

For Immediate Release

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LTO PROGRAM AWARDS HP COMPLIANCE MARK

Independent Compliance Verification Signifies Ultrium Compatibility

SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. — (June 6, 2001) — Hewlett-Packard Company, IBM Corporation, and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions LLC, technology providers for Linear Tape-Open technology (referred to as LTO technology), today announced that HP has successfully completed the Ultrium compliance verification testing process for the HP Surestore Ultrium 215 half-height tape drive. The certification demonstrates that the HP Surestore Ultrium 215 half-height tape drive will be able to interchange data with all other Ultrium-certified products currently available.

“The Ultrium compliance process is one of the industry’s most rigorous and demanding verification tests, and we’re very pleased that the HP Surestore Ultrium 215 half-height tape drive is the latest product to earn the distinguished mark,” said Neville Pawsey, general manager of HP Networked Storage Solutions – Bristol. “This milestone both demonstrates the LTO Program’s commitment to providing users with the highest-performing, format-compliant tape storage solutions available and enhances HP’s industry position as a provider of innovative, reliable data tape storage products.”

Only available with the LTO Program, the compliance verification process reduces risk to tape buyers by testing for interchange compatibility with other drives and media manufactured by LTO technology licensees. Licensees are only allowed to use the Ultrium format trademark after initial and subsequent annual compliance verification tests.

The Ultrium format is based on proven technology provided by Hewlett-Packard, IBM Corporation and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions LLC. The format’s four-generation roadmap specifies a doubling of capacity and performance with each generation, combined with stringent requirements for backwards compatibility between generations. The delivery of this roadmap will offer greater benefits to tape users by providing independent and competitive sources of drives and media. This competition allows for a wide range of differentiation between vendors’ products. With 28 of the world’s leading storage, media, tape automation and server companies in the world committed as licensees, Ultrium users can look forward to more product choices, with better performance and more valuable features than competing formats.

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About LTO Ultrium Technology

LTO Ultrium technology is a powerful, open tape architecture that has set the stage for a new generation of tape storage products that are surpassing current tape capacity and performance benchmarks, while maintaining the highest data integrity. The LTO Ultrium format combines the advantages of linear multi-channel, bi-directional formats with enhancements in servo technology, data compression, track layout, and error correction code to maximize capacity, performance and reliability.

The Ultrium format uses a single-reel media, with capacities of up to 100GB native/200GB compressed and data-transfer rates of up to 20MB/s native and 40MB/s compressed (assuming a 2:1 compression ratio).

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 cartridges. 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. Licensing information is available by contacting the Law Offices of Ladas & Parry at (323) 934-2300, or by e-mail LTO_INFO@ladasparry.com. For additional information on the LTO Ultrium format, please visit the LTO Ultrium Web site at <http://www.ultrium.com>.

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