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For more information:

Corey Olfert
Fleishman-Hillard, Inc.
213-489-8253
olfertc@fleishman.com

**EMTEC, BENCHMARK, ADIC FIRST TO LICENSE
LTO GENERATION 2 ULTRIUM FORMAT**

SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. — (Sept. 23, 2002) — HP, IBM Corporation and Seagate Removable Storage Solutions, the technology provider companies (TPCs) for the Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Program, today announced that EMTEC Magnetics GmbH, Benchmark and ADIC have taken out the first Ultrium format Generation 2 license packages.

"The first generation of the LTO Ultrium tape format has been embraced by system and server OEM's alike" said Robert Amatruda, research manager at IDC. "The availability of the Ultrium format Generation 2 licenses demonstrates the commitment by the TPC's to the LTO Ultrium tape technology."

Delivering on its promise and four-generation roadmap, the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 will offer backwards read-and-write capabilities with Generation 1, further protecting investments customers have made in LTO Ultrium based drives. Additionally, the LTO Ultrium format Generation 2 storage capacity will increase up to 400GB compressed (2:1 compression), 200GB native. The data transfer speed of the Ultrium format Generation 2 will also improve, increasing the peak performance up to 40MB per second native and 80MB per second compressed.

While Ultrium format Generation 2 product availability is vendor dependent, the TPCs expect to see products for the new Ultrium format in the first half of 2003.

"Customer response to the LTO Ultrium format has been remarkable," said Frank Elliott, Vice President, Worldwide Sales, IBM Tape Storage Solutions. "Clearly, the storage marketplace demands feature-rich, affordable tape solutions in the super drive category. Now, with the Ultrium format Generation 2 products, we will continue to satisfy that need by delivering the unique benefits of an open-standards design – data interchangeability, multiple vendor and feature choices, scalability for growth, high performance and much more."

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 Technology format specifications and guidelines for interchangeability.

As part of its compliance testing, the LTO Program requires all licensees to pass a series of compliance verification tests, which call for rigorous data interchangeability testing before being issued a license and the right to display the trusted Ultrium trademark. Compliance testing of all Ultrium products must be completed annually to ensure that all manufacturers adhere to the LTO Ultrium format specifications.

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.

About Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Technology

LTO technology is a powerful, scalable, 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 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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