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LTO PROGRAM ANNOUNCES LTFS COMPLIANCE VERIFICATION TESTING

SILICON VALLEY, CALIF. — (April 2, 2013) — The Linear Tape-Open (LTO) Program Technology Provider Companies, HP, IBM and Quantum, announced today that they will offer Linear Tape File System (LTFS) compliance testing to demonstrate compatibility with the open standard Linear Tape File System specification. Tapes for the initial review cycle can be submitted to the LTO Program for testing starting May 1 through June 30, 2013. This process is intended to verify that an organization's offering produces an LTFS formatted LTO cartridge that complies with the LTFS format specification.

"Before capitalizing on LTO tape capacity and search capability innovations, clients must have confidence that the technology will integrate easily within heterogenous data center architectures," said Chris Powers, director, StoreEver Solutions, HP. "By providing compatibility among mixed vendor platforms, LTO technology is gaining rapid marketplace acceptance among organizations that require simplified management and functionality without sacrificing long-term file retention benefits."

LTFS has expanded the role of LTO tape into new categories and applications where customers want the long-term retention benefits of tape but still need to easily find and use files.

Companies with these needs are turning to LTO tape with LTFS to more efficiently, inexpensively and reliably offload their digital media from more expensive storage options for archiving and transport.

Leath Mattner, data management for Digital Pictures, leveraged LTFS and LTO-5 tape solutions in the production of James Cameron's DEEPSEA CHALLENGE project. According to Mattner, the LTO workflow system they used allowed them to "handle all of the camera formats and conform all of the different kinds of media directly from LTO tape which was a huge time saver."

It's not only customers who are recognizing the benefits of the compliance testing. Mark Peters, senior analyst with Enterprise Strategy Group, acknowledges that although capacity, performance and cost containment are dominating the headlines in storage, two other aspects are also crucial: providing consistency and being standards-based.

"These areas are precisely why the LTFS compliance testing from the LTO program matters," says Peters. "When users have multiple choices of interoperable solutions, they want to be sure that everything will work as designed. This new compliance testing adds certainty, and will of course help attract users who are thinking of committing to LTO and LTFS."

This LTFS compliance testing will be managed by the LTO Program. Parties interested in this LTFS testing process can visit www.lto.org/technology/lfs-compliance.html for more details.

LTFS takes advantage of the new partitioning feature that became available with LTO Ultrium Generation 5 technology to provide file system access to tape data and easier management such as "drag and drop" and search functionality. The LTFS specification is an open standard and has been provided to the Storage Network Industry Association (SNIA) for adoption.

How to License LTO Ultrium Technology

The LTO Program has historically offered several different license packages – from enhanced packages that provide the specifications and licenses to manufacture LTO Ultrium products, to basic packages providing LTO format specifications.

Buyers seeking LTO Ultrium format-compliant products should look for the LTO Ultrium format compliance verification trademarks on both tape drives and data cartridges. Storage and

media manufacturers interested in licensing LTO formats may obtain information by contacting the LTO Program through www.lto.org.

About Linear Tape-Open (LTO)

The LTO Ultrium format is a powerful, scalable, adaptable open tape format developed and continuously enhanced by technology providers HP, IBM and Quantum (and their predecessors) to help address 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 roadmap for growth and scalability. The roadmap represents intentions and goals only. There is no guarantee that these goals will be achieved. Format 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 licensed basis. For additional information on LTO, visit www.trustlto.com and the LTO Program Web site at www.lto.org.

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