Oppenheimer. Columbia's growing portfolio includes award-winning hotels, public and private golf facilities, conference centers and distinctive venues. Columbia creates exceptional experiences for guests and team members while achieving phenomenal results for property owners. With over 20 years of proven success in management, Columbia has also consulted on over 100 hospitality projects worldwide, delivering a high level of customized service to partners and investors. For more information about Columbia and to view the entire portfolio visit [www.columbiahospitality.com](http://www.columbiahospitality.com).*

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### **Media Contact**

Joleen Zanuzoski  
Public Relations, GreenRubino for Columbia Hospitality  
P: 206.452.8189  
E: [joleenz@greenrubino.com](mailto:joleenz@greenrubino.com)