



**For Immediate Release**

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**GRIDSTORE NAMES FORMER DROBO CEO AND BLUEARC FOUNDER GEOFF BARRALL AS EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

*Industry Visionary Brings Key Insight, Innovation and Leadership as Gridstore Sets the Standard for a New Generation of Scale-Out NAS*

**Mountain View, Calif. – January 11, 2012** – Gridstore™, the leader in grid-based, scale-out NAS, today announced that Geoff Barrall has been named the company's executive chairman of its board of directors. The storage-industry veteran and visionary brings decades of insight and leadership in creating disruptive storage solutions and building highly successful new markets opportunities for the SME to the enterprise. Barrall will play an integral role as Gridstore continues to set the standard for a new generation of scale-out NAS.

The appointment of Barrall is a strong validation of Gridstore's innovation and ability to execute and deliver the industry's next generation of scale-out NAS. Gridstore uniquely combines virtualization with a grid processing platform designed from day one to deliver a single pool of storage that simplifies management and increases performance, scalability and reliability verses traditional clustered scale-out NAS at a fraction of the total cost. Gridstore provides plug and play capacity and I/O scaling so customers can start small and incrementally grow to any size they require. This eliminates the need to overprovision costly storage resources and removes the complexity and waste associated with clustered NAS solutions.

"I've been looking at scale-out storage solutions for many years and every product has been fraught with low performance and high cost caused by the clustering model that has been universally used," said Geoff Barrall. "When I was introduced to Gridstore my first thought was, 'Here is a company that finally has it right'. It's simple, elegant design allows for a much higher level of performance and scale than cluster-based solutions, while requiring a fraction of their cost to maintain. I'm excited to join Gridstore's team as the company actually delivers the promised benefits of scale-out storage to the market."

Formerly the chief technology officer and vice president of engineering for Overland Storage, Barrall brings years of experience and contacts in the areas of product strategy, marketing strategy and technology consulting to his new executive chairman role at Gridstore. During his time at Overland the company grew its market share and continued to lead the market with technology innovations for more scalable and reliable storage solutions.

Prior to his position with Overland Storage, Barrall was the founder and CEO at Drobo (formerly Data Robotics), an innovate storage platform designed for the SOHO market where he rapidly grew sales from zero to a \$40 million annual run rate within just ten quarters of initial product launch. Prior to Data Robotics, he was founder and CTO of BlueArc, an enterprise storage company acquired by Hitachi Data Systems.

“Gridstore is at a pivotal growth point and we are delighted to have Geoff on board as executive chairman,” said Kelly Murphy, CEO, Gridstore. “He brings an amazing track record in growing highly successful storage businesses with solutions that have made a huge impact on the industry. While Gridstore brings the next generation of scale-out storage to the market that eliminates the cost, complexity and waste of cluster based solutions - adding Geoff’s experience, leadership and vision will accelerate the impact our products will have in changing the storage market.”

**Tweet this:** Gridstore Names Storage-Industry Veteran, Geoff Barrall as Executive Chairman of the Board

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#### **About Gridstore**

Gridstore is the leader in grid-based, scale-out Network Attached Storage (NAS) products. The Gridstore Scale-out NAS solution uniquely combines virtualization with a grid processing platform to deliver a single pool of storage that simplifies management while increasing performance, scaling and reliability. The Gridstore system is designed for organizations who struggle with the risk, cost and complexity of storage sprawl and who need enterprise class storage without the cost and complexity. Founded in 2007, Gridstore is headquartered in Mountain View, Calif. and has development facilities in Dublin, Ireland. For more information, please visit: <http://www.gridstore.com>

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