



**For more information:**  
Corey Olfert  
Fleishman-Hillard, Inc.  
213-489-8253  
[olfertc@fleishman.com](mailto:olfertc@fleishman.com)

## **LTO ULTRIUM ENJOYS ANOTHER HIGH-PERFORMANCE YEAR IN 2003; OPEN FORMAT TAPE DRIVES AGAIN OUT-SHIP SUPER DLT DRIVES**

*LTO Ultrium Sees 50% Increase in Units Shipped Over 2002*

**SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. (April 12, 2004)** – For Certance, HP, and IBM – the three technology provider companies (TPCs) for the LTO (Linear Tape-Open) Program – 2003 was another banner year, with more than 260,000 LTO Ultrium drives shipped in 2003, a 50% increase in units shipped over 2002. Based on a March 24, 2004 Gartner Dataquest report: Tape Drive Market Shares, 2003, by Fara Yale, Research Vice President, approximately 123,500 Super DLT drives shipped in 2003.

According to Gartner Dataquest, the LTO Ultrium format continued to gain share over SDLT during each quarter of 2003. For all of 2003, the report found that drives based on the LTO Ultrium format out-shipped Super DLT by more than 2:1, continuing the LTO drive share lead for the third consecutive year.

“The LTO Ultrium format is the tape format of choice among ‘super’ tape drive users, and they are making their voice heard with their pocketbooks” said Barry Rudolph, Vice President, Tape Storage Systems, IBM Corporation. “The reasons for the impressive growth of the LTO Ultrium format are clear: multiple vendors offering compatible products with unique feature choices, high performance, and reliability all stemming from an open architecture design.”

The LTO Ultrium format was the first "super drive" technology commercially available and, based on published reports, is gaining on its already strong position in the midrange tape category. The LTO Ultrium format is a technology that is openly licensed, and is designed to provide storage managers with reliability, scalability, flexibility and multiple vendor options.

## **LTO Ultrium Features**

The LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 is intended to provide storage capacity of up to 400GB compressed (assuming a 2:1 compression), and data transfer speeds of up to 80MB/s compressed. The second generation Ultrium tape drives offer backwards compatible read-and-write capability with the Ultrium format Generation 1, helping to protect the investment customers have made in the LTO technology.

The LTO Ultrium four-generation roadmap calls for 800GB compressed capacity and up to 160MB/s compressed data transfer speeds in the third generation, and 1.6TB compressed capacity and up to 320MB/s compressed data transfer speed in the fourth generation.

## **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 Certance, HP, and IBM to help meet the growing demands of data protection in the midrange to enterprise-class server environments. This ultra-high capacity 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 has a well-defined public roadmap and roadmap vision for growth and scalability – a roadmap that projects a doubling of speed and capacity with each new generation. Independent compliance verification is vital to meet the free-interchange objectives that are at the core of the LTO Program. Ultrium tape mechanism and tape cartridge interchange specifications are available on a licensee basis. For additional information on LTO technology, visit the LTO Program Website at [www.ultrium.com](http://www.ultrium.com).

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