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CONTACT:

elizabeth ziph
CohortFS, LLC
Tel: 734-761-4689
email: elizabethziph@gmail.com
Web Site: <http://www.cohortfs.com>

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Ann Arbor, Michigan May 7th, 2012 – CohortFS, LLC has received a second round of funding from the National Science Foundation. The \$500,000 grant is awarded as part of National Science Foundation's 2012 Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Phase II program. The award is based on progress in product, market, and business model validation during the NSF-funded SBIR Phase I research in 2011.

CohortFS innovations in wide area replication and flexible data placement deliver performance and manageability of cloud storage at scale. Powerful abstractions and interfaces facilitate uniform management of volumes, whether local, remote, or in the cloud. While privacy and security are consistently found to be primary barriers to adoption of Software-as-a-Service and cloud storage, CohortFS transparent encryption protects data from unauthorized access by storage providers and others in multi-tenant data centers, a key consideration for regulated industries such as financial services and health. By improving the economy and utility of storage at cloud scale, and by translating advances in petascale data organization and secure, wide-area replication to broader marketplace and commercial sectors, CohortFS expands the applicability of cloud computing, speeds its adoption, and deepens its impact.

"The rigorous NSF selection process for Phase II proposals results in only 15% of Phase I grants receiving Phase II awards. This is important recognition that we are on the right track to deliver to market a new class of cloud storage management technologies," said Elizabeth Ziph, Managing Partner and co-founder of CohortFS, LLC.

"CohortFS, LLC is well on its way to commercializing public- and private-cloud storage management that allows organizations to safely and efficiently control their cloud storage on a policy basis," said Matthew Benjamin, co-founder and Principal Investigator on the project.

Research shows that organizations resist migrating data to the cloud because they are unwilling to give up location- and access-control. "CohortFS innovations let organizations gain leverage from cloud storage technology without forcing them to relinquish control over their data" added Dr. Peter Honeyman, co-founder of CohortFS, LLC.

About the company:

CohortFS, LLC was founded in 2011 to commercialize cloud storage management solutions just in time for the onslaught of Big Data utilization. The NSF SBIR Phase I project was completed by the founders as part of work effort at the Linux Box Corporation. All related assets and intellectual property have been transferred to the new organization.

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