



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Qualstar Ships AIT-4 Equipped Tape Libraries

*Storage Density Approaches 60 Terabytes per Square Foot
Throughput Exceeds 2.6 Terabytes per Hour*

SIMI VALLEY, Calif., November 8, 2004 — Qualstar® Corporation (NASDAQ: QBAK), a manufacturer of automated tape storage solutions, today announced that it has begun shipment of tape libraries equipped with Sony's AIT-4 tape drives.

Qualstar's TLS and RLS-Series tape libraries and TeraLoader™ autoloaders represent the industry's largest installed base of AIT tape users. AIT-4 is the latest generation of Sony's groundbreaking tape drive technology first introduced in 1996, doubling the capacity and performance of the highly successful AIT-3 drive, which remains in production. The result is much higher capacity and dramatically faster data backups and restores, a key consideration for companies with sharply escalating storage requirements and shrinking backup windows. All Qualstar AIT libraries reflect the company's commitment to building *Simply Reliable* products that deliver solid technical and business benefits.

"Qualstar has been a long term partner with Sony in leveraging our AIT format within tape libraries. Their integration of Sony's new AIT-4 drives into their latest AIT library offerings provides businesses with the advanced storage technology needed to satisfy their growing data storage requirements," said Alan Sund, marketing director for tape storage solutions in Sony Electronics' Component and Business Solutions Division. "AIT-4 technology delivers the highest density tape drive in the world, allowing for a wide range of reliable high capacity, space-efficient and cost-effective solutions."

The TLS-4000 Series offers superior performance and value for enterprise AIT tape users. Storage density approaches 60 terabytes per square foot of floor space, with capacities ranging from 4.8 terabytes to more than 300 terabytes using typical data compression techniques. The

TLS-4000 Series economically and reliably automates tape-based applications, whether backing up a single critical database or as an integral part of an enterprise-wide storage management solution. Ten models provide a broad range of cost-effective solutions, housing one to twelve AIT-4 tape drives and up to 600 tapes.

Qualstar's RLS-Series of AIT-equipped rack mount libraries deliver the highest density per "U" of rack space in the format. Three models house up to four AIT-4 drives and as many as 70 tapes, yielding capacities that exceed 36 terabytes and data transfer rates approaching 900 gigabytes per hour, using compression.

Qualstar's RLS-Series libraries offer the widest range of features and options in the market to enable users to economically design a solution to meet their individual requirements, including:

- True hot-swappable tape drives
- Dual, redundant, hot-swappable power supplies
- 2Gb/second SANSmart Fibre Channel interface
- VIOP, an exclusive Qualstar feature, allowing users to set the number of storage slots dedicated to tape I/O operations
- Q-Link™, Qualstar's browser-based remote manager, enabling users to configure, monitor, diagnose and manage libraries from anywhere in the world

"Qualstar's mission is to provide solid value through proven technology," said Bob Covey, Qualstar's vice president of marketing. "Sony's AIT-4 drives deliver that value to new customers, and provide our very large number of installed AIT users with a comprehensive expansion and upgrade path. Working closely with Sony, we are providing our customers with exceptionally cost-effective data protection solutions."

Qualstar automated tape storage products are available exclusively through Qualstar's worldwide network of authorized resellers.

About Qualstar Corporation

Qualstar is a manufacturer of automated tape libraries used for backup, archival storage, data protection and disaster recovery. Its products are known throughout the world for their rugged, Simply Reliable design yielding years of trouble-free operation. Qualstar tape libraries are sold, installed and supported worldwide by selected Value Added Resellers, Systems Integrators, Distributors and Original Equipment Manufacturers. Qualstar also designs, manufactures and sells ultra small, high efficiency open-frame switching power supplies under the "N2Power" brand name to OEMs. Qualstar Corporation is publicly traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol QBAK. More information is available at www.qualstar.com or by phone at 805-583-7744.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this press release concerning the future business, operating results and financial condition of the Company are “forward-looking” statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements are based upon management’s current expectations and are subject to a number of uncertainties that could cause actual performance and results to differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could affect the Company’s actual results include the Company’s ability to increase sales of its tape libraries which incorporate LTO, SAIT and SDLT tape drives, whether the Company’s initiatives to maintain and increase sales of its tape libraries based on AIT tape technology will be successful, whether development of the Company’s new enterprise-class tape libraries will be completed on time and achieve customer acceptance, rescheduling or cancellation of customer orders, unexpected shortages of critical components, unexpected product design or quality problems, and adverse changes in market demand for tape libraries or Qualstar’s products. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statements whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Further information on these and other potential factors that could affect the Company’s financial results or condition are included in Qualstar’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. In particular, reference is made to the “Risk Factors” section of the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004, and to the “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” sections of its Form 10-K and its most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

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