



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**QUALSTAR ANNOUNCES 57 TERABYTE RACKMOUNT LIBRARY**

***New model extends Qualstar's leadership in the SAIT marketplace, sets standard for density in rackmount library format***

**SIMI VALLEY, CA, AUGUST 5, 2003** — Qualstar® Corporation (Nasdaq: QBAK), a leading manufacturer of automated tape storage solutions, today announced that it is extending its leadership in the SAIT tape library marketplace with the introduction of the RLS-5244 rackmount library, incorporating Sony Electronics' new SAIT-1 tape drives. The RLS-5244 is designed to serve the data storage needs of a wide range of companies, taking advantage of SAIT's unmatched combination of very high capacity and high data transfer rate.

The RLS-5244 stores 22 terabytes of data (native) in only 5U (8.75 inches) of rack space. Using typical compression techniques, the new RLS-5244 can store more than 57 terabytes of information. This equates to over 6.5 terabytes per inch of rack space.

This introduction underscores Qualstar's commitment to the new SAIT marketplace. Beginning in May with the TLS-5000 family, Qualstar became the first company to ship tape libraries equipped with SAIT drives, which feature the industry's highest-density tapes at 500 gigabytes (native) per cartridge, and sustained data transfer rates of up to 108 gigabytes (native) per hour per drive.

"Companies are seeking solutions that enable them to store and archive more information in less space at lower cost than ever before. The RLS-5244 offers users really high capacity storage in minimal space," said Bob Covey, Qualstar's vice president of marketing. "Adding to the pressures on storage planners is the ever-increasing mandates for data archiving due to new government regulations, such as the SEC's rule 17-a-4, HIPPA, Sarbanes-Oxley and their

international counterparts. The RLS-5244 and our other *Simply Reliable* SAIT-based libraries deliver the quality, performance and value that users need to keep ahead of their exploding storage demands.”

The RLS-5244 SAIT-equipped library is sold and supported through Qualstar’s worldwide network of selected Value Added Resellers and Systems Integrators. Suggested retail pricing starts around \$30,000.

#### About Qualstar Corporation

Qualstar is a leading manufacturer of automated tape libraries used for backup, archival storage, data protection, disaster recovery and storage management systems. 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 Original Equipment Manufacturers, Value Added Resellers, and Systems Integrators. Qualstar Corporation is publicly traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol QBAK. More information is available at [www.qualstar.com](http://www.qualstar.com) or by phone at 805-583-7744.

#### Forward Looking Statement

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 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.

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