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LTO ULTRIUM SECOND-GENERATION TECHNOLOGY LICENSES NOW AVAILABLE

*LTO Program Keeps its Commitment to Ultrium Technology Roadmap with Generation 2;
Features Include Backwards Read-and-Write Capability, Double the Speed and Capacity*

SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. — (April 9, 2002) — Hewlett-Packard Company, IBM Corporation and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions, the three technology provider companies (TPCs) for the Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Program, today announced that licenses for Ultrium tape format Generation 2 are now available.

The LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 is designed to provide users with a number of advantages over Generation 1. Using Generation 2 data cartridges, the storage capacity will increase up to 400GB compressed (2:1 compression), 200GB native, helping to greatly reduce user storage costs. The transfer speeds have also been enhanced, improving the peak performance up to 40MB per second native. Users will benefit from a greater than 30 percent increase in the number of tracks and average tape speed, as well as an improved recording method. Equally important, the Ultrium format Generation 2 provides users with outstanding data and investment protection because of its capability to read-and-write Generation 1 cartridges in the Ultrium format Generation 1.

“The Ultrium tape format Generation 2 delivers on the LTO promise to provide end-users with advanced technology, unparalleled performance and a tape technology with multiple providers that offers true customer choice,” said Frank Elliott, Vice President, Storage Systems OEM, Storage Products Division, IBM. “The Ultrium format Generation 1 took market leadership in the ‘super drive’ tape category in 2001 by a margin of more than two-to-one over competing technologies, and we fully expect that IT shops will eagerly adopt tape solutions built using the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2.”

All manufacturers will be required to complete the compliance verification testing process, which requires stringent data interchange testing in order to obtain a license for the Ultrium second-generation tape format.

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The LTO Program's format verification process is the industry's first test process of this kind for tape storage devices. A major benefit of the testing process is that licensees will only be allowed to use the Ultrium format trademarks after initial and subsequent annual compliance verification tests. Buyers seeking true Ultrium format-compliant products should look for the Ultrium format compliance verification marks on both tape drives and data cartridges manufactured by Ultrium format licensees. Products that carry these marks have been compliance verified.

Storage and media manufacturers interested in licensing LTO technology may obtain information by contacting the Law Offices of Ladas & Parry at (323) 934-2300, or by e-mail at LTO_INFO@ladasparry.com.

About Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Technology

LTO technology is a powerful, scaleable, open tape format created by technology providers Hewlett-Packard Company, IBM Corporation and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions to meet the growing demands of data protection in the midrange to enterprise-class server environments. This new generation of tape storage products delivers outstanding performance, capacity and reliability combining the advantages of linear multi-channel, bi-directional formats with enhancements in servo technology, data compression, track layout, and error correction.

The LTO Ultrium format storage solution is a single-reel, high-performance tape cartridge ideal for backing up, restoring, and archiving applications. As a market-leading tape technology for ultra-high capacity storage, the LTO Ultrium format is the only tape storage technology with a well-defined four-generation roadmap for growth and scalability – doubling speed and capacity with each new generation, and delivering significant data integrity improvements over current tape storage formats.

While the LTO Program gives licensees wide latitude in implementing mechanical and electrical designs, strict adherence is required to format specifications impacting the ability to read and write Ultrium format tape cartridges. Independent compliance verification is vital to meet the free-interchange objectives that are at the core of the LTO Program. With numerous compliance checkpoints for each LTO technology product, end-users and OEMs can be confident of data interchangeability between LTO products regardless of the manufacturer.

Ultrium tape mechanism and tape cartridge interchange specifications are available on a licensee basis. For additional information on LTO Ultrium technology, visit the Ultrium Web site at <http://www.ultrium.com>.

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Note: Linear Tape-Open, LTO, and Ultrium are U.S. trademarks of HP, IBM and Seagate.