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**HP, IBM PASS LTO ULTRIUM FORMAT GENERATION 2 MECHANISM COMPLIANCE**

**SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. — (Feb. 12, 2003) —** HP, IBM Corporation and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions, the technology provider companies (TPCs) for the Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Program, today announced that HP and IBM have passed all necessary compliance test requirements to develop tape drives based on the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2. Today's news follows a series of announcements that more than half a dozen media manufacturers have licensed the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2.

"As one of the founding members of the LTO Program, it is extremely gratifying to see that the LTO Ultrium format has become one of the most widely adopted 'super' tape technologies," said Frank Harbist, Vice President and General Manager, Nearline Storage, HP Network Storage Solutions. "The LTO Ultrium format features innovation from industry leading data storage companies – HP, IBM and Seagate – and we are thrilled that HP has met mechanism compliance requirements for the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2."

"Customers benefit as the LTO initiative delivers on its roadmap and, as with the first generation Ultrium format, products based on the Ultrium format Generation 2 are on schedule," said Frank Elliott, Vice President, Worldwide Sales, IBM Tape Storage Solutions. "Passing the Ultrium format Generation 2 mechanism compliance keeps IBM on course to continue to deliver on the Ultrium value proposition: true customer choice from multiple vendors, data interchangeability among LTO Ultrium-based tape technology, reliability, high capacity and performance, and scalability."

The LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 tape maximum physical capacity increases up to 400GB compressed (assuming a 2:1 compression). The data transfer speed of the Ultrium format Generation 2 also advances, increasing up to 80MB per second compressed. In addition, the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 tape drives offer backward read-and-write compatibility with LTO Ultrium format Generation 1 data cartridges, helping to protect previous investments in LTO Ultrium based tape technology.

**How to License LTO Ultrium Technology**

The LTO Program offers several different license packages – from enhanced packages that provide the specifications to manufacture Ultrium Generation 2 products, to basic license packages, providing Ultrium format specifications and guidelines for interchangeability.

Buyers seeking true Ultrium format-compliant products should look for the Ultrium format compliance verification marks on both tape drives and data cartridges. 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](mailto:LTO_INFO@ladasparry.com).

**About Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Technology**

LTO technology is a powerful, scaleable, open tape format created by technology providers HP, 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 is designed to deliver 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 suitable for backing up, restoring, and archiving applications. As a 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 – a roadmap that projects a doubling of speed and capacity with each new generation, and the delivery of 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 benefit from 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 [www.ultrium.com](http://www.ultrium.com).

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